

## **CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP ANGLOPHONE AFRICA JOHANNESBURG 17-18-19 SEPTEMBER 2003**



United Nations Development Programme



Government of Japan

### **Introduction**

The Anglophone Capacity Building Workshop (CBW) was held in Johannesburg, South Africa at the Airport Grand Hotel & Conference Center on the 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, and 19<sup>th</sup> of September 2003. The purpose of the CBW was to solidify the business competencies of Anglophone Africa participating companies in preparation of the Third Africa Asia Business Forum in Dakar, Senegal.

Participants were made up of Industry Leaders, Managing Directors, and other company Decision Makers of the highest level from Botswana, Ghana, Mauritius, Namibia, South Africa and Zambia. All were responsible for their travel and accommodation costs to Johannesburg. Despite all the efforts deployed by the staff of Afrifinance and local National Focal Points, there were no participants from Kenya or Mozambique.

Among the 60 companies present, a strong presence of women was noted (15%). The number of South African companies in attendance was 19. Three companies from Tanzania have been registered in the AABF III process and due to their status as Alumni of AABF did not attend the CBW in Johannesburg. However, they remain registered in the process on the basis of their strong projects. Twenty companies from Nigeria could not get visas in time to attend. Several companies that were registered to attend were unable to do so because of last minute incidents.

The Anglophone Africa CBW was successful in facilitating a number of MoUs amongst the parties attending. Agreements were signed and productive discussions took place which will lead to concrete deals. The level of intra-Africa negotiations was strong. This is a good omen for the Business Forum.

### **Opening Ceremony**

The CBW was formally opened by Mr. Bruce Koloane, the South Africa Department of Trade and Industry Chief Director of International Trade & Economic Development



Africa & Middle East. The Opening Ceremony was also attended by the South Africa UNDP Deputy Resident Representative, Ms. Naheed Haque. The SU/TCDC New York was represented by Mr. Jean-Claude Dorego of the SU/TCDC Africa Office. The CBW and its proceedings were observed by Dr. Ken Kwaku, Chief Africa Representative of MIGA over the three days.

### **Sponsors**

- The South Africa Department of Trade and Industry gave its full support to the event and hosted a Gala Dinner for all participants.



### **Agenda**

Upon arrival, participants were invited to register and collect their identification badges and CBW portfolio which included a schedule detailing the presentation timetable, speaker assignment and organized activities as well as an Expectations and Experiences Survey collected by Afrifinance on the last day of the CBW. Participants received an AABF III CBW binder, which was filled with written documents over the course of the presentations.

Members of the South Africa Press, both Audio and Printed, were invited to attend the Workshop and report on the event –Radio staff from Channel Africa and the Beeld’s Media24 Africa Editor were present.

National Focal Points of Ghana –Ghana Investment Promotion Center- and Mauritius –DCDM- also documented the proceedings for Press coverage back in their respective countries. National Focal Points for Botswana –BEDIA- and Namibia – Namibia Investment Center- were also present. Representatives of South African regional Investment Agencies, such as the Mpumalanga Investment Initiative, were in attendance, as well as members of the South Africa Department of Trade and Industry.

From 9:00 to 18:00, participants attended presentations, networked through two Industry Sector Meetings and took their Coffee Breaks and Lunches at the Airport Grand Hotel. The CBW presented an arena wherein participants from the various Anglophone countries met their industry counterparts thus allowing synergies in the respective five Industry Sectors. The senior level of participants allowed for active debates and exchange of ideas.



## **Speakers**

The selection of speakers presenting at the Anglophone Africa CBW was of a high level. Speakers were well received and interacted closely with the participants over the three days of the Workshop.

Mr. Rizwan Haider of ECOBANK: [www.ecobank.com](http://www.ecobank.com)

Mr. Mark Austin of Chandler Reed LLC: [www.chandler-reed.com](http://www.chandler-reed.com)

Mr. Khapre and Mr. Jaunboccus of De Chazal Du Mée: [www.dcdm.biz](http://www.dcdm.biz)

Mr. Jacobsohn and Mr. Wilter of ABSA Bank: [www.absa.co.za](http://www.absa.co.za)

## **Organization**

Participants resided at the Airport Grand Hotel, with the exception of some South African companies based in the surrounding area. This centralization of the venue and activities ensured the cohesion of the participants and provided ample networking opportunities.

The schedule of events was followed without incidents. Afrifinance once again received high praise for the smooth and efficient running of the event from participants, as well as from observers and organization officials present.

## **Suggestions**

Participants suggested that the topics, as specified in the UNDP SU/TCDC Terms of Reference, be focused more on the specific sectors and tailored to answer issues faced by the five selected specific industry sectors.

Given the fruitful intra-Africa negotiations, participants were eager to meet their Francophone Africa counterparts to establish business linkages across Africa.

## **Conclusions**

Afrifinance is confident, given the positive outcome of both the Francophone and the Anglophone Africa CBW, that it will be able to present viable projects from serious African Companies on its upcoming trip across Asia starting next week.

The logo for Afrifinance features a stylized globe with a blue and yellow color scheme, positioned above the word "AFRIFINANCE" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font.

Organized by

