As the second Annual Report that the network has produced, it is an important showcase of the work the ALN has undertaken to advance Liberal Democracy across Africa.

2013 was a busy year full of positive developments for the network. In particular, I would like to welcome Ms. Aimee Franklin as the new head of our Secretariat. Her dynamism, leadership and organizational skills made it possible to hold a number of successful events throughout the year. In 2013 the ALN was more visible than ever before, and the outcomes of our work were communicated extensively through our social media platforms, including on Facebook and Twitter.

Unfortunately, in the last year a number of fragile situations persisted across the continent and continued to hamper the development of many African states. Taking advantage of a forum organized jointly with the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom in June 2013, the ALN made a modest contribution to the ongoing resolution of the Malian crisis. Other situations that the Network has monitored closely, and which remain a concern, include those in Sudan, Somalia and the Central African Republic.

It also falls on me to acknowledge and thank all of the Liberals who, because of their commitment to advancing freedom and democracy, have lost their lives or have been victims of abuse and imprisonment. With the ALN’s Johannesburg Declaration and Pan-African Liberal Manifesto as the foundation of all we do, the ALN has, and will continue to make our voice heard in support of our members in Guinea Conakry, Senegal, Burundi and Sudan, where the situations remain tenuous. The same goes for fellow Africans in Nigeria and Uganda, where violations of fundamental human rights have been in the spotlight.

On the political front, in addition to party to party assistance projects in countries such as Botswana and South Africa, the ALN continued throughout 2013 to provide support to member parties competing in national elections.

In 2014, the ALN plans to expand the support provided by developing a plan to deploy teams of election observers into countries as required.

Collaboration between ALDEPAC and the ALN has also intensified, and in doing so, has strengthened the coherence and effectiveness of the two organizations, both of which are committed to championing the values of freedom and democracy.

In addition to continuing to work on our core objective of empowering Liberal parties to grow their support to increase their influence on politics and implement Liberal policies when in government, the ALN has decided to participate actively in the discourse around free trade and job creation on the continent.

As representatives of the African Liberal family, it is our responsibility to ensure that the fundamental requirements are in place to maximize sustainable economic growth and eradicate poverty on the continent. The question of how to address these issues was on the table both at the ALN General Assembly in Zanzibar in December 2013 and the ALDEPAC Conference in Cape Town in early 2014.

Finally, I would like to thank the Liberal Democrats, Westminster Foundation for Democracy and Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom for their consistent support during the past year. Without it the ALN would not have been able to grow in the manner it has across continent.

Under the patronage of HE Alassane Ouattara and Mrs. Helen Zille, a Liberal Africa is now clearly on the horizon.

Yours sincerely,

Hon. Olivier Kamitatu Etsu
Liberal Colleagues,

It is with great pleasure that I present the 2013 Africa Liberal Network Annual Report to you.

As the second Annual Report that the network has produced, it is an important showcase of the work the ALN has undertaken to advance Liberal Democracy across Africa.

2013 was a busy year full of positive developments for the network. In particular, I would like to welcome Ms. Aimee Franklin as the new head of our Secretariat. Her dynamism, leadership and organizational skills made it possible to hold a number of successful events throughout the year. In 2013 the ALN was more visible than ever before, and the outcomes of our work were communicated extensively through our social media platforms, including on Facebook and Twitter.

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Under the patronage of HE Alassane Ouattara and Mrs. Helen Zille, a Liberal Africa is now clearly on the horizon.

Yours sincerely,
Dear Liberal friends,

With great pleasure we saw ALN’s organisational structures strengthened in 2013 thanks largely to its Secretariat and its new head, Ms Aimee Franklin, operating for the first time from the African continent.

The ALN's new approach to focus on a few key strategic development areas has proven to be meaningful:

Throughout 2013, ALN representatives from almost 20 different African countries were trained in political communication, allowing them to enhance their Liberal communication skill set, implementing it in their daily political work and thereby strengthening the core operations of their parties. Communicating effectively to its voters as well as to its members is a crucial indicator for the success of a political party. This is why the FNF will continue focusing on the development of Liberal political communication skills.

