

ANNUAL AUSTRALIA AFRICA CONFERENCE (AAC) 2015

Enhancing strategic engagement and partnership between government, academia and business

26-28 August 2015, Canberra

Hosted by

AAUN, Australia Africa Business Council-NSW and ACT Chapter, Crawford School of Public Policy ANU, Heads of African Missions

Wednesday 26 August 2015 <i>Venue: The Meetings Room, University House</i>	
1300 - 1400	Lunch <i>Venue: The Fellows Café, University House cafeteria</i>
1400 - 1600	AAUN Annual Review and General Meeting <i>Venue: The Meetings Room, University House</i>
1600 - 1630	Afternoon Tea <i>Venue: Foyer, The Meetings Room</i>
1800 - 2100	AAC Welcome Reception – sponsored by HE the Dean and the African Heads of Mission and by AAUN <i>Venue: Springbank Room Crawford School of Public Policy</i> Hosted by the African Group of High Commissioners and Ambassadors in Canberra and also by AAUN, the Welcome Reception is an opportunity to build new networks, renew acquaintances and make new connections. Welcome Remarks: HE Dean Molosiwa Selepeng, High Commissioner for Botswana
Thursday 27 August 2015 <i>Venue: Molonglo Theatre in the Crawford School of Public Policy</i>	
0830 - 09:00	Registration & Arrival Tea <i>Venue: Foyer, Molonglo Theatre in the Crawford School of Public Policy</i>
0900 - 0915	Opening Session Welcome & Introductions Objective: The plenary session will signify the overall objectives of the AAC sessions. The keynote speakers will inform delegates of policy issues in their portfolio relevant to the themes of AAC 2015.
0915 – 0940	Moderator: HE Molosiwa Selepeng (High Commissioner for Botswana) Opening Presentations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hon Steven Ciobo MP (15min) - Q & A session (10min)
0940 -1000	Responding African second Speaker (15min + 5min) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prof Peter Mbithi, (Vice-Chancellor, University of Nairobi) - Economic and education diplomacy: equal partnerships for progress
1000 - 1015	Vote of thanks: Practical Priorities and Progress (10min + 5 min) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr Matthew Neuhaus, Head DFAT Africa Branch
1015 - 1045	Morning Tea <i>Venue: Foyer, Molonglo Theatre in the Crawford School of Public Policy</i>

1045 - 1215	<p>Panel Discussion 1: <i>Investment and Business Promotion: Government and Private Sectors</i></p> <p>Objective: The session will explore business development opportunities in entrepreneurship, challenges and investment opportunities in tourism and Agribusiness. In addition, infrastructure and development opportunities in roads, railways, telecommunication and ports, natural resources and renewable power generation (wind, solar, geothermal, biomass).</p> <p>Moderator: Mr Simba Kippaya (5min) Panellists: (8 min each)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr Deon Herbst, Business and Innovation (University of Pretoria) - Prof Remmal Adnane, Plant and pharmaceuticals (Morocco) - Mr Benoit Le Bars (OHADA in Africa), Paris - Mr Grey Johnson (NEPAD), Gambia <p>Open Discussion</p>
1215 - 1330	<p>Lunch <i>Venue: The Ivy Café, Old Canberra House, ANU</i></p>
1330 - 1500	<p>Panel Discussion 2: <i>Education, Science and Technology for Jobs & Economic Development</i></p> <p>Objective: Focusing on customising education, science and technology to meet actual local needs and get optimal returns on spent resources. This theme will explore education infrastructure/facilities, systems and quality to meet local needs; Science and Technology incubation centres in Africa; possibilities for regional centres of excellence for research and education through Governments and universities; promotion of Education science and technology as a link between Africa and Australia; and Research & Development integrating knowledge, business, industrial, social and economic growth of an African country.</p> <p>Moderator: Prof Anthony Welch (5min) Panellists (8 min each):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms Catherine Gill, DFAT (Education for Women's Economic Empowerment) - Prof Stephen Parker (Vice Chancellor, University of Canberra) - Dr George Odhiambo (University of Sydney) - Mr Kofi Osei Bonsu (student speaker) - Prof Chika Schoole (University of Pretoria) <p>Open Discussion</p>
1500 - 1530	<p>Afternoon Tea <i>Venue: Foyer, Molonglo Theatre in the Crawford School of Public Policy</i></p>

