



United Nations Educational,  
Scientific and Cultural Organization

## **UNESCO NAIROBI NEWSLETTER**

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## **NAIROBI OFFICE LAUNCHES INFORMATION BOOKLET**

The booklet was published to answer some of the questions frequently posed by UNESCO Member States and our partners. Some of these are:

1. What are the programme activities of the Nairobi Office?
2. What countries does the office cover?
3. How big is the office?

The booklet is therefore, an attempt to provide answers to these questions. It is also intended to present the vision of the office with respect to the role of UNESCO in the resolution of local development issues in the field under its mandate. Through the brief accounts of the activities of the office, the booklet shows how the office is responding to local needs while maintaining the global strategic objectives of the organization. Copies of the booklet are available from Ms Alice Ochanda, email, [Alice.Ochanda@unesco.unon.org](mailto:Alice.Ochanda@unesco.unon.org).

## **CONFERENCE ON DIALOGUE AMONG CIVILISATIONS, CULTURES AND PEOPLES THROUGH EDUCATION AND SCIENCE. ABUJA, NIGERIA**

19-22 June 2006

Since the UN declaration of 2001 as the Year for Dialogue among Civilisations, there have been many regional conferences, meetings in a wide range of countries. These meetings have succeeded as advocates for dialogue and in highlighting the fact that dialogue can serve many purposes. The meeting in Abuja was organised to specifically focus on the role of Education and Science in the promotion of dialogue among civilisations. It was jointly convened by the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and the Director-General of UNESCO.

The meeting attracted participants from all over Africa although the majority were from Nigerian. There were participants from South Africa, Malawi,

Botswana, Ghana, Liberia, and Uganda. The Conference was officially opened by H.E. The President of the Republic of Nigeria (President O. Obasanjo) and the Director-General of UNESCO (Mr. K. Matsuura). The welcome remarks were made by the Minister of State Education (Mrs. Grace Ogwuche).

The meeting was conducted through two parallel working groups: one on Science and another on Education. **Prof. Joseph G. Massaquoi**, Regional Director for Science participated in the working group session on Science. Prof Massaquoi's Paper, *Dialogue among Civilizations: The link with Science, Technology and Development*, formed the basis of his intervention during the working group discussion as indeed was the case for all those who had submitted papers.

In the Science session, several issues emerge. These ranged from the use of the Diaspora Scientists, the role of AU/NEPAD in the development of Science and Technology on the continent to the development of Indigenous Knowledge.

#### **LAUNCH OF THE 2006, HIV AND AIDS RED RIBBON MEDIA AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN JOURNALISM**

This year's "**Red Ribbon Award for Excellence in Writing and Reporting on HIV/AIDS**" was officially launched on the 17<sup>th</sup> July 2006 at the Grand Regency Hotel in Nairobi Kenya. It is one of the activities under the Project "The Eastern and Southern Africa Media Strategy against HIV/AIDS" being implemented by the Office of the Adviser for Communication and Information for Eastern Africa.

The award which was first introduced in Eastern Africa region in 2003, is an event dedicated to acknowledge and make public the efforts made by media professionals in writing, producing and reporting on HIV/AIDS. This is in line with other initiatives to recognize the economic value of journalistic work and journalists' need for a just recognition of their efforts. The Red Ribbon award is therefore meant to recognize excellence and reward exceptional writing and reporting on HIV and AIDS as well as motivate journalists to increase their

frequency of coverage on the subject, in their outlets. It is envisaged that with the support and cooperation from the various partners, this will be an annual event to keep and increase the momentum in this fight.

The award targets the Radio, Television, and Print/online journalists from Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Eritrea, Somalia, Ethiopia, Djibouti, Comoros, Mauritius, Madagascar, Seychelles, Rwanda, and Burundi. The top prize for each category is 1500 US dollars, plus a certificate of achievement. The second and third places will each receive 750 and 500 US dollars respectively as well as a certificate of achievement.

