The APPG for Africa

Report

(September 2016-September 2017)
Overview

In 2016 the Africa APPG streamlined its strategic direction by appointing seven officers to represent the five main regions of Africa, and establishing five key economic, political and social themes affecting the development of Africa. Themes for the 2016/2017 parliamentary year included ‘Trade with and within Africa, with a focus on Brexit’, ‘Parliamentary and democratic oversight’, ‘Quality of decision making within UK Visas and Immigration’ and ‘Creative economy in Africa’.

In September 2016, the APPG took a delegation of three MPs (Chi Onwurah, MP, Anne McLaughlin, MP and Amanda Holloway, MP) to Namibia and South Africa to conduct further research for its 2017 inquiry on ‘Brexit, EPAs and UK-Africa Trade Agreements. Funded by the Royal African Society and Commonwealth Parliamentary Association UK (CPA-UK), the delegation comparatively analysed the level of parliamentary and legislative oversight of the negotiation of terms of EPAs in South Africa and Namibia. Through conversations with various stakeholders, including officials from the Department of Trade and Industry in South Africa, Namibia Trade Forum and the Speaker of the Namibian Assembly, the delegation gained a better understanding of how the SADC EPA was negotiated and used this knowledge to make suggestions on factors that both the UK and Africa should take into consideration when negotiating future trade agreements.

In February 2017 the group released its inquiry titled “Africa-UK Trade and Development Cooperation Relations in the Transitional and Post Brexit Period”. The report consisted of the findings from the September delegation as well as an essay series, written by experts and stakeholders such as Dr Akinwumi Ayodeji Adesina from the African Development Bank which focused on the background, political economy and post Brexit opportunities and scenarios that EPAs present.

The group continues to meet with visiting delegates from African countries to better inform the APPG’s agenda and aims to develop and establish connections with African Universities, Think Tanks and NGOs as well as diaspora groups. The group also encourages smaller organisations to get more involved by submitting evidence to their enquiries.

Officers and Executives 2016-2017

Following the general election of June 8 2017 the group held its inaugural meeting on 5 July 2017. The elected and non-elected officers of the group are as follows:

Chair: Chi Onwurah MP
Co-Chair from the Lords: Lord Chidgey
Vice-Chairs: Lord Purvis (North Africa)
Jeremy Lefroy MP (East Africa)
Pauline Latham OBE MP (East Africa)
Lord McConnell (West and Central Africa)
Baroness Northover (Southern Africa)
Lord Oates (Southern Africa)
Secretary: Patrick Grady MP
Treasurer: Baroness Uddin
Non-elected officers include

**Hon. President:** Lord Steel of Aikwood  
**Hon. Vice-Presidents:** Baroness Chalker of Wallasey, Lord Lea of Crondall

### Publications

**February 2017: Africa-UK Trade and Development Cooperation Relations in the Transitional and Post Brexit Period**

The report aims to unpack the opportunities that Brexit, and the new trade policies that will arise out of it, has provided both Africa and the UK to engage in mutually beneficial and fairer trade strategies and uses Economic Partnership Agreements (EPA) as the basis through which these opportunities are identified. It consists of two parts, an essay series and a case study (informed by the aforementioned MP led delegation to Namibia and South Africa). The essay series, written by experts and stakeholders such as Dr Akinwumi Ayodeji Adesina from the African Development Bank, focuses on the background, political economy and post Brexit opportunities and scenarios that EPAs present. The case study seeks to understand the role that Parliament and civil society played during these countries' EPA negotiations. By using these two countries' experiences with EPAs, the delegation report is able make suggestions on factors that both the UK and Africa should take into consideration when negotiating future trade agreements.

**Africa in Parliament** regular Westminster bulletin.

### Delegations

**17.09.16 – 24.09.16 Inquiry delegation to Namibia and South Africa on Economic Partnership Agreements.**

Members of the Africa APPG (Chi Onwurah (MP), Amanda Holloway (MP), Anne McLaughlin (MP)) along with the Africa APPG coordinator (Hetty Bailey) visited Namibia and South Africa as part of the APPG Africa’s inquiry into Economic Partnership Agreements (EPA) between the EU and regional economic areas in Africa. The delegation was arranged by the Africa APPG with costs for the MPs funded by CPA-UK and for the APPG coordinator by Royal African Society. Richard Dowden, director of the Royal African Society, also accompanied the delegation.