1530 - 1700	<p>Panel Discussion 3: <i>Food, Nutrition and Health Security Research to Improve Lives & Engage Markets</i></p> <p>Objective: The session will cover and discuss issues of access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food that meets the dietary requirements as well as food preferences of the African countries and maintains food security. The session will examine policies related to agricultural production, political commitment and prioritization against hunger and malnutrition.</p> <p>Moderator: Professor John Hearn (5min) Panellists: (8 min each)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr Nick Austin, (Director ACIAR/AIFSRC) - Prof Kadambot Siddique (University of Western Australia) - Dr Peter Johnston – Climate System Analysis Group (University of Cape Town) - Associate Prof Robyn Alders (University of Sydney) - Associate Prof Robyn McConchie (University of Sydney) - Associate Prof Karen Charlton (University of Wollongong) - Prof Mavis Malaudzi (University of Pretoria) <p>Open Discussion</p>
1830 for 1900 - 2100	<p>Conference Dinner <i>Venue: Common Room, University House</i> Speakers: Brief sponsor comments: (South African Airways, Windlab – 5 min each) Vote of thanks to: Dean of African Heads of Mission</p>
<p>Friday 28 August 2015 <i>Venue: University House Common Room</i></p>	
0830 - 0900	<p>Arrival Tea/Coffee <i>Venue: Foyer, University House Common Room</i></p>
0900 - 1100	<p>Parallel Workshops <i>Venues: University House (Common Room, Scarth Room, Drawing Room)</i></p> <p>Objective: The workshops, following the three themes of the plenary session, will be informal and interactive. Delegates representing academia, business and government will be pre-assigned (while allowing choice) to each workshop with a mix of viewpoints and experiences that will help to drive the discussions and practical outcomes. Each workshop will have a facilitator and recorder. Discussions and feedback from AAC 2014, with brief progress reports of current projects will be included in these workshops. The workshops will identify current gaps, opportunities and priorities and recommend these to the AAC plenary session following. The workshop reports and proposals will include priority programs, teams, and funding sources. The proposed projects will be developed further and considered in a competitive call in September for seed fund support (probably 2 projects per session funded and lead by AAUN subject to quality, feasibility and funding). The purpose of the workshop sessions is to develop an academia-business-government teamwork around a continuing Australian African program with distinct capacities, focus and characteristics. The proposed projects will deliver mutual benefits to Africa and Australia, and deliver evidence based options to form or improve relevant policies.</p>

	<p>Conveners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr Deon Herbst (University of Pretoria) Investment and Business Promotion: Government and Private Sectors <i>Venue: Scarth Room, University House</i> - Dr George Odhiambo (University of Sydney) Education, Science and Technology for Jobs & Economic Development <i>Venue: Drawing Room, University House</i> - Prof Kadambot Siddique (University of Western Australia) <i>Food, Nutrition and Health Security Research to Improve Lives & Engage Markets</i> <i>Venue: Common Room, University House</i> <p>Note: we expect to seed fund 1-2 competitive proposals led by AAUN partners from each of these workshops. A call for proposals will be announced in September, and reviewed for quality, feasibility and sustainability. Awards will be announced in December.</p>
1100 - 1130	<p>Morning tea <i>Venue: Foyer, University House Common Room</i></p>
1130 - 1230	<p>Closing Plenary Session & Reports from workshops (3 x 10 mins each) and 30 min discussion on priorities and next steps. A draft AAC Communique will be presented.</p> <p>Objective: The workshop facilitators will present the outcomes of the workshop sessions to the Plenary, using a provided power-point template. The session will provide feedback and conclusions of each workshop session and identify practical action programs and initiatives, to be implemented by project teams. Several multilateral (intercontinental, interdisciplinary), African/Australian working groups and research project teams will be formed according to the outcomes and the follow up of AAC 2015. These programs will also link ahead to cognate activities for 2015-17 in Africa and Australia: conferences, workshops, projects, exchange programs, alumni, Africa Awards and other scholarships.</p>
1230 - 1300	<p>Closing Comments (5 min each) – Chair, Professor Daniel Connell, Crawford School</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr Matthew Neuhaus, Head, DFAT Africa Branch - Mr Simba Kippaya, Australia Africa Business Council (ACT-NSW chapter)UN - Prof John Hearn, Australia Africa Universities Network <p>HE Asaiye Kabira, High Commissioner for Kenya</p> <p>Vote of thanks / Communique AAC 2015</p> <p>End of Program: Note that lunch may be obtained in the University House Café.</p>

Conference sponsored by

Africa Australia Universities Network (AAUN), African Heads of Mission Group in Australia, Australia Africa Business Council (ACT/ NSW chapter), Crawford School of Public Policy ANU, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Department of Education, Australian International Food Security Centre (AIFSC/ACIAR), South African Airways.

Registration: <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/annual-australia-africa-conference-aac-tickets-17823666065>