This year's winners will be announced on December 1, 2006 at a "Gala night ceremony that coincides with the World AIDS Day. UNESCO Nairobi Office was represented at the function by Ms. Lydia Kiniti.

#### **UNESCO NAIROBI OFFICE COMPLETES WORK ON MICRO-FINANCE INSTITUTIONS (MFI) POLICY PAPERS**

In 2004 UNESCO Nairobi Office initiated a project with the objective to facilitate the growth of activities financed through Micro-credit. Most of these activities tend to remain at the subsistence level, unable to create employment or generate a multiplier effect. The UNESCO project was intended to facilitate the transformation of these activities from the level of subsistence living to small scale enterprises. The role of technology as a driving force for such transformation was recognized. Hence it was concluded that policies that encourage the adoption of technology (Skills, Knowledge and Hardware) are likely to facilitate the transformation process. Thus the strategy used in the project was to identify and disseminate information on good policies and practices that encourage the adoption of technology and the growth of small-scale enterprise.

UNESCO's project was designed to identify policies and practices that could increase the impact of micro finance institutions in the fight against poverty by facilitating the injection of appropriate technologies into income-generating activities of the MFI's clients. UNESCO planned to achieve this goal by sponsoring and funding studies aimed at identifying, documenting and disseminating good practices and policies that favour injection of technology into subsistence activities and small businesses.

Accordingly, the project embarked on a series of activities which included the survey of policies that are likely to promote the adoption of technology and the growth of small-scale enterprises. The studies covered not only policies of micro-finance institutions (MFI) but also many macro-policies and government's sectoral policies such as those on promotion of small-scale enterprises.

The research examined different types of policies that affect technology at Government, MFI and micro enterprise levels and was conducted in the individual countries namely Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, Zambia, Nigeria, Ghana, and Sierra Leone. The results of the study have been documented in form of seven policy papers which were recently completed. The printed documents will be available for distribution in December 2006.

**CONSULTATION OF THE NATIONAL COMMISSIONS IN AFRICA,  
13-17 JUNE 2006**

Following the adoption of Resolution 1 of the 33<sup>rd</sup> Session of UNESCO's General Conference, the Director-General of UNESCO, **Mr Koichiro Matsuura** held a Consultation with the Secretary-Generals of the National Commissions in Africa on the preparation of the Draft Medium-Term Strategy for 2008-2013 (34C/4) and the Draft Programme and Budget for 2008-2009 (34C/5), in Angola, 13-17 June 2006. The Consultation provided important guidance and input for the

programme planning process, and contributed to the identification of clear strategic orientations and priority areas of the programme action on which the Organization should focus in the years ahead. The Director of UNESCO Nairobi Office (**Mr. Joseph Massaquoi**), the Regional Adviser for Social and Human Sciences (**Mr. John Nkinyangi**) and the Secretary-Generals from the Nairobi Cluster Office (Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi and Eritrea) attended the Consultation.

**YOUTH MAINSTREAMING, RESULTS BASED MANAGEMENT, AND FUND RAISING TRAINING WORKSHOP.**

**BAMAKO, MALI 18 -25 JUNE, 2006 (ALICE OCHANDA)**

Workshop was officially opened by the Malian Minister for Youth and Sports, Mr. Drehima Mariko. Also present were the Secretary General of Mali National Commission for UNESCO, Mr. Oumar Ndebele, Mr. Joseph Cataria, Resident Coordinator for SNU and UNDP Country Representative, Maria Hellena, Chief, BSP/Youth and the Director of the UNESCO Bamako Office, Mr. Firmin Matoko.

The purpose of the workshop was to equip UNESCO Youth Focal points in Africa with the relevant skills needed to ensure proper implementation of youth activities, ability to mobilize resources for these activities in order to avoid implementation by accident but to ensure implementation by choice and for a purpose. The training workshop was organized by BSP/Youth Section in collaboration with the UNESCO Bamako Office and was attended by all Youth Focal Points from UNESCO offices in Africa. The UNESCO Nairobi Office was represented by Ms. Alice Ochanda.

