PAN-AFRICAN CONFERENCE ON INEQUALITIES IN THE CONTEXT OF STRUCTURAL TRANSFORMATION

28TH - 30TH APRIL 2014, ACCRA GHANA

Organised by the Government of Ghana in partnership with:

CONFERENCE ANNOUCEMENT

In a number of countries in Africa, inequalities of various dimensions are high, growing or not declining fast enough in a region that is already amongst the most unequal in the world. African economies and societies have clearly been transforming. Many have been growing at unbelievably rapid rates in recent years. However, the global development framework and the character of the transformation process have likely contributed to growing disparities. These, in turn, limit Africa's scope for economic, social and environmentally sustainable transformation and open it up to conflicts that threaten the democratic and social fabric of its societies. As African governments set out to chart a path of deliberate and managed structural transformation, it is imperative that social, economic and political inequalities are addressed in the process.

Objectives and Outcomes

To address these issues and promote action, the Government of Ghana, is hosting a high-level, multi-stakeholder, Africa-wide Conference in Accra in collaboration with various partners. The conference is a follow-up to the *Global Consultation on Inequalities*, hosted jointly by the Government of Denmark and the Government of Ghana in February 2013 in the context of the Post-2015 development agenda consultation process. It aims at forging linkages between the ongoing African developmental debates and the discussions on a post-MDGs development framework and contributing to crafting an African agenda on inequalities, especially in the context of process aimed at shaping an African vision for the next 50 years – i.e. the Africa 2063 agenda. The Conference will lead to a statement on "The Africa We Want" as an input to global deliberations on "The World We Want". It will put in place mechanisms to facilitate collaboration with a view to stimulating policy change and advocacy at the regional and national levels.

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The conference will be opened by the President of Ghana and will encompass high-level panels, framing presentations, innovative plenaries and parallel group discussions to build a common understanding of social, economic and political inequalities and how they might be more effectively addressed within the context of a structural transformation agenda. A two day strategy meeting of civil society participants will be held immediately after the conference to map out an action plan.

Contact and Participation

The Conference will bring together about 200 people. This includes high-level speakers and stakeholders from the region, regional and international organisations, renowned policy makers, thinkers and shapers from the continent, civil society activists including women, youth labour, faith and environmental organisations and selected participants from other regions.

There are two categories of participants: self-sponsored and those sponsored under the conference budget. The organisers will send out invitations to identified target audiences to ensure balance and participation of key constituencies. There is limited space for other participants. Interested individuals and institutions should send inquiries to: africainequalities-info@gmail.com

Check for up-to-date information on www.africainequalities.org/conference and follow us on Twitter https://twitter.com/ainequalities