

LET'S UNITE TO SAVE AFGHANISTAN

UNITED NATIONS RALLY WORLD LEADERS TO RESCUE COUNTRY FROM HUMANITARIAN CRISIS



Afghans needs help

development, regional and global envy . Saving and sustaining the nearly 40 million populace is critical and can only be achieved by joint efforts deliberately targeted to redeem them from deplorability, diseases, displacement, despondency, destitution and desperation unleashed by powers meant to protect them.

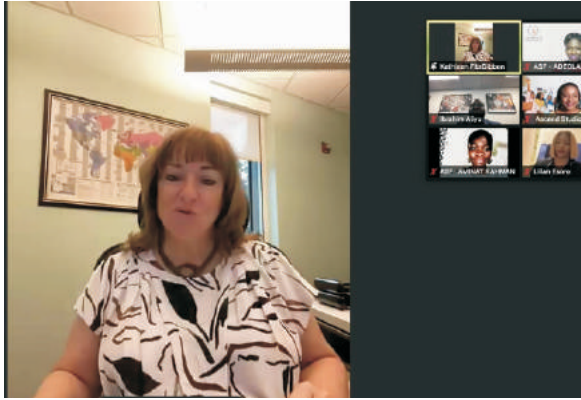
For as long as one remembers, the country's citizenry have eagerly hoped for the best, vividly demonstrating that given the necessary supports they can make their country a hub of development, regional and global envy . But, expectations and aspirations are fainting, especially as insecurity and worsening economic conditions persists and this article is further intended to help the world rally around Afghans to live and live well in order to contribute their quotas to ongoing global growth.

According to reports, the pandemic effects on lives and livelihoods bites even harder, severe drought is affecting 7.3 million people in 25 of the country's 34 provinces, millions of people faces famine and a chunk of the children faces malnutrition and high mortality rate. Hospitals are short of drugs, markets low on foodstuff, banks depleted of cash, unemployment rises and the atmosphere is so tense that people now results to selling personal properties to raise funds for basic needs and survival. To fester these wounds the Taliban leadership who promised the world a modern, globally acceptable government and a new start continues to tow a hardliner and isolated path . With reports of reprisals and targeted killings, clampdown on women and girls rights and other inimical/ clandestine operations even after promising amnesty, the country is further plunged into untold and unbearable sufferings for a people who continues to bear the brunt of others sins, ineptitude and irresponsibility. The external financial managers (who holds the nation's finances in trust) wants to ensure that the resources necessary for enduring bailout does not fall into wrongs hands , and this is understandable in the light of the current government antecedents. Nonetheless, help is crucially imperative now.

Thankfully, the United Nations has risen to the rescue and is championing the cause to save Afghanistan. The world's body on the instance of its tireless and compassionate Secretary General, Antonio Guterres convoked an emergency financial appeal meeting in Geneva on Monday, 13th September, 2021, to raise funds for humanitarian aid to deliver a country and people that needs a lifeline. The UN boss noted that after decades of war, suffering and insecurity, the people face perhaps their perilous hour and must not be left alone now. The lifesaving gathering responding to this appeal has thus pledged more than a \$1 in aid, exceeding the \$600 million initial target. Special appreciation therefore to countries who have pledged and started giving towards this cause and many more that will donate.

Noteworthy is the Taliban's assurance to allow these crucial aids get to the most needed and the world is watching keenly on this important commitment.. After all the duty of any sane government is to ensure all round protection and preservation for the people and nation all times. **ANN**

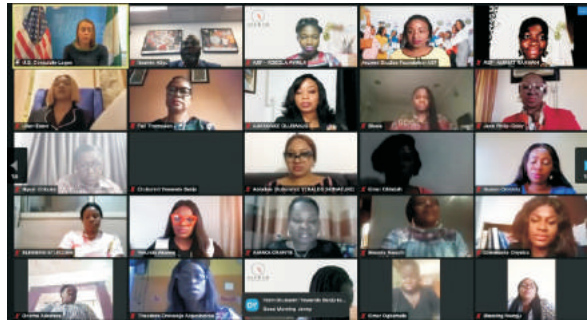
US MISSION IN NIGERIA WELCOMES 250 BUSINESSWOMEN FOR 2021 ACADEMY FOR WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS



