



Aswan Forum Progress Report

July 2020-July 2021

STRATEGIC PARTNERS



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Progress Report

Deliverable Description

Date: July 2021

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1. Project Description

On 11-12 December 2019, the Government of Egypt launched the inaugural meeting of the “Aswan Forum for Sustainable Peace and Development”, titled “An Agenda for Sustainable Peace, Security and Development in Africa.” The meeting took place in the broader context of Africa assuming ownership of its peace and development agendas, bringing together heads of states and governments, leaders and high-level officials from national governments, international and regional organization, financial institutions, the private sector, and civil society, as well as practitioners and prominent experts.

Built on the successful implementation of the first forum, the Government of Egypt organized the second Aswan Forum virtually in March 2021. The forum reflected the current situation of the COVID-19 pandemic, its impact on the peace, security and development landscape in Africa and the means to rebuild better and stronger. The Second Forum continued to present concrete and action-oriented recommendations to leaders, experts and stakeholders in Africa.

2.0 Planning Phase

2.1 Preparatory Experts workshops:

During the period from 1 July to 30 November 2020, CCCPA in its capacity as the Aswan Forum Secretariat, in cooperation with the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and partners, conducted six virtual preparatory expert workshops on:

1. Terrorism in the Shadow of the Pandemic (6 July 2020).
2. Leaving No One Behind: Mainstreaming Migration in National Development Policies in the Sahel and Sahara Region (12 August 2020)
3. Assessing Climate-related Security and Development Risks in Africa (8 September 2020).
4. Integrating Climate-related Security and Development Risks into National Planning and Programming in Africa and the role of International Support (15 September 2020).
5. Virtual Dialogue on Women’s Leadership in Conflict Prevention and Sustaining Peace: Challenges and Opportunities in a New Normal, 4 November 2020

These preparatory workshops brought together more than 100 experts from government agencies, regional and international organizations, civil society and think tanks to (1) take stock of current opportunities and challenges to peace, security and development in Africa in the and (2) develop context specific and action-oriented recommendations to advance the implementation of the “sustainable development” and “sustaining peace” agendas in Africa.

The outcome of these workshops was [The Aswan Forum report](#) which represents the collation of non-attributable opinions and recommendations shared by official and expert participants during these workshops.

Webinar on “Terrorism in the Shadow of the Pandemic”, 6 July 2020



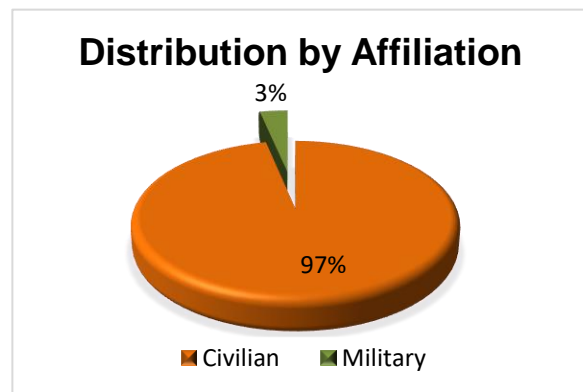
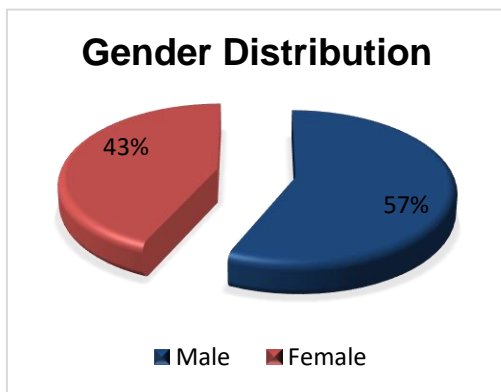
CCCPA organized its first online event titled “Terrorism in the Shadow of the Pandemic” on the 6th of July 2020. The webinar explored the multi-faceted impact of COVID-19 on terrorism and extremism in Africa through taking stock of the security, socio-economic and political impacts of COVID-19 in exacerbating existing grievances, closely assessed how terrorist organizations in Africa are capitalizing on the pandemic to increase

their operations, enhance territorial gains and augment recruitment efforts and produced action-oriented recommendations for policy makers and practitioners. This webinar brought together 30 practitioners and subject matter experts from different regional and international organizations.