The delegation focused on understanding these countries’ experiences with Economic Partnership Agreements, in particular the level of democratic oversight and parliamentary scrutiny of these agreements. Lessons from the delegation acted as the case study for the APPG’s inquiry into Africa-UK Trade Relations post Brexit.
01.11.2016 Roundtable on “Supporting participation of women & Rule of Law in DRCongo”
Speakers: Kongosi Mussanzi and Furaha Mussanzi - Human Rights Activists representing COMMON CAUSE UK, Centre Résolution Conflicts (CRC)

Chair: Anne McLaughlin MP

In collaboration with UK Women’s International League for Peace & Freedom

18.01.2017 Meeting with Simon Waddington and Suntou Touray (Coordinator of the United Democratic Party in England) on the Gambia.

Chair: Chi Onwurah MP

24.01.2017 Roundtable with Rob Davies Minister of Trade and Industry, South African Trade Ministry Republic of South Africa

Chair: Chi Onwurah, MP

02.02.2017 Meeting with Paul Arkwright (British High Commisioner to Nigeria)

Chair: Chi Onwurah MP

07.02.2017 Namibia/South Africa Delegation Report Back Meeting
Speakers: Chi Onwurah (MP), Anne McLaughlin (MP), Amanda Solloway (MP)

Chair: Chi Onwurah MP

28.02.2017 2017 Inquiry Report Launch
Speakers: Ruth Bergan (Coordinator of the Trade Justice Movement), Mohammad Razzaque (Head of International Trade Policy at the Commonwealth Secretariat) and James Wharton MP (DFID Parliamentary Under Secretary of State)

Chair: Chi Onwurah MP

08.03.2017 Meeting with Salihu Mohammed Lukman, Director General of Nigerian Progressive Governor’s Forum

Chair: Chi Onwurah MP

22.03.2017 Meeting with Charles Usie, Nigeria Country Manager Christian Aid
Matthew David (Parliamentary Assistant to Chi Onwurah, MP) on behalf of Chi Onwurah MP

22.03.2017 Meeting with Abebe Selassie, Director of the African Department (AFR) at the International Monetary Fund

Chair: Jeremy Lefroy MP

28.03.2017 Meeting with Wandile Dludlu, Coordinator of the Swaziland United Democratic Front

Chair: Lord Oates

16.04.2017 Meeting with Bisi Alimi, Executive Director of The Bisi Alimi Foundation

Chair: Chi Onwurah MP

13.06.17 Economies to Watch: Galvanising business for the future of the DRC with Moise Katumbi and Zeinab Badawi

Chair: Lord Lea of Crondall

In collaboration with the Royal African Society

05.07.2017 Inaugural meeting and election of officers

Chair: Chi Onwurah MP

17.08.2017 Challenges and opportunities in Africa’s digital technology sector

Chair: Chi Onwurah MP

Speakers: Oluwaloni Olamide Olatubosun (Founder, Lifebank), Amadou Dafe (Co-Founder, Gebeya), Mafal Lo (Co-Founder, Firefly media), Juliana Costa (Co-Founder, Real Food), Odunayo Eweniyi (Co-Founder, Piggybank), Wilson Kutegeka (Founder, Clinic Master), Chukwuwezam Obanor (Co-Founder, Prep class), Tawanda Kembo (Co-Founder, BitFinance) Olumide Adeyiga Olusanya (Founder, Gloo NG), Justin Coetzee (Founder, Go Metro), Kena Amoah (Co-Founder, KudoBuzz), Onyekachi Izukanne (Co-Founder, Trade depot), Trevor Kimenyie (Founder, Ongair), Oyindamola Ogundeyi (Founder, Fashpa), Bosun Tijani (CEO, CC Hub)

Speakers: Barry Gardiner MP (Shadow Secretary of State for International Trade and Shadow Minister for Energy and Climate Change), Chi Onwurah MP (Shadow Minister for Industrial Strategy and Chair of the Africa All-Party Parliamentary Group), Maximiliano Mendez-Parra (Senior Research Fellow, Overseas Development Institute) and Patrick Obah (Board Member, Trade Mark East Africa)

*In collaboration with ODI and TOP APPG*

## Income & Expenditure Statement

This statement of the APPG for Africa covers the period from 15th September 2016 to 29th September 2017.

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<thead>
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<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Expenditure</th>
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### AAPP CG Expenditure Report

#### 15 September 2016 – 29 September 2017

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<td>Income from Brand Communications</td>
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<td>Flights</td>
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<td>Launch event</td>
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<td><strong>Total AAPPG report costs</strong></td>
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Chi Onwurah MP, Chair of the APPG for Africa

Contact details

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Twitter: @AfricaAPPG
Web: www.royalafricansociety.org/appg-africa

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