The U.S. Mission recently hosted a virtual event to launch the third cohort of the Lagos edition of the Academy for Women Entrepreneurs (AWE), a U.S. government initiative that supports women entrepreneurs around the world. Working with local partner, Ascend Studios Foundation, founded by Inya Lawal, an alumna of the Fortune-U.S. Department of State Global Women's Mentoring Partnership program, the U.S. Mission is supporting the training of 250 women entrepreneurs selected from a pool of over 15,700 applicants, representing a cross-section of industries, from fashion and textiles to health and agri-business.

Delivering remarks during the virtual program, U.S. Embassy Chargé d'Affaires Kathleen FitzGibbon explained that the AWE was designed to empower female entrepreneurs to fulfill their economic potential, creating conditions for increased stability, security, and prosperity for all. She expressed the U.S. government's continuing commitment to supporting women to break barriers, gain economic and financial independence, and create pathways to prosperity. "When women are economically empowered, they reinvest in their families and communities, strengthening the social fabric of society and education and skill levels of the workforce. This multiplier effect spurs economic growth and enhances stability," Chargé FitzGibbon said.

Jumoke Olowookere, a 2019 graduate of the program, shared her success story with the new participants. "The AWE program connected me to the right networks and resources and my dreams grew bigger. Today, as an upcycling entrepreneur, I am the founder of Nigeria's first waste museum," she explained. Over the next three months, participants have access to the DreamBuilder platform, a blended business training course developed through a partnership between Arizona State University's Thunderbird School of Global Management and global copper mining company Freeport-McMoRan.



Ms FitzGibbon delivers her remarks with participants listening

In addition, participants will connect with networks of business leaders, women entrepreneurs and mentors who will facilitate lessons related to business management such as preparing business plans and raising capital. Beyond learning in the academy, they will continue to be mentored and encouraged to share, learn, and network with AWE alumnae and members of their cohort. **ANN**

US-CDC TRAINS 40 PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICIALS IN NIGERIA ON EMERGENCY RESPONSE

CDC Nigeria is the country office of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), with a vision of public health excellence for healthy Nigerians. The office supports the Nigerian Federal Ministry of Health (FMOH), its department, agencies, state ministries of health, and several key partners in developing, implementing, and evaluating disease response efforts and programs that contribute to strengthened public health infrastructure in Nigeria

Towards advancing its mission, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (US-CDC) on Monday kicked off a two-week capacity building program in Lagos for Nigerian experts on public health emergency response. The training seeks to certify the first cohort of 40 participants drawn from the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), state-level ministries of health, the Nigeria Port Health Services, and the Nigerian military in the Public Health Emergency Management Professional Certification (PHEM PC). According to the US-CDC Nigeria Country Director Mary Boyd, "the devastating impact of the COVID-19 pandemic illustrates now more than ever the importance of ensuring the public health and health care systems, can adequately prevent, respond to, and recover from health emergencies, particularly those whose scale, timing, or unpredictability threatens to overwhelm routine capabilities."

The PHEM PC training, a first of its kind in Nigeria, adapted from US-CDC Atlanta, equips emergency managers, incident managers, state epidemiologists, first responders, watch managers, and other public health experts with the knowledge, competencies and skill sets they need to respond to public health emergencies. During the intensive program, participants will receive specialized training in crisis and emergency risk communication as well as public health emergency management functions and operations. The PHEM training is part of the U.S. Government's efforts to support pandemic preparedness globally. US-CDC, NCDC, and Georgetown University are collaborating to deliver this training. In 2019, Nigeria became a Global Health Security Agenda (GHSA) partner country committed to achieving GHSA 2024 targets and International Health Regulations (IHR) requirements. US-CDC supports the Government of Nigeria (GON) to achieve these targets by strengthening workforce development, surveillance, emergency response, and laboratory capacity among other areas. Events information is provided by United States Consulate, Lagos Public Affairs Sections and profound appreciation to CPAO Stephen Ibelli, and to Mr Temotope Famutimi, the Consulate Information Specialist for his invaluable assistance.



