

# DACON

THE BUSINESS, WEALTH AND LIFESTYLE MAGAZINE OF THE AFRICAN DIASPORA



AMBASSADOR

**EZE  
CHUKWU**

THE VISIONARY BEHIND  
THE **DIASPORA AFRICA PROJECT**

## HOUSTON, TEXAS

ACHIEVING AFRICAN RENAISSANCE  
THROUGH THE AFRICAN DIASPORA  
4TH OCTOBER, 2023



## ZANZIBAR.

ACHIEVING AFRICAN RENAISSANCE  
THROUGH THE AFRICAN DIASPORA  
16TH - 19TH FEBRUARY, 2024



## ACCRA, GHANA

BUILDING RESILIENT CONNECTIONS:  
THE POWER OF AFRICAN DIASPORA  
AUG. 30TH - 2ND SEPT., 2024



## HOUSTON, TEXAS

FROM THE DIASPORA TO THE MOTHERLAND:  
DRIVING INNOVATION & INVESTMENT  
FEBRUARY 19TH - 21ST, 2025



## NAIROBI, KENYA

BEHIND BORDERS: UNITING THE  
DIASPORA FOR AFRICA'S INVESTMENT  
AUGUST 7TH - 9TH, 2025

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## **DACON AGENDA HOUSTON, TEXAS 2026**

**CONFERENCE THEME:**  
"BUILDING AFRICA'S FUTURE:  
HARNESSING THE POWER OF THE  
AFRICAN DIASPORA"  
FEBRUARY 25TH - 27TH, 2026

### **DAY 1 WELCOME & POWER NETWORKING RECEPTION**

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH**  
5:00 PM – 8:15 PM

**VENUE:**  
THOMPSON HOTEL HOUSTON  
(BAR & POOLSIDE)  
1717 ALLEN PARKWAY,  
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77019

### **DAY 2 DIASPORA AFRICA WORKSHOPS**

**THURSDAY**  
26TH FEBRUARY, 2026  
9:00 AM – 12:00 NOON

**VENUE:**  
THE ION 4201 MAIN STREET  
HOUSTON TEXAS 77002

**DIASPORA HAPPY HOUR**  
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

**VENUE: SAINT REGIS HOTELS**  
1919 BRIAR OAKS LN,  
HOUSTON, TX 77027

### **DAY 3 MAIN CONFERENCE DAY**

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27TH**  
9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

**VENUE:**  
THE ION 4201 MAIN STREET  
HOUSTON TEXAS 77002

### **DIASPORA AFRICA NIGHT**

8:00 PM – 11:00 PM  
**VENUE: FANCY'S HOUSTON**  
1947 W GRAY ST SUITE 200,  
HOUSTON, TX 77019



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**Editor:**  
The Blueprint for a New Africa

**Letter from the Founder:**  
Our Collective Mandate

**DACON 2023:**  
The Genesis of a Global Movement

**Keynote of Intentionality:**  
Amb. Maureen Tamuno

Pictures Flash Back of **1st Edition**  
**DACON Houston Texas, 2023**

**Tribute: A Legacy of Vision**  
(Mayor Sylvester Turner)

Pictures Flash Back of **2nd Edition**  
**DACON Houston Texas, 2023**

**The Turning Point:**  
2023 Edition Highlights

**The Architect of Homecoming:**  
Sovereignty & Trust

Pictures Flash Back of **3rd Edition**  
**DACON Zanzibar, 2024**

**Building Legacy:**  
How Diaspora Investors Are  
Redefining African Real Estate

Pictures Flash Back of **4th Edition**  
**DACON Accra Ghana, 2024**

**The Clarion Call:**  
PLO Lumumba's Charge to the  
Global African Family

Pictures Flash Back of **5th Edition**  
**DACON Nairobi Kenya, 2025**

Meet Our **Speakers** and **Panelists**  
**Houston, Texas, 2025**

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**Houston, Texas, 2025**

Our Partners, **Sponsor** and **Vendor**



*The Editor*

# THE BLUEPRINT FOR A NEW AFRICA

"Welcome to this special edition of the Diaspora Africa magazine. When we launched the inaugural **Diaspora Africa Conference (DACON)** in **2023**, we knew we were tapping into a powerful, albeit often fragmented, energy.

We saw a global community of Africans who were no longer content with being 'passive observers' of the continent's development.