As an outcome, a [chairman’s summary](#) was published highlighting the key messages and recommendations emerging from the workshop. It also underlined the critical dimensions of emerging trends in terrorism and organized crime in response to the coronavirus pandemic,

with a particular focus on how the crisis has manifested on the security landscape across the African continent.

Participation by gender		Participation by affiliation	
Male	17	Civilians	29
Female	13	Military	1



Webinar on Leaving No One Behind: Mainstreaming Migration in National Development Policies in the Sahel and Sahara Region, 12 August 2020



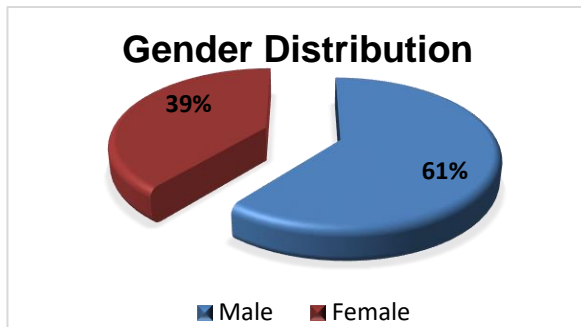
CCCPA organized a webinar entitled “Leaving No One Behind: Mainstreaming Migration in National Development Policies in the Sahel and Sahara Region” on 12 August 2020. It brought together 23 practitioners and subject-matter experts including, most notably, from the African Union Commission and the G5 Sahel Secretariat together with international

migration and development actors.

The webinar took stock of the implementation of relevant international and regional frameworks on the migration-development nexus in Africa, most notably the Global Compact for Migration and the 2030 Agenda. It also shed light on the socio-economic, political and security challenges faced by African Union (AU) member states in mainstreaming migration into national development planning. Specifically, it highlighted the structural challenges of effective migration management for sustainable development in the Sahel and Sahara region as well as good practices and lessons learned, and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on vulnerable communities. It also sought to inform the planning, implementation, as well as evaluation of innovative and sustainable programs and strategies in order to enhance the role of migrants in achieving sustainable development and tackle the distress-related drivers to promote safe, orderly and humane migration.

The outcome of the webinar is a [chairman's summary](#) that includes actionable policy recommendations for policymakers and practitioners aiming to strengthen the implementation of relevant migration and development international and continental frameworks in Africa (specifically in the Sahel and Sahara region) and enhance regional and international cooperation.

Participants by gender		Participants by affiliation	
Male	14	Civilian	23
Female	9		



Webinar series on the Impact of Climate Change on Security and Development in Africa: Towards Risk-Informed National Planning and Programming and International Support, September 2020

CCCPA, acting in its capacity as the Secretariat of the Aswan Forum for Sustainable Peace and Development, and in partnership with Adelphi conducted a series of webinars on “The Impact of Climate Change on Security and Development in Africa: Towards Risk-Informed National Planning and Programming and International Support” as part of the Berlin Climate and Security Conference 2020 (Part II).

As an outcome, two chairman’s summaries ([I](#) & [II](#)) were published and included policy recommendations and action points on how to integrate climate-related security and development risks in climate adaptation, development and peacebuilding planning and programming, how to translate risk-informed planning into implementation, and how to assess and mobilize the means of implementation needed to respond to these risks. The last webinar was conducted as a training on “Risk Assessment Tools and Methodologies for National Planning and Programming”.

Assessing Climate-related Security and Development Risks in Africa, 8 September 2020



This webinar highlighted the multidimensional and transnational nature of climate-related security and development risks in Africa and the imperative for breaking the silos between relevant national and regional actors in addressing them, including through national planning, and programming and international support.

