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UNESCO Chair on Peace and Citizenship (2020NG1392) **Afe Babalola University, Ado-Ekiti (ABUAD)**

Activities Report (June to September 2024)

Professor Demola Akinyoade
Chairholder

Executive Summary

This report outlines the activities and achievements of the UNESCO Chair on Peace and Citizenship at Afe Babalola University, Ado-Ekiti (ABUAD) from June to September 2024, following its renewal in May 2024.

Key Highlights:

- The Chair has established a more efficient administrative structure, with directorates for research and publications, training and capacity building, information and documentation, outreach and partnerships, and ICT.
- Conducted certificate courses on anti-corruption for 53 students.
- Founded the ABUAD Guild for Lawfulness and Accountability to promote anti-corruption, integrity and ethics through UNODC e-courses.
- Initiated MoUs and partnerships with local and international organizations such as the Society for Peace Studies and Practice and Belgorod University of Cooperation, Economics and Law, Russia..
- Hosted a virtual event for International Peace Day.

These activities demonstrate the Chair's commitment to promoting peace and citizenship education in Nigeria.

Directorates and Their Activities

- Research and Publications: Gathering information for a digital newsletter and working on research outputs on active citizenship.
- Training and Capacity Building: Developing curriculum and educational materials on peace, conflict resolution, and citizenship.
- Outreach and Partnerships: Engaging with local communities, NGOs, government agencies, and international organizations.
- Information and Documentation: Establishing a documentation center on peace and citizenship education.
- Information and Communication Technology: Developing ICT strategies to support research, training, information, and outreach activities.

The Chair has made significant progress in promoting peace and citizenship education, fostering partnerships, and enhancing its organizational structure. This report provides a comprehensive overview of our activities and achievements.

Recommendations:

- Continue supporting peace and citizenship education initiatives.
- Strengthen partnerships with local and international organizations.
- Explore funding opportunities to sustain Chair's activities.

Introduction

The application for renewal of the agreement for the UNESCO Chair on Peace and Citizenship, Afe Babalola University, Ado-Ekiti (ABUAD), Nigeria (ID2020NG1392) was approved in a letter dated May 17, 2024. Professor Demola Akinyoade was appointed as the Chairholder and Professor Isiaka Alani Badmus, the Co-Chairholder. At the request of the Vice-Chancellor on May 20, 2024, Dr Babatunde Oyinloye was added as a Co-Chairholder. This report contains the activities of the Chair since its renewal on May 17th, 2024.

Letterhead Production

In line with the directives of UNESCO in the email announcing the approval, we have redesigned the Chair's letterhead with the new UNESCO logo. See the attached letterhead for your attention.

Internal Restructuring and Reorganisation

Shortly after the renewal of the Chair, at the instance of the Chairholder, a division of labour was introduced into the Chair by the creation of a more efficient administrative structure. Also, sharing responsibilities will make for a more accountable contribution of the core team members to the Chair's activities. The Directorates were created to reflect the cardinal areas of the Chair's activities, including research, training, information and documentation, and outreach.

To this end, the following directorates and administrative offices were created and shared among Core Team members.

1. Directorate of Training and Capacity Building
2. Director of Research and Publications:
3. Directorate of Information and Documentation
4. Directorate of Outreach and Partnerships
5. Directorates of Information and Communication Technology (as the backbone of all the Chair's activities)
6. Senior Programme Administrator's Office (has been existing since 2021 but its roles and responsibilities are just clearly described)

Roles Assignment

1. Professor Demola Akinyoade (UNESCO Chairholder)
Director of Training and Capacity Building; and
Director of Outreach and Partnerships
2. Professor Isiaka Alani Badmus (Co-Chairholder)
Director of Research and Publications:

3. Dr. Babatunde Oyinloye (Co-Chairholder),
Director of Information and Documentation:
4. Dr. Bayo Ogundipe
Director of Information and Communication Technology
5. Dr. Ife Ajepe
Senior Programme Administrator

P.S: Dr Bayo Ogundipe has been involved in the Chair since the first application process in 2019 and has continued to contribute actively to the Chair ever since. Dr Ife Ajepe has volunteered as an administrative staff of the Chair since 2020 and was involved in all the physical activities of the Chair since then.