**SECOND MEETING OF THE JOINT UNESCO/ECOWAS  
COMMISSION ABUJA, NIGERIA.**

In 1983 UNESCO, made a cooperation agreement with the Economic Commission of West African States (ECOWAS). The first meeting of the UNESCO/ECOWAS Joint Commission was held in Paris in 2000.

The second meeting of the UNESCO/ECOWAS Commission was held in Abuja from 19-21 June 2006. The meeting was chaired by UNESCO Assistant Director-General for Africa (Mr. Tidjani Serpus) and officially opened by the UNESCO Director General Mr Koichiro Matsuura.

UNESCO Nairobi Office was represented by Prof. Joseph G. Massaquoi in his capacity as the UNESCO Regional Director for Science in Africa.

**AFRICAN UNION SUMMIT OF THE HEADS OF STATE, JANUARY 2007**

UNESCO Nairobi Office is collaborating with NEPAD in preparation for the **African** Union Summit of the Heads of State in January 2007. The theme of the Summit is Science and Technology and Research for Africa's Development. In preparation of the Summit, the Department of Resources, Science and Technology of the African Union has planned a series of meetings between March and November 2006. The Director of UNESCO Nairobi Office (Prof. Joseph Massaquoi) has been invited to take part in the Organizing Committee of the *Congress of African Scientists and Policy Makers, to be held in Addis Ababa, 27-30 October 2006*. He will also participate in some of the preparatory meetings.

## **ANSTI PUBLICATIONS**

ANSTI secretariat has recently published the following reports which are readily available at the Secretariat. They are also available at ANSTI website: [www.ansti.org](http://www.ansti.org).

### **Revitalizing Science and Technology Training Institutions-The Way Forward.**

This report summarizes the deliberations of the conference on the state of science and technology training institutions which was held in Accra, Ghana from 15-17<sup>th</sup> November 2005. This conference was attended by over 200 participants who included Vice-Chancellors, Deans of Faculties and heads of academic departments in African Universities.

The participants deliberated on many issues and developed proposals for the resolution of the problems and strategies to make the science and technology institutions more relevant to national development objectives. An action plan was developed for the revitalization of African Science and Technology Training Institutions where the problems affecting these institutions were highlighted and strategies/actions to overcome them proposed.

This report will be a useful document to all science and technology institutions and donors to higher education on forging the way forward. Download full publication from [www.ansti.org](http://www.ansti.org).

### **ANSTI Annual Report 2005.**

This is a report of the ANSTI activities in 2005, the year it celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary since its inception.

Details of the various activities that were carried out in the year 2005 (Financial or otherwise) are provided in this report. Full report available online at [www.ansti.org](http://www.ansti.org)

## **COVIDSET 2005 CD Booklet**

This is a booklet on the summary of the proceeding of the Conference of Vice-Chancellors, Provosts and Deans of Science, Engineering and Technology (COVIDSET) 2005 contained in an attached CD. The book contains a list of the various plenary and sessional papers presented at the conference and the names of over 200 leaders of science and technological institutions in Africa, who participated in the conference. The attached CD contains the full details of conference on the “State of Science and Technological Training Institutions in Africa”, which was the theme of the conference.

## **CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

CONFERENCE ON THE ROLE OF PARTITIONING AND TRANSMUTATION IN THE MITIGATION OF THE POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF NUCLEAR FUEL CYCLE.

(20<sup>TH</sup> -24<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2006)

(ICTP, Miramare-Trieste, Italy)

The Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP, Trieste, Italy) in cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA, Vienna- Austria), is organizing the above workshop.

The purpose of the workshop is to highlight the role of P & T scheme in mitigating the environmental impact and also to discuss on the decisive factors for the selection of environmentally preferred fuel cycle options. In addition, the scope of the workshop is to familiarize students with the status of the R & D activities related to P & T.

