



NPAAC ADVOCACY CAMPAIGN – 3rd REPORT HIGHLIGHT:

- Analysis of the Arts and Culture Indaba 2012 convened by NACZ, from the perspective of the NACZ Act Advocacy Campaign developed at the NPAAC Arts Advocacy Training Workshop (28th April -30th May 2012)

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A- BACKGROUND:

1. Zimbabwe Creative Civil Society's Plan of Action for Arts and Culture (NPAAC) Advocacy Campaign

The *NPAAC Advocacy Campaign* seeks to mobilise the creative sector in Zimbabwe to advocate for policy and legislative reforms impacting negatively on the creative sector in Zimbabwe. The following activities have been implemented with funding support from ProHelvetia;

2. Review of Policies and Legislation

From the 1st March to 24th May Nhimbe commissioned seven Researchers (Florence Mukanga- Majachani, Pathisa Nyathi, Stephen Chifunyise, Dr. Jacob Mapara, Nehemiah Chivandikwa, Eric Mazango, Ngonidzashe Muwonwa and Dr. Shumirai Nyota) to produce reports on the following:

- a) Cultural Governance in Zimbabwe
- b) National Arts Council of Zimbabwe Act
- c) National Arts Council's Festival Guidelines
- d) National Gallery of Zimbabwe Act
- e) Censorship Act
- f) Broadcasting Services Act
- g) Implementation of the 4 out of the 7 UNESCO Conventions in the field of culture that Zimbabwe has ratified, namely (1970, 1972, 2003 and 2006):
 - I. The 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Export and Transfer of Cultural Property (2006)
 - II. The 1972 Convention on the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (1982)
 - III. The 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (2006)

IV. The 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (2008)

3. Planning Meeting

On the 5th of May, the facilitators for the Arts Advocacy Training Workshop Sharlene Versfeld (South Africa), Stephen Chifunyise (Zimbabwe) and Josh Nyapimbi (Nhimbe) convened at the Bronte Hotel in Harare to formulate the training programme were an animation of the Arterial Network Networking and Advocacy Toolkit, and the research findings and recommendations.

4. Arts Advocacy Training Workshop

From the 28th of April to the 30th of May, 12 cultural activists and 2 journalists participated in an arts advocacy training workshop held at the Bronte hotel in Harare.

5. Objectives:

- a) To equip arts and culture practitioners with tools to analyze critically the legal, fiscal, institutional and administrative issues (negatively) impacting on the performance of the arts and culture sector;
- b) To create an understanding of how the creative civil society can contribute to solving challenges to the performance of arts and culture sector;
- c) To up-skill arts and culture practitioners (the creative civil society) with practical tools to conduct advocacy programmes in the arts and culture sector.

6. Deliverables:

- a) A critical appreciation and ability to articulate issues that impinge on the performance of the arts and culture sector.
- b) An understanding of how to produce and implement an effective advocacy programme.

In the first part of the workshop, research findings and recommendations of the researchers were discussed. Participants agreed on issues, which were to be prioritized as the content for advocacy and lobbying campaign. This exercise was premised on issues the creative civil society considered as impacting on efforts to grow a vibrant and viable arts and culture sector in Zimbabwe – issues, which needed to be attended to urgently in order to remove obstacles to the development of the creative sector.

7. In the context of the Arts and Culture Indaba, the following were the issues the workshop participants prioritized:

a) Cultural Governance in Zimbabwe

The current segmentation of various departments and statutory bodies that incubate arts and culture portfolios in different government ministries has led to incoherent formulation and implementation of arts and cultural policies, legislation and actions, and uncoordinated development of the creative sector. The Advocacy and Lobbying team will advocate for the creation of a stand-alone ministry of arts and culture, and the establishment of a government resourced national arts fund.

b) National Arts Council of Zimbabwe Act

The current Act, which was promulgated in 1985 is now outdated as it does not relate to current developments in local and international discourses and trends informed and guided by UNESCO Conventions in the field of arts and culture that the country has ratified after 1985. The National Arts Council should be a promotion and development organisation rather a mere regulator. Amending the National Arts Council Act is also critical for the transformation of the National Arts Council into a transparent, accountable, well resourced and accessible state organ. The National Arts Council Act should be amended.