They wanted a seat at the table, a stake in the soil, and a bridge back home. In these pages, we celebrate the journey from that first spark in Houston to the massive fire of innovation we see today.

This magazine is designed to be more than a recap of events; it is a resource.

Inside, you will find insights from industry titans like Prof. Billy Okoye, investment road maps from the GIPC, and the visionary legacy of leaders like the late Mayor Sylvester Turner.

Our goal is simple: **to provide the 'How' to your 'Why.'**

As you read through the highlights of our 2023 genesis and look forward to the 2026 roadmap, we hope you find the inspiration and the partners needed to build your own legacy. The conversation has ended. The action has begun."

**HAKEEM  
BABATUNDE**

THE EDITOR/CREATIVE DIRECTOR OF  
DIASPORA AFRICA PROJECT



# Letter from *The Founder*

## FROM DIALOGUE TO ACTION: OUR COLLECTIVE MANDATE

"To my fellow members of the African Diaspora, In 2023, we stood at The Ion in Houston and declared that the Diaspora is Africa's '6th Region.' It was a bold statement, but it was only the beginning.

At that first conference, we started a conversation about identity, remittances, and 'giving back.' But as I look toward our 6th Annual Conference in 2026, I realize that 'giving back' is no longer enough. Africa does not need charity; it needs intentional investment.

It needs your technical mastery in subsea engineering, your expertise in ethical AI, your experience in global real estate, and your capital to build the hospitals and power grids of tomorrow.

Our theme for 2026, 'From Dialogue to Action,' is a call to arms. We are here to architect the future.

Whether it is through our partnership with Zenith Bank to provide easier property loans or our collaboration with the GIPC to open Ghana's doors, we are removing the barriers that once made 'returning home' feel like a risk.

Nigeria, Ghana, and the rest of the continent are calling. Not just for your resources, but for your intention. I invite you to use this magazine as your guide.

Study the panels, connect with the speakers, and join us in Houston this February.

Let us stop talking about the Africa we want and start building the Africa we deserve."

AMBASSADOR

**EZE  
CHUKWU**

THE AFRICA DIASPORA PROJECT.

# GENESIS (HOUSTON 2023)

## DACON 2023: THE GENESIS OF A GLOBAL MOVEMENT

“In October 2023, at the heart of Houston’s innovation district, The Ion...a historic dialogue began.

The first edition of the Diaspora Africa Conference (DACON) was more than just a gathering; it was the formal commencement of a new era of intentionality.

It marked the moment where the African Diaspora shifted from being a source of remittances to being recognized as the primary architects of continental development.

# KEYNOTE OF INTENTIONALITY

*The Diaspora is Africa's 6th Region  
...not just a source of funds, but a  
source of future."*

AMBASSADOR

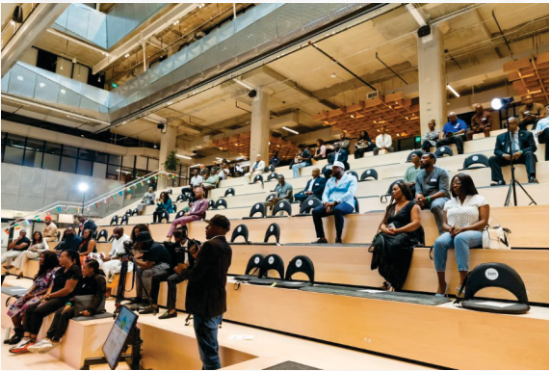
**MAUREEN  
TAMUNO**

THE 6TH REGION

“

"The conference was graced by the presence of **Her Excellency, Ambassador Maureen Tamuno**, the then-High Commissioner of Nigeria to Jamaica. In a stirring keynote address that set the tone for the entire mission, Amb. Tamuno emphasized that the Diaspora is Africa's '6th Region' a powerhouse of untapped potential. She challenged attendees to look beyond the surface of 'giving back' and instead focus on 'strategic investment.' Her address provided a roadmap for how Nigerians and Africans globally could leverage their international exposure, technical skills, and financial muscle to create sustainable, long-term impact on the continent.

”





A Legacy of  
**Vision and Unity:**

**MAYOR  
SYLVESTER  
TURNER.**

“

"In the history of Houston's relationship with the world, few leaders have championed the bridge between the United States and Africa with as much passion, grit, and intentionality as the **late Mayor Sylvester Turner**.