Skills training is part of the FNF’s daily business, and I am looking forward to deepening the collaboration with the ALN in this field beyond 2013.

Yours sincerely,

Hubertus von Welck
FNF Regional Director Africa

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Iain Gill
Head of Liberal Democrats International Office

Dear Friends,

2013 will be marked as the most exciting year for the Liberal Democrats/WFD in our partnership with the ALN. The network has continued to develop at a phenomenal rate, not only in terms of members but also in its depth, drive and strategic direction. The network is now regarded as the largest ideological political network in Africa. We are more than just partners, we are family, and although we may not always subscribe to the exact same policies, we are confident and clear about our ideological place on the political map. There is room for difference of opinions in style, substance and ideological direction - both centre left and centre right have a place in our family. The ALN has accommodated this with a level of maturity and respect that should be the envy of western democracies.

2013 was rich with activity and we look forward to even more development in 2014 alongside our friends in the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom.

At the end of the day politics should always be about voters and all voters in a democracy deserve a choice. We represent the Liberal choice and I have no doubt we will grow from strength to strength with the leadership of the ALN executive and our Secretariat.

Yours sincerely,

Iain Gill
Head of Liberal Democrats International Office

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Hubertus von Welck
Regional Director Africa, Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom (FNF)

Iain Gill
Head of Liberal Democrats International Office

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Words from our partners...

Northern Africa
Mr. Ahmadou Elbaz
Member of Political Bureau of Union Constitutionnelle of Morocco.

Western Africa
Maitre Gilbert Noël Ouédraogo
President of Alliance pour la Démocratie et la Fédération Rassemblment Démocratique Africain, Deputy Speaker of National Assembly & Mayor of Ouahigouya.

Central Africa
Hon. Alice Nzomukunda
President of the Alliance Démocratique pour le Renouveau and former Vice-President of the Republic of Burundi.

Eastern Africa
Mr Adil Abdel Aati
Chair of the Political Council, Liberal Democratic Party of Sudan.

Southern Africa
Mr Gomolemo Motswaledi
President of the Botswana Movement for Democracy.

Treasurer
Hon. Bryan Julie
Treasurer of the Seychelles National Party and former Member of Parliament.
THE AFRICA LIBERAL NETWORK

Championing Liberal Democracy in Africa

Launched in June 2003, the Africa Liberal Network (ALN) is an alliance of 35 Liberal Democratic parties and organisations from 24 African countries and is an associated organisation of Liberal International, the political family to which Liberal Democratic parties belong.

Through our work with member parties, the ALN aims to spread Liberal values across the African continent by:

- Championing Liberal policy solutions to Africa’s challenges.
- Capacitating Liberal Democratic member parties with the skills they need to win elections and run governments based on Liberal values.
- Providing a platform for like-minded Liberals in Africa to network and share information, experience, skills, and ideas.

All members of the network are bound by a policy stating that they exist to ensure the freedom and dignity of all people through establishing political and civil rights, ensuring basic freedoms and the rule of law, supporting democratic governance based on free and fair elections with peaceful transition, ensuring religious, gender and minority rights, fighting corruption and establishing free market economies.