Summary of each Core Team Members' Roles and Responsibilities

1. Professor Demola Akinyoad
 - Design and deliver training programs for educators, policymakers, and community leaders on peace and citizenship education
 - Develop curriculum and educational materials on peace, conflict resolution, and citizenship
 - Outreach:
 - Develop and implement outreach strategies to promote peace and citizenship education
 - Engage with local communities, NGOs, government agencies, and international organizations to advance the Chair's mission
2. Professor Isiaka Alani Badmus
 - Conduct studies on peacebuilding, conflict resolution, and citizenship education
 - Investigate the impact of peace and citizenship programs on communities
 - Publish research papers, articles, and books on peace and citizenship
3. Dr Babatunde Oyinloye
 - Establish and maintain a documentation center on peace and citizenship education
 - Collect and analyze data on peace and citizenship programs globally
 - Develop a database of resources, publications, and best practices on peace and citizenship education
4. Dr Bayo Ogundipe
 - Develop and implement ICT strategies to support research, training, information, and outreach activities

- Manage the Chair's digital infrastructure, including hardware, software, and networks
- Ensure cybersecurity, data privacy, and digital safety

5. Dr Ife Ajepe

- Provide administrative support to the Chairholder and Co-Chairholders
- Manage the day-to-day operations of the Chair
- Coordinate logistics for events, meetings, and conferences
- Handle correspondence, emails, and phone calls

Shared responsibilities

The following are areas of shared responsibilities:

- Fundraising and resource mobilization
- Strategic planning and decision-making
- Representation and advocacy

A comprehensive description of the roles and responsibilities of each member as a head of an administrative unit are fully discussed in the attached document UCPC Core Team Members' Roles and Responsibilities.

Participation in UNESCO Meetings

We have participated in UNESCO virtual meetings. Professor Isiaka Badmus and I have participated in UNESCO virtual meetings, including the one organized by NATCOM in August.

Indeed, I successfully applied for full sponsorship for participation in the UNESCO Chairs and Partners Forum scheduled to hold in Addis Ababa from September 30 to October 2, 2024. This is the first time we are participating in a physical meeting by UNESCO and enjoying sponsorship. The report of my participation will be forwarded in a separate document.

Report of the Activities of Each Directorate/Office

Directorate of Research and Publications

Professor Isiaka Alani Badmus (Co-Chairholder)

Ongoing activities: Gathering information to produce regular digital newsletter on peace and active citizenship. Also, working towards producing research outputs on active citizenship by the first quarter of 2025.

Directorate of Training and Capacity Building

Professor Demola Akinyoade (UNESCO Chairholder)

1. Certificate courses on anti-corruption for ABUAD Part-Time students: Partnering with the University's Directorate of Part-Time Studies, UNODC courses on anti-corruption—Introduction to Anti-Corruption and Advanced Anti-Corruption were introduced as compulsory courses under the Afe Babalola Self Study Scheme (ABS 303 and 403) for 300 and 400 Level students. Thirty-two 300 Level students and 21 400 level Part-Time students successfully earned their certificates on the two anti-corruption courses.
2. Promoting anti-corruption, integrity and ethics in ABUAD: establishment of anti-corruption, integrity and ethics group in ABUAD community. The group is currently called ABUAD Guild for Lawfulness and Accountability (the name may soon change) and comprise of 11 academic staff:
 - a. Dr Olumide Olugbemi Department of Languages and Literary Studies, College of Humanities
 - b. Barrister Dr Ife Bamidele College of Law
 - c. Ms Funke Awodiya College of Social and Management Sciences
 - d. Mrs Ileola Oladipo College of Law (Admin staff)
 - e. Dr Biodun Ogundele Department of Finance, College of Social and Management Sciences
 - f. Dr Tolulope A. Oyeniyi Department of Languages and Literary Studies
 - g. Dr Tosin Adedeji Department of Conflict, Peace and Strategic Studies
 - h. Mr Clement Adekoya Department of Accounting
 - i. Dr Oguntimehin Computer Science
 - j. Dr Ife Ajepe (Observer) College of Humanities & Directorate of Part-Time Studies
 - k. Professor Demola Akinyoad (Observer) College of Social and Management Sciences & Directorate of Part-Time Studies

The group is to constitute a critical mass of ABUAD staff and students committed to promoting the culture of lawfulness and accountability through the teaching and training on anti-corruption, integrity and ethics in ABUAD. They will use the UNODC resources to build the capacity of ABUAD staff and students. They will also promote the alignment of ABUAD system with the UN ideals on corporate culture on anti-corruption, integrity and ethics.