Trainees/Participants at the event



INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT FOR YOUTH RECOGNITION AND RELEVANCE INTENSIFIES

25 NIGERIAN YOUTHS INAUGURATED INTO EUROPEAN UNION SOUNDING BOARD



Proudly showcased Nigerian youths

Globally youths are regarded as tomorrow's leaders and a nation's assets and posterity; but they can only fully attain these recognitions and status if their rights, priorities and placements in decision making process, particularly on issues that affects their interests and well-being are duly accorded them.. Youths' inclusion and progress are essential for sustainable national development; and no country can effectively thrive if these important growth-component are neglected and not given the adequate consideration for leadership engagements. Thankfully, the Governments (at all levels) and international development partners are selflessly working to ensure that not only are Nigerian youths given the necessary platforms and promotions to succeed; they are also making sure their voices are heard loud and clear around the world.

Towards these realizations, the EU Delegation in Nigeria and ECOWAS, a diplomatic mission and part of the European Union External Services, comprising one of the more than 130 Delegations throughout the world, has further advanced youth reachout and relevance in the nation through the launch of 25 Nigerians youths into the European Union decision making board. The youth 'Sounding Board' is a space for young people to have influence on the EU's development cooperation in Nigeria and it will allow young Nigerians to participate in the policy and programme of the EU activities/engagements in Nigeria. It will also enable active engagement and exchanges between young people and the EU Delegation...making the youth voices heard both nationally and globally. The youths will have an unpaid mandate of two years have shown competence, capability, creativity and commitment in their various communities through development outfits and initiatives and will serve as a bridge between young Nigerians and the EU Delegation. The Charge d'Affaires of the EU Delegation to Nigeria, His Excellency, Mr Alexandre Gomes, applauded and urge the deserving board members who were picked out of hundreds of applications from across the country to live above expectations.

The EU Chief-Envoy in the country further noted that their selections criteria were based on their merits and on their knowledge and experience in one or more of the areas that are of key interest to the EU, including gender equality, youth inclusion, climate change, and culture. EU believes the future of Nigeria will largely depend on the ability to provide young Nigerians with opportunities for employment, education, health and access to decision-making processes and it is encouraging these.

Also, speaking at the event was the Minister for Youths & Sports, lauded these board members' considerations and underscored youth development in nation building. Mr. Sunday Dare stressed the federal government ongoing contributions to eradicate poverty, provide employment opportunities, build capacities, sets development agenda and ensure better governance systems. He also encourage the youths to always support governments laudable efforts. The excited youths (board members) thanked the EU for the honour and promised to be excellent Ambassadors at all times. **.ANN**



NIGERIA HOSTS 33RD SESSION OF UNESCO MAB-ICC CONFERENCE IN ABUJA WOMEN EMPOWERMENT & PROGRESS A PRIORITY

The UNESCO an important arm of the UN is the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. It seeks to build peace through international cooperation in Education, the Sciences and Culture. UNESCO's programmes contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals as defined in Agenda 2030, and adopted by the UN General Assembly in 2015. Towards its pursuits, policies and programmes, it held the 33rd Session of the UNESCO International Coordinating Council of the Man and Biosphere Programme, MAB-ICC, in Abuja-Nigeria, on the 13th-17th September, 2021.

Speaking at the opening ceremony of the event on Monday, UNESCO Director General, Ms Audrey Azoulay, sounded the alarm on the reality of the erosion of biodiversity, which continues to threaten human existence. She said among others that the erosion of biodiversity is no longer a hypothesis, but a fact; one that can already be seen and felt in our everyday lives we are currently confronting. She noted that biodiversity is collapsing, and at an unprecedented speed; from the treetops to the ocean depths, fromvertebrates to invertebrates and no species is spared. And, we know very well why: because of a lifestyle that is putting pressure on the natural world. Indeed, climate and biodiversity are inextricably linked: when one suffers, the other does too.