The workshop will focus on the following topics:

- Review of partitioning and recycling of TRU’s fuels;
- Overview of transmission schemes including accelerators;

- Important radio-nuclides and factors that determine environmental impact and the separation criteria;
- Relationship between environmental impact and parameters of P & T system; and
- Comparative evaluation of reduction of potential environmental impact in different fuel cycles with and without partitioning and transmutation scheme.

The expected target audience is the young researchers and interested experts mainly from developing countries and policy makers, who want to assimilate the role of S & T in minimizing the environmental impact. They should hold advanced degree in chemistry or material science or metallurgy or nuclear physics or nuclear engineering or related subjects, and preferably possesses a few years of professional experience in any branch of nuclear life cycle. Although the main purpose of ICTP is to help scientists from developing nations, applicants from developed countries are also welcome to attend.

ICTP activities will be conducted in English.

Limited funding (including travel grants) for participation in the workshop is available for scientists from developing countries. Such financial support is granted only for those who attend the entire activity.

Application forms for the Workshop are available at: (Hyperlink) Background information on the IAEA Nuclear Fuel Cycle and Material Section is available from: (Hyperlink)

The closing date for receipt of application is 28<sup>th</sup> August 2006. Those willing to participate should fully complete and sign the "Request for participation" form available from the ICTP WWW server and send by mail or fax to:

Role of Partitioning and Transmutation in the Mitigation of the Potential Environmental Impacts of  
Nuclear Fuel Cycle  
(C/o Elizabeth Brancaccio)  
The Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics

Strada Costiera 11

34014 Trieste, Italy Tel +39-040-2240284 Fax +39-040-224163

E mail: [smr1774@ictp.it](mailto:smr1774@ictp.it) (Save and send file attachments in PDF or RTF format)

**36<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND CONFERENCE OF THE NIGERIAN SOCIETY  
OF CHEMICAL ENGINEERS, NIGERIA, IBADAN 2006<sup>23</sup><sup>RD</sup> – 25<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER,  
2006**

THEME: CHEMICAL ENGINEERING AND NIGERIAN CONTENT IN THE INDUSTRIALIZATION OF NIGERIA

SCOPE

The conference will provide an opportunity for Chemical Engineers and other professionals to share their ideas relating to the whole area of local content development and indigenous participation especially in the oil and gas sector of the Nigerian economy.

It is aimed at focusing on appropriate policies and strategies for local human capacity development to facilitate considerable indigenous participation in all our industries.

Participants are expected from both the private and public sectors, including academia, and research institutes, industry and policy makers, etc.

SUB-THEMES

- (i) Nigerian Content - Policies and Strategies
- (ii) Nigerian Content in the Oil and Gas Industry
- (iii) Nigerian Content in the processing of raw materials ( solid minerals and agricultural materials)
- (iv) Nigerian Content and Environmental Management
- (v) Nigerian Content - Corporate case studies
- (vi) Chemical Engineering Education, Research and Development

For more information, please contact:

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## **VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **1. Programme Specialist , UNESCO Office Yaoundé , Cameroon**

**Grade: P3, Post No. AF/RP/CMR/SC/0003**

**Closing Date: 31 July 2006**

#### **Purpose of Post.**

The incumbent will be responsible for the development and implementation of the decentralized activities of the Natural sciences Sector, with particular attention to activities related to science, the environment and sustainable development in the countries covered by the Office and in the Central Africa sub region. For more information please visit [www.unesco.org](http://www.unesco.org).

### **2. Senior Programme Specialist, Duty Station: Paris France**

**(Science and Technology Education and Technical Capacity Building)**

**Grade: P-5, Post No: SC-427**

**Closing date 21 August 2006**

#### **Purpose of the post:**

Promoting Natural Sciences Sector actions in Science and Technology Education  
For more information please visit [www.unesco.org](http://www.unesco.org).