Members of the ALN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Member Party</th>
<th>Country</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ADF-RDA (Alliance pour la Démocratie et la Fédération - Rassemblement Démocratique Africain)</td>
<td>Burkina-Faso</td>
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<tr>
<td>ADR (Alliance Démocratique pour le Renouveau)</td>
<td>Burundi</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANADER (Alliance Nationale des Démocrates pour la Reconstruction)</td>
<td>DRC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANC (Alliance Nationale pour les Comores)</td>
<td>Comoros</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARC (Alliance pour le Renouveau du Congo)</td>
<td>DRC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BMD (Botswana Movement for Democracy)</td>
<td>Botswana</td>
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<tr>
<td>CJIF (Civic United Front - Chama Cha Warachi)</td>
<td>Tanzania</td>
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<tr>
<td>DA (Democratic Alliance)</td>
<td>South Africa</td>
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<tr>
<td>EDP (Ethiopian Democratic Party)</td>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
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<tr>
<td>FDD (Forum for Democratic Devolution)</td>
<td>Malawi</td>
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<tr>
<td>KULMIYE (Peace, Unity and Development Party)</td>
<td>Somalia</td>
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<tr>
<td>LDP (Liberal Democratic Party)</td>
<td>Sudan</td>
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<td>LDT (Liberal Democratic Transparency)</td>
<td>Uganda</td>
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<tr>
<td>MR (Militants pour le Progrès de Madagascar)</td>
<td>Madagascar</td>
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<tr>
<td>MP (Mouvement Populaire)</td>
<td>Mali</td>
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<td>ODM (Orange Democratic Movement)</td>
<td>Kenya</td>
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<tr>
<td>PCR (Parti Citoyen pour le Renouveau)</td>
<td>Mauritania</td>
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<tr>
<td>PDP (Partido Para a Paz Democrática e Desenvolvimento)</td>
<td>Mozambique</td>
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<tr>
<td>PDS (Parti Démocratique Sénégalais)</td>
<td>Senegal</td>
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<tr>
<td>PNR (Parti National pour la Réforme)</td>
<td>DRC</td>
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<tr>
<td>PULS (Parti de l’Unité et du Libéralisme Social)</td>
<td>Guinea</td>
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<tr>
<td>PMDC (People’s Movement for Democratic Change)</td>
<td>Sierra Leone</td>
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<tr>
<td>RDR (Rassemblement Des Républicains)</td>
<td>Ivory Coast</td>
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<tr>
<td>SNP (Seychelles National Party)</td>
<td>Seychelles</td>
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<td>SSLF (Southern Sudan Liberal Youth Forum)</td>
<td>South Sudan</td>
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<tr>
<td>UPND (United Party For National Development)</td>
<td>Zambia</td>
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<tr>
<td>UC (Union Constitutionnelle)</td>
<td>Morocco</td>
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<td>DRC</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

VISION

The ALN has a vision of a prosperous and integrated Africa of flourishing democracies that are at peace with one another, in which every person has the right and opportunity to fulfil their potential and be what they want to be.

MISSION

The ALN’s mission is to empower liberal parties to grow their support, to increase their influence on politics and to implement liberal policies when in government.
BEST PRACTICE IN POLITICAL COMMUNICATION

During 2013, the ALN ran a Best Practice in Political Communication Project which aimed to capacitate member parties with the skills they need to communicate their messages more effectively to their respective electorates.

With the support of the Liberal Democrats, in partnership with the Westminster Foundation for Democracy, 11 representatives from ALN member parties across Africa gathered at a two-day workshop in Gaborone, Botswana, in August 2013, to:

- Share and compare their respective parties’ communication and media management models,
- Learn from UK Partner, the Liberal Democrats, about the party’s communication strategy,
- Compare the successes and challenges of all communication models presented in the workshop,
- Discuss and identify best practice with respect to three key areas of political communication, namely: media relations, direct marketing and websites and social media.

A second workshop designed to share best practice in political communication from a West African perspective was hosted in Dakar, Senegal, in September 2013 by the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom for representatives from more than 17 French-speaking ALN member parties.

A GUIDE FOR THE INTERNATIONAL LIBERAL COMMUNITY

As a result of the two-day workshop in Botswana, the ALN Secretariat, with the support of the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom, produced a written guide to best practice in political communication for distribution to all ALN member parties, as well as to the broader international Liberal community. Synthesising experiences and examples of best practice in political communication from 11 ALN member parties, as well as from the U.K. Liberal Democrats, the guide that the Network has produced is an invaluable strategic tool for the entire international Liberal community.

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STUDY TOURS:
Experiencing sister party operations
Throughout the year the ALN conducts study tours to meet with Liberal partners around the world and expose member party leaders to best practice in a range of political party operations, including internal party democracy, policy making and election and communication strategy.

During 2013, ALN representatives participated in two study tours to attend the party conferences of the network’s U.K partner, the Liberal Democrats.

SPRING LIBERAL DEMOCRATS CONFERENCE – MARCH 2013
Eight representatives from Tanzanian ALN member party, the Civic United Front (CUF), travelled to the U.K to attend the Liberal Democrats Spring Party Conference in Brighton. With both the Liberal Democrats and Civic United Front serving as junior coalition partners in their respective country’s governments, the primary purpose of the study tour was to enable the two sister parties to share experiences of managing and participating in a coalition.

