

“CASABLANCA CALL “ FOR CONTRACTUAL RELATIONSHIP WITH PUBLIC AUTHORITIES

The Atlantic Forum of African Press Agencies, which held its meeting on October 13-14, 2014 in Casablanca, calls on public authorities to create a contractual relationship between African press agencies and their respective countries.

This contractual relationship is the only way to help set the course, set the speed of reforms and determine goals. Partners, news agencies and States, bound by rights and duties can work together in synergy and efficiency with shared vision and visibility for a modern and high added-value public information service.

The technological and professional challenges facing African press agencies require a multi-annual budget planning that allows them to set their goals with precision and have full awareness of their rights and duties in respect of public authorities and society.

Today, the national sovereignty of States in the field of information requires considering press agencies as leading strategic stakeholders in the war of information.

African citizens have a legitimate right to enjoy high quality public information service managed by rigorous professionals with dignity, aware of their responsibilities and taking into account the principles of ethics and conduct.

This call is the culmination of the process of the creation of the Atlantic Federation of African Press Agencies "FAAPA" which seeks to be a professional platform that promotes material and immaterial development of African agencies so that they can take up the multifaceted challenges of globalization of the 21st century in our continent.

Casablanca on October 14, 2014