EURO-AFRICA
COOPERATION FORUM ON ICT RESEARCH

MARCH 25-26, 2009
BRUSSELS

March 25-26, 2009
Charlemagne Building, European Commission
Brussels, Belgium

2009 EURO-AFRICA COOPERATION FORUM ON ICT RESEARCH

**For the first time in Europe, sub-Saharan African and European policy-makers
are being brought together with ICT research organisations to address the development
of research collaborative projects in the ICT field**

Agenda at a glance

DAY 1 - Wednesday, March 25, 2009	
07:30+ am	Registrations and welcome of participants
09:00 am	Opening Session & Welcome Addresses
09:45 am	Roundtable Discussions: Africa-EU Cooperation on ICT: from Research to Deployment - Status & Perspectives
10:45 am	Coffee & tea break / Press Conference
11:15 am	Roundtable Discussions: Implementation of the EU-AU Partnership on Science, ICT and Space (the 8th Partnership)
12:15 pm	Lunch
01:30 pm	Introduction to EC (European Commission) and AUC (African Union Commission) Programmes
03:00 pm	Coffee & tea break
03:30 pm	Roundtable Discussions: Private, Public Partnerships (PPP) - Experiences and Lessons Learned
05:30+ pm	Networking Cocktail offered by a sponsor

DAY 2 - Thursday, March 26, 2009	
08:00+ am	Welcome of participants
09:00 am	How to Enhance African Organisations Participation in FP7/ICT?
10:15 am	Coffee & tea break
10:45 am	Thematic Session #1 - Special emphasis on eInfrastructures, GEANT(2) & the FEAST project
12:15 pm	Lunch
01:30 pm	Thematic Session #2 - Open Session related to Technology Roadblocks
03:00 pm	Coffee & tea break
03:30 pm	Thematic Session #3 - Open Session related to Socio-economic Goals and Applications
05:00 pm	Closing Session & Concluding Addresses
05:30 pm	End of the 2009 Euro-Africa Cooperation Forum on ICT Research

Download the full agenda at www.euroafrica-ict.org/events/forum

Mark your calendar and register now!
300+ attendees expected!

Registrations

Registrations are free of charge but subject to pre-registrations and acceptations.
Online registrations are available at www.euroafrica-ict.org: register now since seats are limited due to room capacity constraints.

Sponsorship Packages

Sponsorship packages (standard or tailor-made to fit any marketing or budget requirements) are available.
Contact us as soon as possible to receive the list of sponsorship benefits and pricings.

Call for Communications

Conference Day 2 offers a limited number of speaking slots for researchers and scientists excelling in their respective ICT activity field. A selection committee will evaluate the received proposals and invite the selected candidates to present their work at the event. Abstracts focusing on the ICT themes outlined in FP7 will be given priority, namely:

- Pervasive and trusted network and service infrastructures
- Cognitive systems, interaction and robotics
- Components, systems and engineering
- Digital libraries and content
- Sustainable and personalised healthcare
- Mobility, environmental sustainability and energy efficiency
- Independent living and inclusion
- Future and emerging technologies

Submit your abstract online by **January 31, 2009**.

An event organised under the aegis of
the European Commission (EC- DG INFSO) and the African Union Commission (AUC)
with the support of the EuroAfriCa-ICT FP7 Project (www.euroafrica-ict.org)
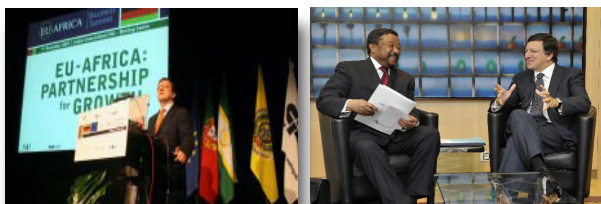
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Event Background

The "Africa-EU Joint Strategy and Action Plan"

The Africa-EU JSAP was adopted at the EU-AU Summit held in Lisbon on December 2007. It is a political vision and roadmap for the cooperation between the two continents in existing and new areas, going beyond the traditional donor-recipient approach, and beyond institutions by involving non-State players, and addressing global challenges such as peace and security, climate change, migration, trade and regional integration. Concrete actions and goals for the years 2008-2010 are outlined in eight Africa-EU Partnerships in the so called First Action Plan.

Heads of States and Governments in the framework of the Africa-EU JSAP specifically aims at:

- Supporting the development of an inclusive information society in Africa
- Supporting S&T Capacity Building in Africa and Implementing Africa's S&T Consolidated Plan of Action
- Enhancing cooperation on space applications and technology

FP7 and ICT

The Africa Science and Technology CPA formulated by the NEPAD and the African Union, the creation of the African Ministerial Council on Science and Technology (AM-COST), and the African Regional Action Plan on the Knowledge Economy (ARAPKE), are some of recent examples of Africa's determination to rely on S&T and ICTs to achieve its growth and development objectives. Meanwhile, in their determination to ensure Europe's global leadership in ICTs and in line with their i2010 initiative, the EU Member States have earmarked a total of €9.1 billion for funding ICT research over the duration of FP7, a research programme including an important international dimension, being open to the participation of sub-Saharan African organisations. In this context, a strengthened S&T cooperation between Europe and sub-Saharan Africa on ICT is of mutual strategic interest to the European and African research organisations and industries, and can efficiently contribute to implementing the new Africa-EU Joint Strategy.

The "Africa-EU Partnership for Science, Information Society and Space"

Africa is the continent where the scientific and digital divides are the widest. The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) identify the essential role of Science &Technology (S&T) for socio-economic transformation. Investments in African scientific capacities have not been prioritised and the continent is loosing some of its best scientific and technical expertise to other regions. It is in this context, that the Africa Science and Technology Consolidated Plan of Action (S&T CPA) was developed, consolidating the African Union Commission (AUC) and New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) programmes related to S&T capacity building, knowledge production and technological innovation.

The MDGs also identify Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) as key enablers for poverty reduction and growth. Although ICTs are multi-sectoral tools for socio-economic development, a dedicated coherent strategy needs to be implemented in order to develop an inclusive information society in Africa. It is on these principles, and in the context of the World Summit on Information Society (WSIS), that the African Regional Action Plan on the Knowledge Economy (ARAPKE), an African Union (AU) initiative, was developed.

In this context the "Africa-EU Partnership for Science, Information Society and Space" adopted in Lisbon by all EU and AU

The 2009 Euro-Africa Cooperation Forums

To get an insight on the status and perspectives of the "Africa-EU Partnership for Science, Information Society & Space" (and support its action plan) and enhance the development of research collaborative projects in the ICT field between Europe and sub-Saharan Africa, two "Euro-Africa Cooperation Forums on ICT Research" will be held in 2009, the first one in Brussels (Belgium) on March 25-26 and the second one (as a follow-up to the first one) in Addis Ababa (Ethiopia) on Oct.-Nov. (dates to be announced soon).

An event organised under the aegis of
the European Commission (EC- DG INFSO) and the African Union Commission (AUC)
with the support of the EuroAfriCa-ICT FP7 Project (www.euroafrica-ict.org)