Already 8 members have earned the two certificates on anti-corruption and 2 have earned the ToT cert on Implementing Integrity and Ethics in Your University from The Open University. Others are in the process of doing the same.

The logic and relevance of this to the Chair is that most conflicts and structural violence in Nigeria are rooted in corruption. Hence, empowering citizens to identify and fight corruption on one hand and embrace integrity and ethics on the other is a strategy for promoting peace and citizenship in the country.

The group will start its activities fully among over 10,000 members of the ABUAD community in October.

3. Certificate in Peace and Citizenship: I developed the course syllabus in 2020. The course will be advertised for online training soon.
4. We have proposed starting a course on Media and Information Literacy using the UNESCO's curriculum. This course will be hosted virtually. We're already constituting a team of faculty members from within and outside the university.

Directorate of Outreach and Partnerships

Partnerships

1. The Chair has initiated an MoU with the Society for Peace Studies and Practice (SPSP). We are awaiting the University Management's approval for signing.
2. The Belgorod University of Cooperation, Economics and Law, Russia has reached out to the Chair for an Agreement Cooperation. We are awaiting the University Management's approval for the MoU.
3. Following my presentation at the SPSP International Conference in Kaduna, 9 universities, government agencies and NGOs have reached out to us to express their interest in partnering with the Chair in various capacities, including helping them in their application for the UNESCO Chairs in their universities in order to increase the number of UNESCO Chairs in Nigeria. The Universities and NGOs are:
 - a. Benue State University, Makurdi (Centre for Peace and Development Studies) by Dr John Tor Tsuwa
 - b. Obafemi Awolowo University (Department of Adult Education and Lifelong Learning) by Professor Adeola B. Ogunrin
 - c. Lagos State University (Faculty of Communication and Media Studies) by Dr Tunde Akanni
 - d. University of Ibadan (Department of Peace, Security and Humanitarian Studies) by Prof. Ruth Ochanya Adio-Moses
 - e. University of Lagos (Department of Political Science) by Dr Tola Odubajo
 - f. Umaru Ali Shinkafi Polytechnic, Sokoto State (Center for Crime Studies and Citizenship Education) by Mr Shehu Hashimu
 - g. Nigeria Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies (NIPSS) by Amb. Dr Aderemi Ajibewa, Ambassadorial Fellow, Directorate of Research, NIPSS.
 - h. Mulapnen Capacity Building Initiative by Mr Nicodemus Samson Beska

- i. Peace Heritage Foundation by Christiana Bolanle Omidiji, Executive Director
- j. The list of interested potential partners keeps growing by the day

Directorate of Information and Documentation

Dr. Babatunde Oyinloye (Co-Chairholder)

Directorate of Information and Communication Technology

Dr. Bayo Ogundipe

Programme Administration Office

Dr. Ife Ajepe, Senior Programme Administrator

Key Achievements:

- Program Coordination: Coordinated and provided administrative support for the Chair and co-Chairs in designing and training programs for citizenship curriculum development and outreach facilitation to promote peace and citizenship education.
- Community Engagement: Disseminated updates on the chair's activities within the immediate community and prepared for representation at the UNESCO Partners Forum in Addis Ababa from September 30 to October 2.
- Virtual Meetings: Prompted chair participation in UNESCO virtual meetings.
- Anti-Corruption Initiatives: supported the Chairholder in the coordination of undergraduate participation in UNODC certificate courses on anti-corruption and advanced anti-corruption at ABUAD's Directorate of Part-Time Studies.
- Promoting Integrity and Ethics: Provided administrative support for promoting anti-corruption, integrity, and ethics in ABUAD.
- Faculty Appointment: Became faculty in the Abuad Guild for Lawfulness and Accountability, founded by the chair.
- Course Development: Provided professional advice on creating a course on media and information literacy.
- Partnerships: supported the Chairholder in providing support for universities interested in establishing UNESCO chairs in Nigerian universities.
- International Peace Day: Anchored a virtual event on September 24, 2024, to mark International Peace Day.