8. Advocacy and Lobbying Team

At the end of the workshop, the participants constituted themselves into an *Advocacy and Lobbying Team* and comprising of the following: Raisedon Baya, Peter Churu, Virginia Phiri, Victor Moyo, Nyaradzo Mutonhori, Michael Mabwe, Jane Parsons, Daniel Maposa, Value Dick, Stephen Chifunyise and Josh Nyapimbi.

9. Advocacy Strategies

- a) **NPAAC Monthly Newsletter** – launched in September 2012, with an initial database and circulation of 1,300 subscribers. Two issues of the newsletter have been published to-date.
- b) **Blog** - to stimulate and provide a platform for critical discourse on policies, conventions and legislation governing arts and culture in Zimbabwe. The Blog was launched in July 2012 and 9 articles have been published to-date. The Blog had recorded 931 Page views by 4 November 2012.
- c) **Media Advocacy Campaigns** – the Advocacy Team convened a *Press Conference* in Harare on the 8th of June 2012. The purpose of the *Press Conference* was to introduce the Advocacy Team and to publicise the Advocacy Campaign priorities. There been numerous media articles (print and online) published to-date.

B- NPAAC ADVOCACY CAMPAIGN ACHIEVEMENTS AT THE ARTS AND CULTURE INDABA 2012

<u>NPAAC Advocacy Campaign on the NACZ Act</u> Aim: To review and amend the National Arts Council of Zimbabwe Act Core Message: We the creative civil society note that the NACZ Act is outdated and it requires amending. The present NACZ Act has limited the NACZ into a mere regulatory body than a body that facilitates the growth and development of the creative sector. We advocate for the transformation of NACZ into a transparent, accountable and accessible statutory body.	Corresponding Resolutions - Priority Actions Agreed at the ARTS AND CULTURE INDABA 2012
Objectives:	
1. To sensitise the creative civil society about the legislative framework that governs the creative sector.	Gave overviews of: a) The NPAAC (Zimbabwe Creative Civil Society's Strategy in the formulation of a Plan of Action for

2. To get stakeholders' support on the need to amend the NACZ Act.	Arts and Culture); and the Creative Civil Society's Research Report on <i>Cultural Governance/Legal Instruments on Arts and Culture in Zimbabwe</i> b) ; And presented a copy of the <i>NPAAC</i> to the Board Chairperson of NACZ, Dr. T. Chitepo - who called upon Nhimbe Trust in its capacity as the secretariat and convener of the <i>NPAAC</i>, to distribute extensively (through print and electronic), for further awareness raising and buy-in by more key stakeholders, copies of the <i>NPAAC Strategic Plan</i>, and the Research Report on <i>Cultural Governance</i>.
3. Revisit the goal of NACZ as a regulator and turn into a developmental organ.	a) The need for the creation of a clear master plan for the development and promotion of the business of the arts as a creative industry, enhancing the roles and responsibilities of the NACZ – which would be the blue-print for the sector.
4. To make the NACZ Act as the intermediary between the creative sector and government departments that affects or governs the creative sector.	a) The need for the harmonization of policies, functions and resources of the arts and culture departments residing in ten other ministries namely; Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Small and Medium Enterprises, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Media, Information and Publicity, Ministry of Higher and Tertiary Education, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Regional Integration, Ministry of Youth Development, Ministry of Women's Affairs, Ministry Of Local Government, Rural and Urban Development, Constitutional and Parliamentary affairs.
5. To transform NACZ into a transparent, accountable and accessible institution.	a) The need to set up electronic discussion fora for regular discussion among sector members. b) The need to ensure the profiling of the sector through updating of the NACZ directory to include skills inventory, establish an up to date website on the sector and regularly avail a calendar of activities which would include festivals and their budgets.
6. Objective 5 of NPAAC Strategic Plan: To facilitate the capacity building of national arts and culture associations.	a) The need to convene sub-sectoral Indabas culminating in the NACZ Annual Arts and Culture Indaba.

7. Point 7.a (above) on Cultural Governance in Zimbabwe: The current segmentation of various departments and statutory bodies that incubate arts and culture portfolios in different government ministries has led to incoherent formulation and implementation of arts and cultural policies, legislation and actions, and uncoordinated development of the creative sector. The Advocacy and Lobbying team will advocate for the creation of a stand-alone ministry of arts and culture...	a) The need for lobbying for a dedicated <i>Ministry for the Arts and Culture</i>, recognizing the growth and demands of the sector as significant contributors to employment and the country's GDP.
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