The ALN delegates were able to meet with numerous British counterparts, including the Deputy Prime Minister, Nick Clegg, Department for International Development Minister, the UK, which contributed greatly to relationship building around the world, ALN member party leaders to best practice in a range of political party operations, including internal party democracy, policy making and election and communication strategy.

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AUTUMN LIBERAL DEMOCRATS CONFERENCE – SEPTEMBER 2013
Four representatives from ALN member parties in South Africa, Botswana, Malawi and Mozambique attended the Liberal Democrats Autumn Conference in Glasgow, Scotland in September 2013. The delegates met and exchanged experiences with Liberal Democrats leaders and staff who are involved with the party’s policy making process, as well as those involved with international affairs and election and communication strategy.

The ALN delegate from the Democratic Alliance in South Africa also participated in a fringe panel discussion at the conference on winning votes from African diasporas in the UK, which contributed greatly to relationship building between ALN member parties and the Liberal Democrats.

ENGAGING WITH LIBERALS AROUND THE WORLD
As well as working with 35 member parties in 24 different African states, the Africa Liberal Network is an associate organisation of Liberal International, the international political family to which Liberal Democratic parties belong. The ALN works in close partnership with this international community to advance the Liberal cause across the globe.

As well as attending Liberal International and other meetings around the world, ALN member party representatives participated in a range of seminars at the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom’s International Academy for Leadership in Gummersbach, Germany. Seminar topics in 2013 included strategic planning, strategic political communication, political leadership and liberalism and religion.

A NEW HOME AND A NEW LOGO
The Africa Liberal Network kicked off 2013 in a new home after the relocation of its Secretariat from London to Cape Town, South Africa, where it is hosted by South African ALN member party, the Democratic Alliance, in its National Head Office.

Operating from African soil, the ALN Secretariat is now even better placed to respond to regional issues and meet the needs of the Network’s members.

March 2013 saw the employment of a new Secretariat Coordinator, Aimee Franklin, who joined the ALN after serving the Democratic Alliance for four years in various operational positions, including as the party’s National Youth Director.

To close off 2013, the ALN adopted a fresh new logo, which incorporates the traditional liberal blue colour, as well as the warm orange of Africa that is used by many ALN member parties in their own party branding.
Elections across the continent

The ALN Executive Committee released statements on a number of significant elections that took place on the continent during 2013.

In Guinea, the ALN welcomed opposition parties’ decision to challenge allegations of electoral fraud against the government in court. Anomalies identified by numerous international observation missions included the systematic refusal by the electoral authorities to enrol and distribute voting cards to opposition supporters and the heavy involvement of security forces and government officials in the electoral process.

In Ethiopia, the ALN highlighted a number of concerning incidents, including opposition candidates being denied access to the media, irregularities in voter registration and the reported abuse of government funds by the ruling party for the purposes of campaigning.

In Mali, the network expressed support for Presidential Candidate Ibrahim Boubacar Keita in the Presidential run off, with Keita subsequently winning the polls.

In Zimbabwe, the network called for an independent audit of the election results in order to allay fears around the mismanagement of the election, including a suspicious voters roll and chaotic early voting process.

On 1 and 2 June 2013, nine West African ALN member parties met in Bamako to draft resolutions on the security situation in Senegal, Mali and Guinea. The meeting was arranged by ALN partner, the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom, and gave the party representatives an opportunity to formulate resolutions regarding the clampdown on opposition leaders by the Senegalese government and the escalating intimidation of opposition parties ahead of the Guinean election in 2013.

In addition to dealing with these issues, the representatives formulated a Liberal proposal for restoring governance in Mali that included a plan to effectively guarantee the safety of people and property, re-establish the rule of law and establish a system for monitoring and evaluating the process and issuing early warnings if necessary.

Securing media and freedom of expression rights is a continuous challenge across the continent as African countries grapple with their democratic transitions. In 2013 the ALN drew attention to an apparent increase in the intimidation of journalists in Uganda, where government security forces shut down the operations of a newspaper and two radio stations without properly authorised search warrants.