	Organization/ Country	Number of Participants
1	Adelphi	3
2	AFDB	1
3	AU	6
4	Burkina Faso	2
5	CCCPA/ Egypt	7
6	CEEAC	1
7	Conflux	1
8	ICRC	2
9	IGAD	1
10	LCBC	1
11	Luxembourg	1
12	Madagascar	1
13	Netherlands	1
14	Norway	1
15	Norwegian Refugee Council	1
16	OSCE	1
17	Rwanda	2
18	SIPRI	2
19	Somalia	2
20	Swiss	1
21	Tanzania	2
22	UN Habitat	1
23	UN OWAS	1
24	UNCCD	1
25	UNDP	2
26	UNEP	1
27	UNICEF	1
28	USA (independent consultant)	1
Total		48

Participants by gender

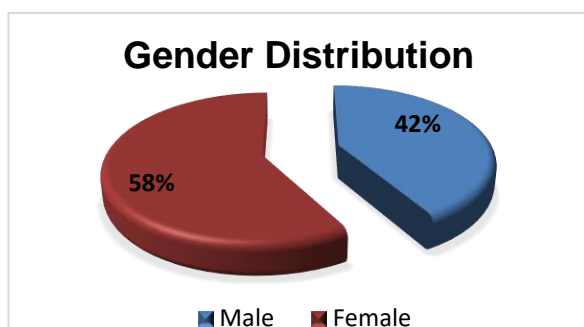
Participants by affiliation

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Male	20	Civilians	48
Female	28		



Integrating Climate-related Security and Development Risks into National Planning and Programming in Africa and the Role of International Support, 15 September 2020:



This webinar identified action points for African governments and regional organizations on how to shift towards risk-based decision making when planning for climate-targeted responses, development and peacebuilding and how to translate risk-informed planning into implementation. It will also aim to identify action

points for African governments, regional organizations and the international community to assess and mobilize the means of implementation necessary for African Countries to enable the Continent to deal with climate change and its associated threats.

	Organization/ Country	Number of Participants
1	Accord/ NUPI	1
2	Adelphi	5
3	AFDB	2
4	AFPAT	1
5	AU	4
6	Burkina Faso	2
7	CCCPA	6
8	Djibouti	1
9	Egypt	1
10	ICRC	1
11	IGAD	1
12	Lake Chad Basin Commission	1
13	Madagascar	1

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14	OSCE	1
15	Rwanda	1
16	Somalia	1
17	Sudan	2
18	Tanzania	2
19	UN Habitat	1
20	UNDP	1
21	UNEP	3
22	UNOWAS	1
23	USA (Independent consultant)	1
Total		41

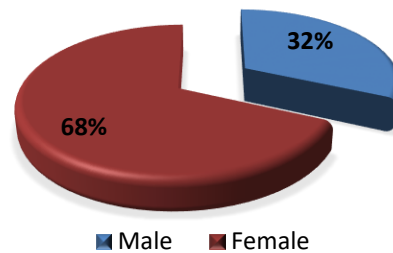
Participation by gender

Male	13
Female	28

Participation by affiliation

Civilians	41
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Gender Distribution



Risk Assessment Tools and Methodologies for National Planning and Programming, 22 September 2020



This webinar was organized as a training session with not only the aim to provide the participants with the essential tools that will enable them to assess the relationship and interlinkages between climate change, security and development risks, through the utilization of risk assessment frameworks and methodologies but also to enable the participants to better understand how to mainstream this complex and integrated analysis of climate threats into national development, peacebuilding and conflict prevention planning and programming.

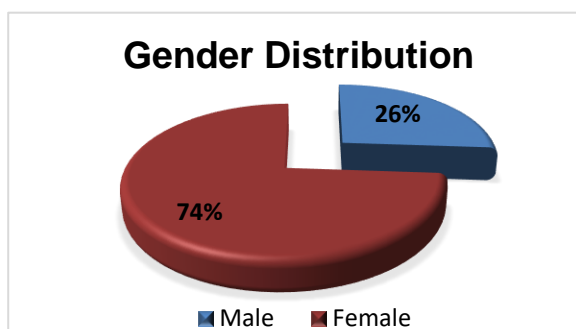
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	Organization/ Country	Number of Participants
1	Adelphi	3
2	AFDB	1
3	AU	3
4	Burkina Faso	2
5	CCCPA	3
6	GIZ	1
7	IGAD	1
8	LCBC	1
9	Madagascar	1
10	Sudan	1
11	Tanzania	2
12	UN	1
13	UNDP	1
14	UNEP	1
15	USA (Independent consultant)	1
Total		23

