



Draft

DECLARATION

THE THIRD CONFERENCE OF STATE PARTIES TO THE AFRICAN
CHARTER ON THE VALUES AND PRINCIPLES OF PUBLIC SERVICE AND ADMINISTRATION

12 December 2024

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

PREAMBLE

We, Ministers from State Parties to the African Charter on the Values and Principles of Public Service and Administration (hereinafter referred to as the African Charter), convening, during this Third Conference of State Parties on 12 December 2024 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

- i. **REAFFIRMING** our steadfast commitment to the principles enshrined in the African Charter to advance good governance, ethical public service, and sustainable public administration.
- ii. **RECOGNIZING** the importance of the State Parties Assessment Tool (SPAT) as a mechanism for assessing and reporting on the implementation of the Charter at the national level.
- iii. **COMMENDING** the achievements of Namibia, and South Africa in piloting the SPAT and their valuable contributions to refining the evaluation processes.
- iv. **Encourage Kenya and Cameroon to conclude participation in the SPAT Pilot**
- v. **COMMITTING** to further refinements of the SPAT and ensuring its broader deployment to enhance governance across the continent.
- vi. **Acknowledging** the responsibility to replicate lessons learned from the completed SPAT pilots to strengthen governance and implementation efforts.
- vii. **FURTHER REAFFIRMING** our collective responsibility to encourage other Member States to achieve universal accession to the Charter.
- viii. **FURTHER RECOGNIZING** the need to expand pilot projects to include more State Parties, ensuring broader representation and applicability of the SPAT.
- ix. **TAKE NOTE of Tanzania's commitment to submit its report by end of January 2025**
- x. **FURTHER TAKE NOTE** of the report of the experts meeting held on 10-11 December 2024.

DECIDES:

1. On the Election of the Members of the Bureau of the Conference of State Parties

i. Elect the Second regionally balanced Bureau of the Conference for a two-year term (2025 -2026) composed as follows:

POSITION	COUNTRY	REGION
Chair Person	Algeria	Northern Region
1 st Vice-Chair	Congo	Central Region
2 nd Vice-Chair	Cote de Voire	Western Region
3 rd Vice-Chair	Kenya	Eastern Region
Rapporteur	South Africa	Southern Region

2. On SPAT Pilot Projects

- i. To Congratulate Namibia, Tanzania and South Africa for their successful participation in the SPAT pilot projects and acknowledges the key insights gained for advancing public service reforms.
- ii. To encourage Namibia and South Africa to incorporate the feedback and recommendations from their SPAT evaluations to strengthen their public service frameworks and subsequent reporting mandates.

3. On Expanding SPAT Implementation

- i. Invite Kenya and, Cameroon to undertake and finalise the SPAT pilot program ,.
- ii. To call upon State Parties to adopt and integrate SPAT into their reporting processes to ensure standardized evaluation and foster comparative learning.

4. On Capacity Building and Technical Support

- i. To recommend that State Parties formally request capacity-building assistance from the African Union Commission (AUC) to enhance SPAT deployment and Charter implementation.
- ii. To commend AAPAM (in full) for its commitment to supporting Member States through capacity-building programs and encourages greater collaboration with AMDIN to strengthen public service training initiatives.
- iii. Request the AUC to refine and digitize the SPAT tool to streamline its use and increase accessibility across State Parties.

5. On Peer Learning and Collaboration

- i. To support the continuation of peer learning sessions facilitated by the AUC, AAPAM, and AMDIN to encourage the exchange of best practices among State Parties through bilateral mechanisms.
- ii. To welcome voluntary presentations by State Parties on their experiences in domesticating the Charter to inspire and guide others in their implementation efforts.

6. On Universal Ratification of the African Charter

- i. To call upon AU Member States that have not signed or ratified the African Charter to do so promptly to support the realization of its objectives across the continent.
- ii. To encourage State Parties that have ratified the African Charter to champion its accession and ratification among their regional counterparts, fostering a united commitment to advancing public service standards and governance reforms across the continent.

STATE PARTIES FURTHER COMMIT TO:

- i. Strengthen their collective efforts to achieve universal ratification and effective domestication of the African Charter across all Member States.
- ii. Leverage the African Charter to improve public service delivery in alignment with the 2024 theme: ***“Leveraging Implementation of the African Charter on Values and Principles of Public Service and Administration for Better Educational Outcomes.”***
- iii. Submit comprehensive implementation reports to the AUC using SPAT to promote transparency, accountability, and measurable progress.

EXTEND OUR GRATITUDE TO:

- a) Outgoing the Bureau for the commendable work and congratulate the incoming Bureau for their election to the leadership
- b) The African Association for Public Administration and Management (AAPAM) and the African Management Development Institutes’ Network (AMDIN) for their ongoing contributions to capacity-building and public administration training across the continent.

ADOPTED IN ADDIS ABABA, ON 12 DECEMBER 2024.