The ALN also wrote to the Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression and Access to Information at the African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights to ask her to investigate a new media law in Burundi that severely restricts journalists’ abilities to report freely on matters through the imposition of heavy fines and jail sentences.

ALN IN THE NEWS

Championing Liberal issues in Africa

Election Observation
Building capacity to run free and fair elections

Across Africa, where allegations of vote-rigging and unfair polling station practices are rife, it is essential that political parties have the ability to effectively monitor voting processes, and that when problems are identified, they know how to address concerns within the prescribed legal framework.

In order to equip ALN member parties with the skills they need to deploy well-trained party agents into polling stations to observe elections, ALN partner, the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom, held a workshop in Johannesburg in November 2013 for representatives from ALN member parties in Botswana, Tanzania and the Comoros.

The 5-day workshop, which was facilitated by international election observation training organisation, BRIDGE, engaged the participants in practical role play simulating the voting, counting and complaint procedures and equipped them with the skills they need to prepare for any eventualities in the polling station on voting day. This hands on experience was coupled with facilitation training so that the participants were able to return to their countries equipped with the skills they need to train party members.
The 10th Annual ALN General Assembly took place in Zanzibar, Tanzania, in December 2013 with the support of local member party, the Civic United Front (CUF).

The ALN General Assembly is the largest annual gathering of the network’s members and brings together senior Liberal African leaders from the network’s 35 member parties to share best practice, network and review the work of the ALN across the continent. This year, the ALN General Assembly also celebrated the 10 year anniversary of the network’s founding.

Events at the 2013 General Assembly included:

- The launch of the ALN Guide to Best Practice in Political Communication.
- Panel discussions on Free Trade and Human Rights.
- The adoption of the ALN Declaration for Jobs and Growth in Africa, with the support of Sir Andrew Stunell of the Liberal Democrats.
- Resolutions on the situations in Burundi, Senegal, Sudan, Guinea, the International Criminal Court and the 65th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

A workshop was held for all delegates at the ALN General Assembly to share best practice in how to plan, research and produce an election manifesto for a Liberal political party.

Using his party’s own experience preparing for the 2014 national election in South Africa, the Democratic Alliance’s National Chairman, Dr. Wilmot James, took delegates through the process of producing a realistic, substantiated and well-researched election manifesto, as well as the art of simplifying its contents to communicate in a compelling and easy-to-understand way to voters.

Above: ALN President, Olivier Kamitatu Etsu and ALN Vice-President for Central Africa, Alice Nzomukunda, address the crowds at the CUF rally to welcome the General Assembly delegates to Zanzibar.

Above: The event attracted significant attention from local media in Zanzibar. Here CUF Chairman, Prof. Ibrahim Lipumba, and the ALN President address journalists.

Above: The final evening of the General Assembly was marked with a happy celebration of the Network’s 10th birthday.
THE ALN DECLARATION
For Jobs and Growth in Africa

Adopted at the 10th Annual General Assembly, the ALN Declaration for Jobs and Growth in Africa sets out the key priorities for Africa’s growth that the network will champion throughout 2014.

ADOPTED IN ZANZIBAR
7 December 2013

The ALN member parties commit to working for secure and peaceful development for all the peoples and nations of Africa and believe that fundamental to that is providing jobs and growth for the benefit of all through the adoption by the governments of Africa, acting on the principles of full transparency and good governance, of the following priorities for action:

1. An acceleration of the programme of infrastructure development, particularly in the ICT, transport and energy sectors, where a strong partnership of governments and the private sector is essential.

2. An urgent commitment to simplifying and automating customs and visa procedures, and the elimination of non-state barriers to free trade and the transit of goods and services.

3. The rapid development of effective property rights, the rule of law and simplified rules for business establishment, to permit a thriving private sector to grow.

4. A sustained reduction in intra-African tariff barriers, alongside a programme to build capacity to accommodate short-term impacts on government revenues, and in the longer term to open up a continent-wide free trade area.

