

CALL FOR PAPERS ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON REGIONAL INTEGRATION IN AFRICA, ACRIA11 & ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON AFRICAN POLITICAL ECONOMY, ACAPE THEME: THE AFRICAN UNION: HOW PREPARED?

The African Union has articulated various policies and strategies to ensure the unity of the continent by the year 2063. It is important to recall that the former President of Ghana and foremost Pan Africanist Osagiefo Kwame Nkrumah had put forward the same idea which was published in one of his numerous books titled: Africa must Unite, in 1963. It has taken the African Union (formerly called the Organization of African Unity) to pursue the vision of unity 100 years after Nkrumah's proposition. It is better late than never.

The main objective of the 3-day conference is to provide a forum for the presentation of scientific papers and informed discussions on the political economy of how the AU plans to integrate the continent. The conference will examine policies, strategies and programmes put forward by the African Union in the context of Agenda 2063.

Consequently, the eleventh annual conference on Regional Integration in Africa (ACRIA11) will jointly hold with the Annual Conference on African Political Economy, ACAPE in Dakar, Senegal, from July 16-18, 2020.

The conference is jointly sponsored by:

- African Political Economy Association (APEA) and
- Foundation for Economic Research and Training (FERT)

Approximately, 25 papers will be selected by a panel in an open competition. A book publishing high quality papers in a blind review process will emerge at the end of the conference.

Sub-themes:

- Africa's growth trajectory
- Regional integration in Africa: Experiences from various Regional Economic Communities, RECs
- Africa's financial Architecture
- Governance: leadership, Voice, Accountability
- Human Capital Development
- Gender, Equity, Inclusion and African Integration
- Technology and industrialization
- Poverty, Health and Welfare
- Agriculture and Youth Employment
- Common Currency and African Integration.

The conference will facilitate direct debate between researchers from Africa and the Diaspora as well as senior national and regional policymakers. Junior and upcoming scholars in Africa and the Diaspora are encouraged to participate and present papers.

Prospective authors are invited to submit abstracts or full papers no later than April 4, 2020 to:

Akpan H. Ekpo Chair of the Organizing Committee <u>ahekpo@gmail.com</u>

ahekpo@fertafric.org

The timetable for the conference is as follows:

February 28, 2020: Call for papers April 4, 2020: Deadline for submission of abstracts April 16, 2020: Selection of papers June 4, 2020: Complete papers submitted and circulated.

Partial financial support will be provided to authors whose papers are selected and completed by June 4, 2020.

About APEA

The African Political Economy Association, APEA, (Association Africaine d'Economie Politique), was formed in Cotonou, Benin Republic in 2016. It is dedicated to the study of development efforts in Africa and how to use research, data and evidence to support and reform decisions, including the path towards African Union's integration efforts. We explicitly recognize the inherent relationship between politics and economics and the use of that lens in incorporating approaches from related disciplines of sociology, history, communication, geography, literature, among others, to elucidate the African phenomenon. APEA draws its membership from the 55 member African Union countries. It also includes scholars in the diaspora, as well as anyone interested in the development of Africa worldwide. Our current membership is split about 50/50 by gender, about 70% in junior to middle level careers in economics, political science, sociology, anthropology, history, statistics, education, public service, international studies and organizational behavior. Apea.global.com

About FERT

The Foundation for Economic Research and Training (FERT) was established in 1995 to fill the gap existing between rigorous socio-economic research and reality. The research results are useful to policy-makers and technocrats as they address the problems of poverty and underdevelopment. Capacity building and training remain essential for instilling new skills, techniques and re-tooling present and future generations of technocrats and policy-makers in an ever-changing global environment. FERT has an office in Lagos and Uyo, Nigeria.

For more information visit: www.fertafric.org.