



**Governor's Commission on African Affairs**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Quarterly Commission Meeting**  
*July 28, 2025*  
*6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.*

**Meeting Minutes**

**Commissioners Attended:**

Tope Adeyoju– Member  
 Adebowale “Shola” Ajayi – Vice Chair  
 Dr. Anyinke Atabong – Member  
 Fatmata Barrie – Member  
 Dr. Sylvia Dasi – Member  
 J. Wyndal Gordon – Member  
 Chukwunonso “Vincent” Iweanoge – Chair  
 Maroufath Ogoussan – Member  
 Maureen Wambui – Member

**Commissioners Absent:**

Adedana Ashebir – Member  
 Njukang Asong – Member  
 Dr. Jasmine Blanks Jones – Member  
 Amsale Geletu – Member  
 Dr. Terry V. Jones – Member  
 Dr. Natalie McCabe – Member

**GOCI Staff:**

Dr. Antwan Brown – Administrative Director of AA Commission, GOCI  
 Cheryl Madigan – Executive Assistant, GOCI

**GUESTS:**

Dr. Haki Ammi, Yodit Gedamu, Kemi Adetola, Nils Kinuani, Dr. Khadijat Mitchell, Brother Asukile, Sharonda Huff, Olufolake Adeyemo, Teaching Artist Institute, Fatenata Koroma, Ana’ls Dagrou, Nina Nelly Mobula, Marsha Briley-Savage, and Maureen S.

**I. Meeting Call to Order at 6:18 p.m. and Commission Roll Call:**

Chukwunonso (Vincent) Iweanoge, Chair of the Governor’s Commission on African Affairs

**II. Welcoming and Opening Remarks:**

Chair C. Vincent Iweanoge thanked the commissioners for joining the meeting, GOCI staff for their work and all the guests.

**III. Adoption of Meeting Agenda:**

Motion	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Vote
Adoption of the Agenda	Fatmata Barrie	Maureen Wambui	5Y-0N-3A

**IV. Approval of Minutes:**

Motion	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Vote
Approval of 02/10/25 SPS & 05/12/25	Maureen Wambui	Sylvia Dasi	5Y-0N-3A



**V: GOCI Opening Remark:**

Dr. Antwan Brown mentioned the three September events that the commission is composing.

- ❖ Health Fair – Sept 6<sup>th</sup> – Co-chair by Commissioner Adeyoju and Commissioner Atabong.
- ❖ Heritage Month Celebration – Sept 13<sup>th</sup> – Commissioner Barrie and Commissioner Wambui.
- ❖ Business Conference – Sept 19<sup>th</sup> – Commissioner Dasi and Commissioner Asong.

He also mentioned the Burtonsville Parade on Sept 21<sup>st</sup>. They would like the commission to march in the parade. He mentioned the new Executive Order that the commission now exists of 15 members.

**VI: Subcommittee Reporting:**

- a) **Community (Arts/Culture/Faith):** Commissioner Fatmata Barrie didn't have anything to report.
- b) **Business/Economic Development:** Commissioner Sylvia Dasi spoke about the business conference that will be held at the Randallstown Community Center on Sept 19<sup>th</sup>. Agenda is under review and GOCI is sending invites to speakers. Commissioner Maureen Wambui announced that the Commission will have a table at the African Heritage Festival on August 23<sup>rd</sup>. They will be promoting their business conference.
- c) **Education/Workforce Development:** Commission Terry Jones not here and there will be no update provided.
- d) **Health:** Commissioner Anyinke Atabong spoke about the upcoming Health Fair, and the theme will be "Food for Medicine". It will be held at the AME Reid Temple from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. on September 6<sup>th</sup>. They have secured ten vendors and two panelists. No fresh food can be served.

**VII: Workings Groups:**

- a) **African Heritage Month Celebration:** Commissioner Maureen Wambui spoke on the planning of the African Heritage Month Celebration on Sept 13<sup>th</sup> at the Howard Community College. Looking at 200 attendees and sponsorship letters have gone out. Commissioner Sylvia Dasi said the agenda is being composed and they need to compose the wording of the proclamation.

**VIII: Commission's Awareness Flyer/Poster:**

- ❖ It is approved by GOCI, but some edits still need to be done, per Dr. Brown.

**IX: Public Events:**

- a) AD Brown asked for someone from the commission to put in the citation request for Kuten Kente Festival. He also asked for all events that will be happening.
- b) Commissioner Wambui mentioned the AfriThrive event on September 27<sup>th</sup> at the Black Rock Center for the Arts in Germantown. 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Children's African Festival on August 30<sup>th</sup> at St. John's Lutheran Church on Pimlico Rd.
- c) Commissioner Barrie mentioned the Sierra Leone Diaspora Investment Conference at the Silver Spring Civic Center on August 8<sup>th</sup>. Guinean Excellence Award on August 31<sup>st</sup>.
- d) Chair Iweanoge mentioned the Miss Africa USA Pageant ceremony on Sept 8<sup>th</sup> at Bowie Univ.

**X: Closing Remarks:**

Chair Vincent Iweanoge wants all commissioners to be engaged in all the Commission events that are happening in September. He would also like them to attend other events.

**XI. Adjournment:**

Motion	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Vote
Motion to adjourn at 7:25 p.m.	Fatmata Barrie	Sylvia Dasi	9Y-0N-0A