The Office of the Senior Program Administrator has significantly contributed to the Chair's objectives.

Shared responsibilities

We held a virtual event to mark the International Peace Day on 24th September 2024. All Core Team members were involved in the planning and execution of the programme. Over 100 participants from across all walks of life in Nigeria took part in the programme.

The programme was an opportunity to publicise the Chair and its activities and also the culture of peace.

UNESCO Chair on Peace and Citizenship (UCPC)

2024 INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE SEPT. 24TH 2024 12:00PM

Theme:

CULTIVATING A CULTURE OF PEACE:
THE UNESCO CHAIR ON PEACE AND CITIZENSHIP (ABUAD)

PANEL DISCUSSION

Prof. Isiaka Alani BADMUS
Co-Chairholder & Director, Research and Publications
SPEAKER

Dr. Babatunde Oyinloye
Co-Chairholder & Director, Documentation and Information.
SPEAKER

Prof. Smaranda E. OLARINDE
VC, Afe Babalola University, Ado Ekiti
Chief host

Dr Ife Ajepe
Senior Programme Administrator
Anchor

Dr Adeshayo OGUNDIPE
UCPC Director, Information and Communication Technology UCPC
SPEAKER

Prof Demola AKINYOADE
Chairholder
Director of Training and Capacity Building & Director of Outreaches and Partnerships
SPEAKER

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85191189124?pwd=5khikcbo2E00ObEqxCtgc3eGkSLccn.1>

The following were achieved in the areas of shared responsibilities:

Fundraising and resource mobilization

1. We hope to generate funds through our training on Peace and Citizenship, Integrity and Ethics. These trainings are scheduled to start in the last quarter of 2024
2. We are prospecting the UNESCO Participation Programme document for possible funding as described there.
3. We are talking with NATCOM for funding opportunities
4. We are prospecting funding partners also from the private sector, and also NGOs we can partner with on programmes to attract funds.

Strategic planning and decision-making

Our UCPC Core Team Members' Roles and Responsibilities is a strategic planning and decision-making document. We hope to document more of such as we progress.

Representation and advocacy

We had a Press Release of the renewal of the Chair. This was circulated on many media outlets both digital and traditional (see attached).

In my capacity as the Chairholder, I represented the Chair at the International Conference for the Society for Peace Studies and Practice in the Nigerian Defence Academy, Kaduna. I presented the Chair's activities to the audience.

I wrote three letters to argue against the federal government's proposed subsumption of the Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution, IPCR under the Nigerian Institute of International Affairs, NIIA (copies attached). The first is a memorandum submitted to the House of Representatives Special Ad-hoc Committee on Restructuring of Federal Government Parastatals, Agencies and Commissions (HR. 102/02/2024), date July 8. The second and the third were an open letter in a national newspaper—the Nation and a personal letter sent to Mr President.

Conclusion

The UNESCO Chair on Peace and Citizenship at Afe Babalola University, Ado-Ekiti (ABUAD) has made significant progress in promoting peace and citizenship education in Nigeria since its renewal in May 2024. The establishment of a robust administrative structure, successful certificate courses on anti-corruption, and strategic partnerships demonstrate our commitment to fostering a culture of peace, integrity, and ethics.

As we move forward, we will continue to:

- Strengthen partnerships with local and international organizations
- Develop innovative programs and research initiatives
- Advocate for peace and citizenship education

We recommend sustained support for our initiatives to ensure lasting impact. With collective efforts, we can promote a culture of peace, citizenship, and integrity in Nigeria.

Thank you.

Professor Demola Akinyoadé

Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Peace and Citizenship (2020NG1392)