Also, in his remark, the conference Chief Host, President Muhammadu Buhari, represented by the Secretary of State, Mr. Mustapha Boss, highlighted the importance of the programme. The President in part that "Changing our behavior, respecting the natural habitat and living in peace and harmony with nature are paramount to a future resilient generation where biodiversity is valued, conserved, restored and sustainably used while maintaining ecosystem services and delivering social benefits to the people."president Buhari further stated that "The realization and understanding of the significance of environmental conservation as the propelling driving force for sustainable development in the light of destructive environmental challenges and threats to the country's ecosystem culminated in the various responsive and resilient reversal measures. This is in compliance with a good number of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Ms. Azoulay also visited the Okwangwo/Oban Biosphere Reserve in Cross River State, among other key sites to properly inform and influence strategic decisions in UNESCO environmental interventions in Nigeria. Several environmental sustainability stakeholders including UN resident coordinator, Nigerian Minister of States for Environment, Ambassador and Permanent Representatives to UNESCO, Dr Hajjo Sani, were among participants and assured on concrete on-going efforts to address biodiversity loss, reverse the trend and help mitigate climate change challenges.

Similarly, the UNESCO Director General also advocated for the development of Nigerian women and the Girl-Child as a spring board for sustainable national progress. Conferring with key women leaders including the Minister for Women Affairs, Dr Paulen Tallen, UN Women Coordinator in Nigeria Ms Comfort Lamptey and others stakeholders, who called on UNESCO supports for Nigerian women, The DG expressed her delight with the progress of the Nigerian Women stating that "I am delighted to see women of different colours, different uniforms and in smiling mood, to make women agenda of emancipation come true; we need another dimension."We must support women education, women in science and women development. She also remarked that adolescent girls are taken out for exploitation and different agenda that we don't know and women need to help one another to thrive and succeed. **.ANN**

ANYA SCHIFFRIN

CELEBRATING A WOMAN OF GLOBAL IMPACT



Despite the unpleasant news daily bombarding us around the globe with attendant dread, distress, discouragement and even deaths, there still exist apostles of great exploits causing exciting news that are encouraging us to go-forward. These developmentalists, broadly regarded as bringers of joy and improvements abound diversely across nations and are constantly turning things around through their passions, pursuits and productivities. By their life-saving efforts they are rapidly helping to encourage, empower, enlighten and putting smiles in the faces of people, thus reverting negativity to positivity, despair to hopes and fear to boldness. And, one of these 'Godsends' whose efforts are hugely impacting in her spheres of influence is **Dr Anya Schiffrin**.

Anya Schiffrin is a woman of nobility, compassion and outstanding accomplishments, whose life, career, exposures and experiences are geared towards improving lives and bettering societies. A personage of integrity, selflessness and hardwork through whom many have made their marks and several others rightly positioned to achieve their life-goals. Dr Schiffrin is many great things combined: a vast journalist, writer, author, teacher, mentor and life coach, conferences participants and a defender of human rights. She is highly respected and sought after, even as sits on Committees and Boards of several global distinguished organizations and platforms.

Anya is the director of Technology, Media, and Communications at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs, and as a lecturer she runs a program for students and they get masters degrees in international affairs. She also teaches classes on podcasting and video and Internet governance and do some research on journalism Africa as well. As a prolific and seasoned author, she has written books that have

gained international prominence and recognition, some of which include:

