



# The African Light Source AfLS4-2024

Virtual Event : 14-18 Nov 2022



## The AfLS Ceremonial calling stick

The AfLS African ceremonial calling stick summons us from around the world to participate in these Historic Events.

From within Africa, it first called us -

- AfLS1 in Grenoble in November 2015.
- AfLS2 in Ghana in Jan 2019.
- AfLS2020 1<sup>st</sup> Virtual Workshop in Nov 2020, as the event in Rwanda was suspended due to COVID.
- AfLS3 in Benin in November 2021 (virtual)
- AfLS4 in Botswana in November 2022 (virtual).

The AfLS ceremonial calling stick hails from ancient Ashanti culture. Normally, it would be planted at a nexus of roads, where all would pass and note its message boards. For the AfLS, the message is the vision of an Advanced Light Source in Africa, delivering new scientific discoveries, of great relevance to Africa, and also the world.

The stick has the gravitas of a scepter. It depicts both genders equally Symbolically we have, inclusivity, and ubuntu. All are invited, and all will build the AfLS together.



At the end of these proceedings, it will call us again to the next conference .....

**The calling stick final resting place is the future AfLS facility, where it will still call all people to its campus.**



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## The AfLS Ceremonial speaking stick

The AfLS African ceremonial speaking stick, is used throughout the conference to endow, in the African tradition, each speaker in turn, with authority and wisdom to speak. The Speaking stick is handed over by the Session Chair to each next speaker, before they commence, and they return it to the chair as they leave. We use the moment of transfer for each official photograph of the speaker.

**The AfLS speaking stick will be displayed at the future AfLS facility.**





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## **AfLS ceremonial calling stick and the speaking stick**

We will now pass the calling stick virtually

from

**Dr Marielle Agbahoungbata (X-TechLab)**

to

**Dr Philip Oladijo (BIUST)**