Participation by gender	
Male	6
Female	17
Participation by affiliation	
Civilians	23



Virtual Dialogue on Women’s Leadership in Conflict Prevention and Sustaining Peace: Challenges and Opportunities in a New Normal, 4 November 2020:

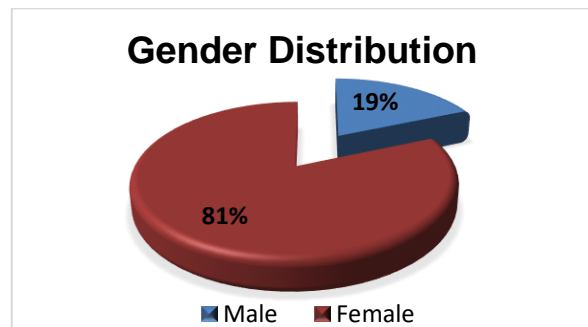
On 4 November 2020, CCCPA organized a virtual dialogue titled “Advancing the Implementation of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda in a New Normal: Women Leadership in Preventing Conflict and Sustaining Peace”. The dialogue objective was to identify challenges and opportunities that resulted from the pandemic and to suggest concrete, action-oriented recommendations to be considered during the second edition of the Aswan Forum to enhance the implementation of both the WPS and Sustaining Peace agendas.

The session brought together 27 experts, a select group of policymakers and practitioners from governments, civil society organizations and regional and international organizations, to discuss how the lessons learned from the pandemic can act as an accelerator for the implementation of the Sustaining Peace and WPS agenda, as well as ensuring that the “new

normal” will result in preventative and gender inclusive efforts in both armed conflict and post-conflict settings.

The outcome of this dialogue was the [chairman’s summary](#) that captures the key messages and recommendations emerging from the dialogue and its ensuing discussion.

Participation by gender	
Male	5
Female	22
Participation by affiliation	
Civilians	27



2.1.1 Creating Aswan Forum II Virtual Platform:



Due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 and the challenges faced by the pandemic, CCCPA, acting in its capacity as the Aswan Forum Secretariat, organized the second edition of the Aswan Forum using a hybrid modality. The sessions were mainly virtual (using Zoom) and a physical forum venue/studio was

built to provide participants/speakers/moderators present in Cairo the opportunity to attend in person. The Egyptian Minister of Foreign Affairs provided the keynote address at the forum’s opening.

The virtual Platform:

The objective was not only to create a visually appealing and cost-efficient platform that maximum engagement from participants in a virtual setting, but also a user-friendly platform that provides attendees with as much of a real experience as they would have had if it was an in-person event.





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The 3D interface, virtual booths, lobbies, and auditorium provided the same experience as in-person events to participants and included:

- **Registration** – The platform was used for participants to register for the event.
- **Live Webinars** – All online sessions were live and the two-way communication enhanced attendee engagement during the event. Moreover, the event recordings were available for 30 days after the conclusion of the event.
- **Virtual Booths** – Sponsors and strategic partners of the Aswan Forum were provided with their own customized virtual booths. The virtual booths were appreciated by the sponsors because it offered them a platform where they can showcase their material and videos with other attendees.
- **Frictionless Navigation** – The platform was user-friendly and easy to navigate. Participants did not have to go through many tabs to reach what they needed.
- **Swag Bags** – Just like physical events, swag bags were made available to event attendees. Attendees could hand-pick from available documents, add the selection to their online swag bag and email it to themselves.
- **Chat Widget** – Attendees were able to engage with the Aswan Forum’s event Speakers, Sponsors and Exhibitors during the live sessions, through the chat widget as well as the interactive kiosks placed in the exhibit hall.

2.1.2 Technical Staff

Recruitment of a technical team was made at the beginning of the project. The entire CCCPA staff also worked full time on the preparations of the Aswan Forum, the event itself as well as the implementation of the conclusions afterwards.

