



INNOVATION IN AFRICA SEMINAR:

AFRICAN INVENTORS AND INNOVATORS: UNLOCKING GROWTH POTENTIALS IN AFRICA

ACP Secretariat, 451 Avenue Georges Henri, 1200 Brussels
- 13 December 2006

DRAFT PROGRAM (as of November 30)

- 1.30pm **Registration**
- 2.00pm **Welcome Address**
- Vincent OKELE, African Axis and EU-AfricaInvest, Brussels, Belgium
- 2.05pm **Opening Keynote Address**
- Dr. John F. KAKULE, ACP Secretariat, Brussels, Belgium (tbc)
- 2.15pm **Plenary Session 1:** African innovation and inventions: current state assessment. This session will seek to provide a better understanding of past and present innovation and invention activities by Africans in diverse sectors. The session will also explore the challenges and opportunities for maximising the business assets of Intellectual Property Rights in Africa.
- Moderator:**
Bola OLABISI, Global Women Innovators and Inventors Network & African Women of Essence International
- Distinguished Speakers:**
- Dr Seyi OYESOLA, Global Medical Systems, Kent, United Kingdom
 - Beatrice GAKUBA, Rwanda Flor, Kigali, Rwanda
 - Dr. Alexandra GRAHAM, LaGray chemical company, Accra, Ghana, (tbc)
 - Chantal CLARICIA, French women Inventors and Innovators Network, Paris, France
 - Andre HEITZ, World Intellectual Property Organisation, Brussels, Belgium
 - Fadila BOUGHANEMI, European Commission, Brussels, Belgium
- 3.25pm **Panel discussion**
- 3.45pm **Coffee break**
- 4.00pm **Session 2:** African innovation and inventions: Translating ideas into concrete projects and products. This session will examine factors that hamper the recognition of innovation and invention activities of Africans. It will also highlight the difficulties they face in implementing their ideas and examine current initiatives at national and international levels designed to assist in this process.
- Moderator:**
- Vincent OKELE, African Axis and EU-AfricaInvest, Brussels, Belgium
- Distinguished Speakers:**
- Dr. Alfred WATKINS, Science and Technology Coordination, World bank, Washington, USA
 - Harry de BACKER, European Development Fund, European Commission, Brussels, Belgium

- Daan DUTOIT, Dept of Science & technology, Embassy of South Africa, Brussels, Belgium
- Espicion OLIVEIRA/Peter ALLING, Center for the Development of Enterprise, Brussels, Belgium
- Dr. Umar Bindir, Federal Ministry of Science & Technology, Abuja, Nigeria

5.15pm

Panel discussion

5.45pm

Closing Remarks

- Richie Dayo JOHNSON, Richmond Johnson Academy, Surrey, United Kingdom

5.55pm

Cocktail reception