- *Media in the Service of Power: Media Capture and the Threat to Democracy*. (2017) (Editor) 978-0-9818254-2-7
- *Global Muckraking: 100 Years of Investigative Journalism from Around the World* (2014) (Editor) ISBN 978-1-595589-73-6
- *From Cairo to Wall Street: Voices from the Global Spring* (2012) (Co-editor with Eamon Kircher-Allen) ISBN 978-1-595588-27-2
- *Bad News: How America's Business Press Missed the Story of the Century* (2011) (Editor) ISBN 978-1-595585-49-3
- *Covering Labor: A Reporter's Guide to Worker's Rights in a Global Economy* (2006) (Co-editor with Liza Featherstone) ISBN 978-0-977852-30-7
- *Covering Oil: A Reporter's Guide to Energy and Development* (2005) (Co-editor with Svetlana Tsalik) ISBN 978-1-891385-45-2
- *Business and Economic Reporting: Covering Companies, Financial Markets and the Broader Economy* (2005) (Co-author with Margie Freaney and Jane M. Folpe)
- *Covering Globalization: A Handbook for Reporters* (2004) (Co-editor with Amer Bisat) ISBN 978-0-231131-75-9.

Born on the 6th, December, 1962, to an author and publisher André Schiffrin, and married on October 29, 2004, to Nobel Prize-winning economist and author Joseph E. Stiglitz, who also teaches at Columbia University in New York City, Anya Schiffrin without doubt is a woman of global impact regarded as one of the living global life-savers. **ANN**

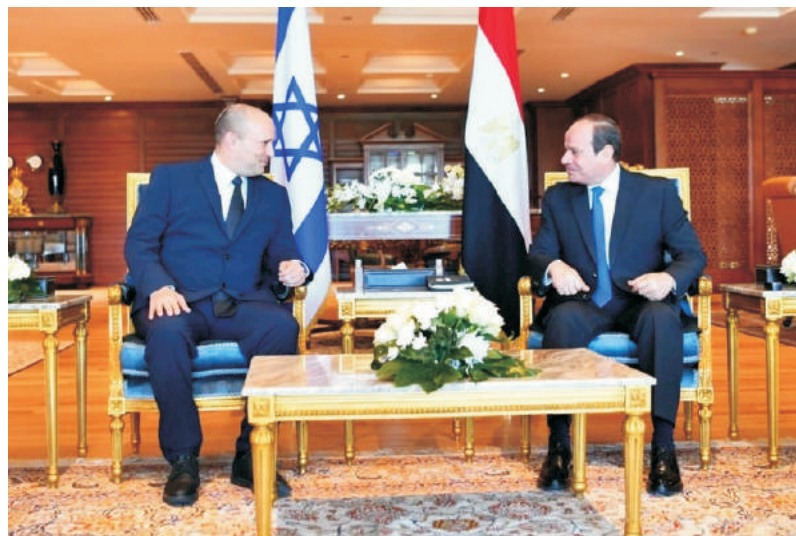
Regional Bits

EGYPT AND ISRAEL BOLSTER DEVELOPMENT TIES

The recently held meeting between Israel's new Prime Minister and the Egyptian's President has been widely described as an important step in maintaining international peace, harmony and stability, especially in the Gaza Strip, and one that could ultimately elicit the much needed peace between Israel and Palestine if all things works according to expectations. The get-together marking the first Egypt visit by an Israeli Prime Minister in a decade could also be signaling the start of a budding and strategic relationship between two important regional partners under Israel's new leadership.

The talks by the two leaders who met at the Red Sea resort of Sharm el-Sheikh on the invitation of the Egyptian president focused among others on deepening development cooperation between the giant nations; increasing the scale of mutual trade and economic growth, reinforcing political alliance, strengthening security and addressing other pressing matters.

Egypt is seen as dependable ally and a friend of Israel, playing significant roles as peace mediator and at the same time tackling the menace of terrorism in the region. Hence, this collaboration is viewed as a welcome development that is expected to assure of Egypt's friendly position and to also boost Prime Minister Naftali Bennett's foreign policies and progressive strives, even as he invests in more peaceful and enduring relationships and good governance consolidations. President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi on his part has also described the warm conversation as very good for the two friends and look forward to building stronger ties between Cairo and Jerusalem in the days ahead. **ANN**



Prime Minister Bennett and President Sisi meet in Egypt

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