2.1.3 Communication and Visibility

Acting in its capacity as the Aswan Forum secretariat, CCCPA was responsible for developing and implementing a communications and visibility strategy for the second edition of the Aswan Forum for Sustainable Peace and Development, titled: “Shaping Africa’s New Normal: Recovering Stronger, Rebuilding Better”. The Center used branding, marketing and social media tools to promote the event. This section outlines the main communications and visibility activities that took place from July 2020 to March 2021:

Website:

The center created a new version of the website already developed in 2019 for the second edition of the Aswan Forum, making it a user-friendly, dynamic & informative platform. The new website was one of the Center’s main tools to increase the Forum’s visibility and provide official information about the preparatory workshops of the second edition, the objectives & themes of the Forum, as well as its high-level speakers & partners. Moreover, the presidential videos received from African leaders, interviews with partners and stakeholders were uploaded to the website at the end of the event.



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Social Media Channels

The Aswan Forum's social media sites (Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram, Youtube & Flickr) were managed by a reputable social media agency and had an essential role in promoting and increasing the visibility of the second edition through posts, videos and infographics. The social media strategy was divided into 3 phases (pre, during and post event):

Pre-forum: The pre-forum visibility began in July 2021 with the first preparatory workshop of the second Aswan Forum.

Starting the campaign in July allowed the platforms to gain momentum and audience, which increased the communication between the target audience and the Forum. The visibility guidelines were applied to ensure consistency in branding. For each workshop, there was live social media coverage, a short video, infographics and photo quotes.

Donors/Partners received visibility on their participation in the Aswan Forum with the inclusion of their logos on posts, articles and photos.

During forum: During the Forum, all sessions were recorded, and a wrap-up video was created for each session, along with full social media coverage on all platforms.

Post forum: A lot of footage was used to create the post forum content, including the recap video and women's participation in the Forum. As a result, a total of 47 videos were created.

The number of followers and likes on different social media platforms increased: Facebook: 3,666 Followers, Twitter: 2,857 Followers, Instagram: 635 Followers, LinkedIn: 1693 Followers, YouTube: 96 subscribers. Below are the links to each platform:

Website: <https://www.aswanforum.org/>

Twitter: [@AswanForum](https://twitter.com/AswanForum)

Facebook: [@AswanForum](https://www.facebook.com/AswanForum)

LinkedIn: [@AswanForum](https://www.linkedin.com/company/AswanForum)

Instagram: [@aswanforumegypt](https://www.instagram.com/aswanforumegypt)

YouTube: [@AswanForum](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAswanForum)

Flickr: [@AswanForum](https://www.flickr.com/photos/AswanForum)

Publications

A company was hired to print the Aswan Forum publications (Agenda, Concept Note, Chair's Summaries, report and Conclusions).

Producing On-Ground Branding Applications

CCCPA and a reputable agency produced screen visuals throughout the event with the logos of the Aswan Forum partners.

Media Coverage

The Forum was covered by national and international media; journalists, TV channels, which increased mass outreach and raised awareness about the Forum's work both locally and at the global level.

3.0 Second Annual Aswan Forum for Sustainable Peace and Development



From 1 to 5 March 2021, CCCPA organized the second edition of the Aswan Forum for Sustainable Peace and Development titled, “Shaping Africa’s New Normal: Recovering Stronger, Rebuilding Better”.

The second edition that was held virtually was built on the inaugural Aswan Forum and its conclusions and it aimed to advance a positive and

ambitious agenda, through decisive leadership and innovative solutions, as Africa charts on its pathway for recovery post-COVID-19.

The Forum brought together more than 805 participants from all over the world representing 96 countries and more than 100 international, regional and national organizations.

