



cpsu
Commonwealth Policy Studies Unit

“Building cooperation between the Commonwealth and European Union to support the African Union’s NEPAD process”

An expert conference organised by the Commonwealth Policy Studies Unit at the Institute of Commonwealth Studies, 28 Russell Square, London WC1B 5DS, Monday 23 May 2005

8.45 am Coffee and registration

9.15-11am *First session: Issues, chaired by Richard Bourne*

- Welcome from Richard Bourne, Head, Commonwealth Policy Studies Unit
- HE Dr Christopher Kolade, High Commissioner of Nigeria, “NEPAD, the Commonwealth and Europe – an overview”
- Winston Cox, Commonwealth Deputy Secretary-General (Development Cooperation) “Where the Commonwealth can help in the longer-term”
- James Mackie, Programme Coordinator, ECPDM, “Cooperation between the European Union and the African Union: facilitating development”
- Discussion

11-11.30am Coffee

11.30-1pm *Second session: External support and grassroots development, chaired by Winston Cox*

- Richard Dowden, Director, Royal African Society and journalist “Linking the grassroots to the meta-strategies”
- Professor Lalage Bown, “Capacity-building, brain drain and impoverishment – the case of the universities”
- Professor David Booth, Overseas Development Institute, “Country-level political analysis by donors, and external PRSP conditionalities”
- Discussion

1-2pm Lunch

2pm-3.45pm *Third session: The private sector and the African Diaspora, chaired by Richard Bourne*

- Edward Bickham, Executive Vice President, External Affairs, Anglo-American. “The reality of doing business in Africa: The case of extractive industries”
- Peter Longworth, Director Governance and Public Affairs, Commonwealth Business Council, “ Supporting development and the private sector: CBC's experience of encouraging investment in Africa”
- Kunbi Sowunmi, Senior associate at the London Litigation Practice Group of Kilpatrick Stockton LLP “ A view from the Diaspora”
- Discussion

3.45-4.15pm *Tea*

4.15pm *Fourth session: Plenary, chaired by Winston Cox*

- Professor Lino Briguglio, Head of Economics Dept., University of Malta: “Bringing it all together: a view from a small state”
- Discussion on the themes of the conference. How can the European Union and Commonwealth be most effective in the longer-term? Can the Commonwealth assist non-Commonwealth African countries? How does international lobbying (e.g. for debt write-off) link to grassroots development? Conflict, democratisation, human rights and civil society – is too much development discourse overly economistic?

5.30pm *Close of conference*

5.30-8pm *Reception sponsored by Unilever*

Conference organiser: Richard Bourne

Rapporteur: Alex Simuyandi

Registration: Uchechi Obichere

May 2005

Selected Biographies

Richard Bourne is Head of the CPSU, and a Senior Fellow of the Institute of Commonwealth Studies. He has been involved in Commonwealth activities since the end of 1982 when he became Deputy Director at the Commonwealth Institute, Kensington. He ran the Commonwealth Non-Governmental Office for South Africa and Mozambique from 1995-7, after which he founded the CPSU.

Winston Cox was appointed Deputy Secretary-General on 1 September 2000. A former Governor of the Central Bank of Barbados he also served as an Alternate Executive Director of the World Bank and has undertaken a variety of assignments for the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and International Monetary Fund (IMF) in a number of Commonwealth countries. In Barbados he also served in the Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs as Director of Finance and Economic Affairs.

Richard Dowden is Director of the Royal African Society. Since his first visit to Africa as a teacher in 1971, he has travelled to Africa continuously and have now visited and written about almost every country on the continent, as a journalist. He worked for the Times until 1986 when he became Africa Editor of the Independent and in 1995 he took the post of Africa Editor at The Economist. He also made three television documentaries for the BBC and Channel 4 on Africa.

Professor David Booth is the Coordinator of the Poverty and Public Policy Group. A sociologist, he was formerly Professor of Development Studies at the University of Wales, Swansea. His current research projects are on state responsiveness to poverty and the politics of PRSPs, with fieldwork in Uganda, Ghana and Bolivia. Other work is concerned with PRS monitoring, Poverty and Social Impact Analysis and assessing the evaluability of general budget support as a modality of poverty-focused aid.

Kunbi Sowunmi is a Senior Associate in the London Litigation Practice Group of Kilpatrick Stockton LLP. He advises and represents clients in general commercial litigation disputes. He also advises on all aspects of international trade including sale of goods, carriage contracts and insurance.

James Mackie is the European Centre for Development Policy Management's Programme Coordinator, for the Political Dimensions of the Partnership theme. Before joining ECDPM in May 2002 he developed his knowledge of the European Union institutions and the EU development cooperation programme while working for 10 years as the Secretary General of the European development NGO umbrella organisation, the EU-NGDO Liaison Committee, in Brussels.

Edward Bickham is Executive Vice President, External Affairs of Anglo American plc, a position he has held since in April 2000. He has responsibility for stakeholder relations, the social and ethical dimension of sustainable development, political risk, public policy issues and overall communications strategy. Prior to joining Anglo he was Deputy Chairman and Director of Strategy (Dec.1998-April 2000) and Managing Director, Corporate and Public Affairs (1993-2000) at Hill and Knowlton. He also served as Special Adviser to the Foreign Secretary (1990-93) during the Gulf War, the collapse of the Soviet Union and the Maastricht Treaty negotiations.