As we gather for the **6th Annual Diaspora Africa Conference (DACON) 2026**, we pause to honor the man who didn't just see a community, but a powerhouse of global change. Mayor Turner was more than a political figure; he was a brother to the Diaspora and a visionary who understood that the **'African Gateway'** to America ran directly through the heart of Houston.

”



# 2023 EDITION HIGHLIGHTS

## The Turning Point: Highlights of the First Edition

"Under the visionary leadership of founder Eze Chukwu, DACON 2023 successfully planted the seeds for the 'Return with Intention' movement.

**The highlights of the first edition included:**

**The Mobilization of Human Capital:** A realization that the skills acquired in the West are the most valuable assets for Africa's infrastructure, health, and tech sectors.

**Structured Collaboration:** The introduction of the Diaspora Africa Mobile App, designed to bridge the information gap between African-owned businesses globally.

**Cultural Identity as a Catalyst:** Using the arts and heritage as a foundation for economic trust and partnership.

'We have the human capital; we now have the platform. It is time to build.'



# THE ARCHITECT OF HOMECOMING

## MAX MAXWELL'S BLUEPRINT: SOVEREIGNTY & TRUST

“

"When Max Maxwell took the stage at DACON in Zanzibar, the atmosphere shifted from theoretical discussion to practical execution.

Maxwell, a powerhouse in the American real estate sector, has become the face of a new movement: Diaspora Africans moving beyond 'visiting' and toward building.

His journey isn't just about real estate; it is about the reclamation of space, identity, and economic power on the continent.

**A Mission of Sovereignty:** For Maxwell, real estate is the most tangible form of freedom.

His mission in Zanzibar is driven by a desire to dismantle the barriers that have historically kept the Diaspora at arm's length from African land ownership.

**Establishing Trust:** By navigating the complexities of local land laws and title deeds, Maxwell provides a roadmap for others to follow, proving that secure investment in Zanzibar is not just possible, it's profitable.

**Capacity Building:** He focuses on high-impact developments that utilize local talent, ensuring that his 'breaking ground' creates an upward trajectory for the Zanzibar workforce.

**The 'Return' Strategy:** Maxwell's work serves as a practical bridge for the Diaspora, turning the emotional desire for 'home' into a structured, wealth building reality.

”





## Building Legacy: How Diaspora Investors are Redefining African Real Estate

**Real Estate Spotlight:** From Accra to the World At the Diaspora Africa Conference (DACON) in Accra, the real estate panel delivered a powerful message: investing in Africa today is about more than property, it is about legacy, trust, and transformation.

**Dre Taylor, founder of Beyond Investments,** showcased what purpose-driven development looks like in action. His 105-home luxury eco-community, Beyond View in the Aburi Mountains, represents a shift from symbolic diaspora return to tangible, sustainable ownership. Built with solar power and off-grid infrastructure, the project provides not just homes, but a secure pathway to land ownership, dual citizenship, and long-term peace of mind.

Addressing concerns around land disputes, **Danny Angels, CEO of Royal Kingdom Estate,** emphasized integrity as the foundation of growth. Having delivered over 600 acres of litigation-free land since 2022, he champions secure documentation and transparent processes to protect diaspora investments while creating dignified employment for local youth.

From a master-planning perspective, the **CEO of Devtraco** highlighted the evolution of gated communities into fully integrated lifestyle hubs-developments designed to meet global standards while offering seamless, hands-off property management for international investors.

Bringing a cross-continental vision, **Kennedy Nnadi of PENNEK Global** reinforced Africa's shift from price taker to value creator. With projects spanning Nigeria and Houston, he demonstrated that African real estate brands can compete globally through integrity, innovation, and flexible investment models.

**The consensus was clear:** the era of uncertainty is fading. A new generation of developers is redefining African real estate - not just as an asset class, but as a bridge between the continent and its global diaspora.



# THE CLARION CALL: PLO LUMUMBA'S CHARGE TO THE GLOBAL AFRICAN FAMILY

*Africa is a beautiful bride that many seek to marry, but she must choose a partner who respects her dignity. That partner must be her own children from across the seas.*

PROFESSOR  
**PLO  
LUMUMBA**

When Professor PLO Lumumba delivered the keynote address at the **5th Edition** of the **Diaspora Africa Conference (DACON)** in **Kenya**, he did not merely speak; he issued a challenge. Known for his surgical precision in dissecting the African condition, Lumumba's presence transformed the conference into a strategic war room for the continent's future.