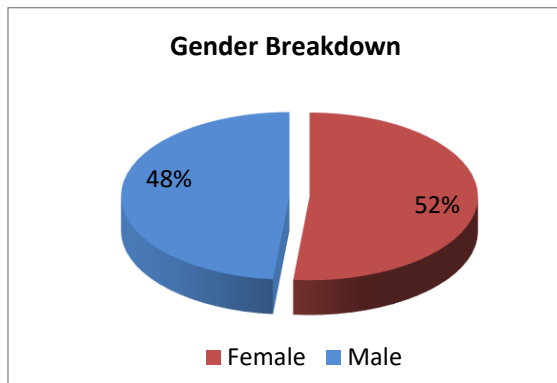
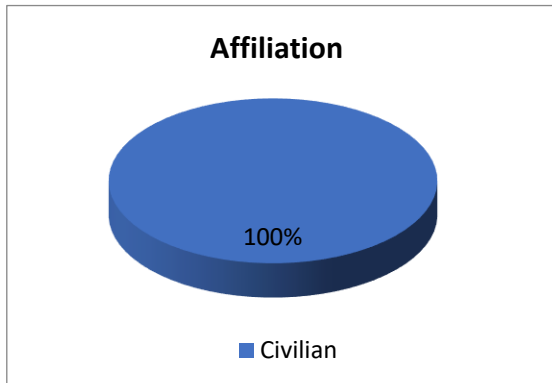
This year, 19 Heads of State participated in the forum by sending video messages including H.E. Abdelfattah El-Sisi, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt and 18 Heads of State (Rwanda, Gabon, South Sudan, Senegal, Burkina Faso, Zimbabwe, Madagascar, Guinea Bissau, Burundi, Tunisia, Equatorial Guinea, Djibouti, Malawi, Mozambique, Comoros, Angola, Namibia and Democratic Republic of Congo) and eight head of regional and International organizations (UNSG, AUC, WHO, AFDB, UNHCR, IoM, Africa CDC and G5 Sahel) and over eight ministers.



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This year's Forum highlighted that although the pandemic brings multilayered challenges to the continent, it also presents opportunities for Africa to reshape and enhance its humanitarian, peace, security and development responses. Echoing key messages from the first edition of the Aswan Forum, the second edition reaffirms the imperative of accelerating a paradigm shift from crisis management towards nationally owned prevention and resilience policies and interventions that address systemic risks and structural weaknesses.

The Forum outcome was the 2021 [Aswan Conclusions](#) which provide a holistic guiding framework to address the interconnectedness and overlap between Africa's pre-existing vulnerabilities and today's heightened risks resulting from the pandemic.



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4.0 Financial Situation

4.1 Summary of Expenditures

The contribution to date from the Strategic Partners and Partners, amounts to USD 496,964.12, while the total expenditures till 31 July 2021 amounts to USD 323,869.55. The remaining funds are committed for payment by the end of the project.

Activity Results	Budget (USD)	Expenditures (USD)			Total Expenditures in 2021 (USD)	Balance (USD)
		Jan-Mar '21	Apr-Jun '21	Jul-Aug '21		
Recruit technical staff	179,088.12	17,502.52	-	104,195.73	121,698.25	57,389.87
Support to the Aswan Forum Secretariat	34,604.29	-	19,195.09		19,195.09	15,409.20
Online Implementation of Aswan Forum Recommendations	63,000.00	46,501.90	-		46,501.90	16,498.10
IT Requirements & Equipment	77,673.82	790.47	28,076.02		28,866.49	48,807.33
Conference Facilities, Interpretation8 & A/V Equipment	56,520.35	37,412.27	2,768.70	1,401.88	41,582.85	14,937.50
Branding & Promotion	93,213.12	20,241.61	8,469.60	9,122.51	37,833.72	55,379.40
Audit Fees	-	5,141			5,141.00	(5,141.00)
OUDA Fees	-	525.22			525.22	(525.22)
General Management Support (8%)	40,327.98	9,774.67	5,306.24	4,880	19,960.91	20,367.07
Unrealized Loss	-		10.98	51.85	62.83	(62.83)
Unrealized Gain	-		(31.01)		-31.01	31.01
Realized Gain	-		(28.61)		-28.61	28.61
Direct Project Costing	10,081.99	1,628.49	394.56	537.86	2,560.91	7,521.08
Total (USD)	554,509.67	139,518.15	64,161.57	120,189.83	323,869.55	230,640.12



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5.0 Media Coverage

Please refer to the articles attached.