

C-ICADI 2018: Africans Must take care of Own Destiny to Progress

Organisers of the recently held 4th edition of the Covenant-International Conference on African Development Issues (C-ICADI 2018) have declared that Africans need to take their destiny in their hands to achieve meaningful development (<http://bit.ly/4th-cicadi-communicue>).

This was one of the resolutions reached by the Organising Committee of the conference that held between October 22 – 24, 2018 at the African Leadership Development Centre (ALDC) in Covenant University.

The conference with the theme, 'Challenge of Leadership: Driving Africa's Future', featured a former President of the Republic of Malawi, Dr. Joyce Banda as Keynote Speaker and distinguished personalities from the academia, the business world and international organisations as speakers and panelists.



L-R: Former Vice-President, African Development Bank, Ms. Cecilia Akintomide (OON); former President, Republic of Malawi, Her Excellency, Dr. Joyce Banda; Chancellor, Covenant University, Dr. David Oyedepo; Vice-President (Education), Living Faith Church Worldwide, Pastor (Mrs) Faith Oyedepo; the Olota of Ota, Oba (Professor) Abdulkabir Obalannege; and Vice-Chancellor, Professor AAA. Atayero, at the opening ceremony of C-ICADI 2018

The Conference Organising Committee had also declared that "Disruption" was here to stay and as Africans, the people must disrupt or they would be disrupted; more financial investment is needed for quality education; Africa's leaders must ensure gender parity with quality education for both the boy and girl child; Africa must fully integrate economically, culturally and socially to move forward; and African leaders must collaborate with International Organisations such as the United Nations and the African Union, to chart new paths for growth.

Some of the highlights of the submissions made by speakers and panelists at the conference were that, Leadership was a defining factor in the future trajectory of Africa's development; Sustainable Development must enhance the life of the people now and the future, so as not to compromise the future of the unborn children; Corruption had been a major hindrance to any attempt by leaders to achieve sustainable development; and a first degree or its equivalent should be the minimum requirement for eligibility into any elected office in Africa.

According to the organisers, C-ICADI had gone beyond bemoaning the challenges faced by African nations by articulating desired actions in ensuring that the critical mass among the youths was engaged productively. The ALDC, the organisers posited, was poised to disseminate information to the African Union (AU) and ECOWAS even as the centre streered active collaboration with these international organisations.

Other notable presenters at the C-ICADI 2018 were the Chancellor, Covenant, Dr. David Oyedepo; Vice-Chancellor, Professor AAA. Atayero; Independent Non-Executive Director, First Bank Holdings, Ms. Cecilia Akintomide; Chairman, Board of Trustees, Crawford University, Professor Peter Okebukola; Africa Tax Leader, Ernst and Young, Ms. Lucia Hlongwane; and Chairperson, African Parliamentary Network on Illicit Financial Flows and Tax, Dr. Khanyisile Litchfield-Tshabalala among others.