We, the ALN member parties, further believe that delivering these priorities for action will:

• Increase trade between the nations of Africa to their mutual benefit,
• Increase the well-being of the peoples of Africa, and,
• Enhance the opportunities, choices and freedoms of all.

We commend these priorities to all the governments, parties and citizens of Africa, and urge their adoption for action.
We believe that political parties have a responsibility to represent the views and concerns of all citizens. The Network calls for the establishment of fair and equitable conditions for all political parties to play their role freely and effectively. At the same time, there must be clear separation of the functions of the ruling party and Government. Public resources must not be abused to meet the objectives of one party. The Government has an obligation to act in the interests of the whole population.

5. Rights: The Network upholds the protection of all fundamental human and political rights, as set out in international declarations such as the UN Declaration on Human Rights. The application of fundamental human and political rights of Africans as individuals should not be unduly constrained by the state in its desire to promote common goods. Liberals believe that recognized and secure private property rights are vital to the development, but also to underpin individual civil and political rights.

6. Devolution of Power: The Network believes that devolution of power creates wider opportunities for individuals to participate in local affairs and contribute to the development of communities. Mechanisms should provide for the equitable distribution of natural resources.

7. Good Governance and the Rule of Law: The Network is committed to ensuring leaders and standards of professional conduct in public administration. Openness, accountability and the rule of law are essential tools in the fight against corruption. Impunity must be addressed and those found culpable of misconduct should face the full force of the law.

8. Civil Society: The role of civil society should be recognised and supported. The Network calls for the provision of a legislative framework which will enable civil society groups to operate freely and effectively and promote the betterment of society through advocacy for the rights and needs of the people.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Liberals believe in the promotion of free enterprise and fair trade. The Network wishes to promote widespread prosperity through the development of entrepreneurship and the empowerment of the private sector.

9. Trade: African liberals are committed to increase intra-African trade by easing of barriers to intra-African exchange of goods and services. The Network will seek to persuade the World Trade Organization to allow preferential tariffs reductions between African states.

10. Economic Freedom: The Network believes that each government in the region should encourage the development of markets, without favouring particular businesses, in order to encourage individual entrepreneurs in all sectors.

11. The Enabling State: We believe that government has a vital role to play in enabling all people to participate fully in the economy. This must include ensuring the availability of opportunity for all in a diversified economy, ensuring adequate provision of education, health services and support for disabled people and senior citizens; and addressing unemployment.

12. Public-Private Partnerships: Liberals supports public-private partnerships and see a need for governments to invest in areas that do not attract private investment but are essential for the public.

13. Agricultural Development: The Network will support investment in agricultural technology and skills to improve productivity and profitability. The Network will encourage the development of agriculturally processing companies in rural areas to provide jobs. This will reduce over-extraction of Africa’s land and rural-urban migration.

14. Environmental Sustainability: African liberals will work to preserve and protect our natural resources for posterity. We believe that environmental human and political rights of the people, drugs and arms.

18. Human Rights: The Network urges the further development of the international legal system and wants to ensure that credible evidence emerges of grievous human rights violations or crimes against humanity, a comprehensive investigation follows, with the accused judged by a competent court. Where this is not possible at the national level, the Network believes that regional and international courts should assume this role. Those found guilty should be held responsible for their actions while ensuring that the threat of punishment does not perpetuate a conflict which could otherwise be resolved.

19. Conflict Resolution: The Network actively supports all indigenous efforts to address the legacy of violent conflict including attempts to re-establish and re-integrate individu-als culpable for crimes against their own communities during civil conflicts. The Network recognizes the positive impact of the processes of truth and reconciliation, whilst acknowledging that this may not be appropriate in every case.

20. Arms Trade: The Network calls for African governments to re-examine their military strategies, reduce and reallocate resources towards promoting greater peace and stability, including AU- and UN-mandat ed peacekeeping forces which can help to stabilise conflicts. The Network urges stronger international action to curtail the arms trade which is a scourge on African development. Furthermore, the Network calls on African states to cooperate with global efforts to ensure greater transparency in this industry.
The ALN has a vision of a prosperous and integrated Africa of flourishing democracies that are at peace with one another, in which every person has the right and opportunity to fulfil their potential and be what they want to be.