**His message was clear:** Africa is no longer a continent of "potential"-it is a continent of priority, and the Diaspora is the missing piece of the puzzle.

**The Magnetism of Africa:** Why the World is Watching Lumumba highlighted that while many Africans look outward with longing, the rest of the world is looking inward at Africa with envy.

**He broke down the pillars of Africa's modern attractiveness:**

\* **The Resource Frontier:** From the cobalt of the Congo to the digital economies of Nairobi, Africa is the "engine room" of the next industrial revolution.

\* **The Demographic Dividend:** With the youngest population on earth, Africa holds the human energy required to sustain global growth.

\* **The Sovereign Awakening:** Lumumba noted that Africa is in the final stretch of its decolonization journey. The remaining hurdle-economic sovereignty-is where the Diaspora plays its most critical role.





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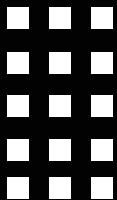
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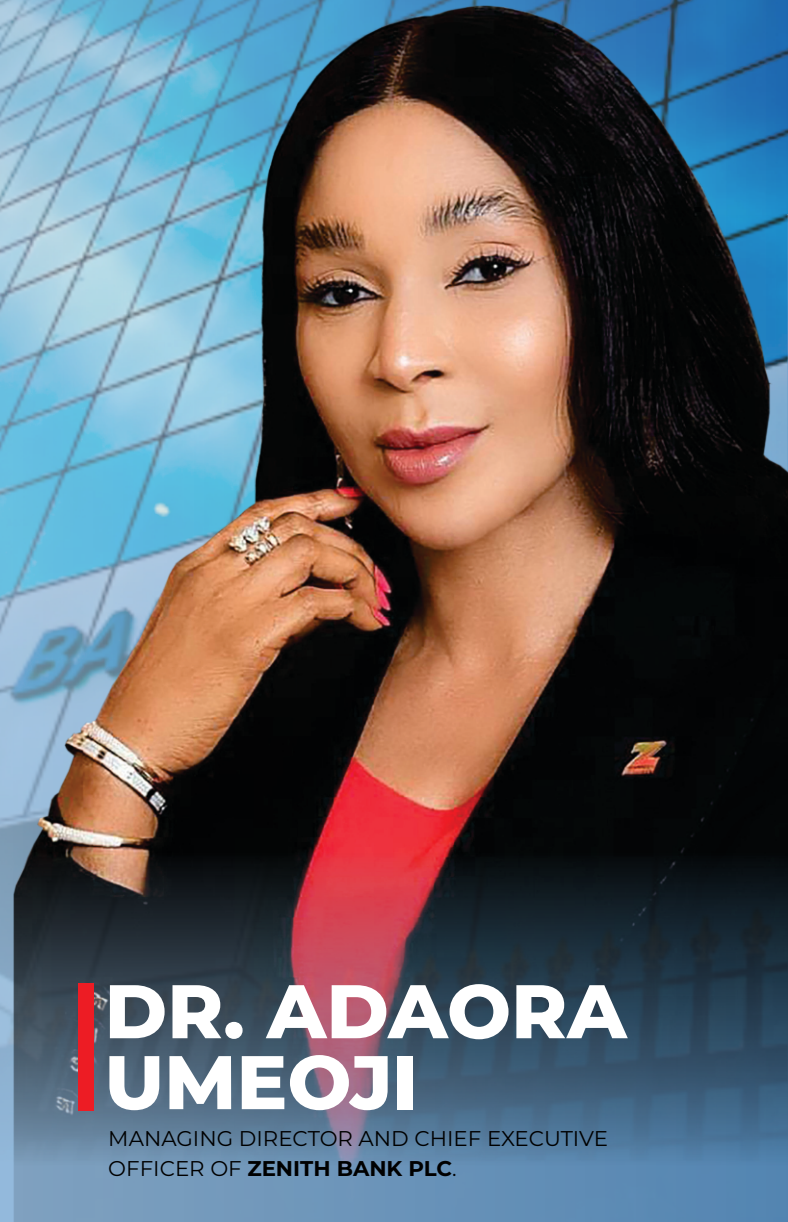
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