

The host, **IRasa**, announces the IIRA 5th African Regional Congress to be held in Cape Town, South Africa, on the 26th to the 28th of March 2008

REALISING DECENT WORK IN AFRICA; A SHARED VISION OF GROWTH AND IMPROVED QUALITY OF LIFE IN A GLOBALISING WORLD.

As globalisation and attendant rapid changes in labour markets continue apace, the need for the implementation of the Decent Work Agenda as a central platform for African development can not be over emphasised. While acknowledging the need for sustained economical growth, it is important to have a global economy that can deliver shared opportunities for decent work in a sound socio-economic environment. This means, among other things, the securing of improved quality of work and life, combating discrimination and child labour, enhancing social dialogue and democratic governance in the work place, and skills development and the building of institutions to monitor and implement policies effectively. Above all, it means that the fight against poverty in both the formal and informal economies be intensified.

VENUE: UCT Graduate School of Business - Cape Town



The fifth IIRA African Regional Congress will discuss these issues relating to challenges and opportunities for realising Decent Work in Africa.

The Congress will consist of plenary and workshop sessions. It is also planned to have a special workshop on the public sector. The Public Sector in Africa is particularly important for the realisation of the Decent Work Agenda.

In spite of pressures for the down sizing of the public sector as part of the economic restructuring, it continues to play a crucial role in the monitoring and implementation of the Decent Work Agenda in a large number of African countries.

Sub Themes

- Present and future challenges of employment for Africa,
- Developing employment opportunities for youth and women
- Labour Market governance for managing decent work: the role of social dialogue and labour administration.
- Strategy partnerships for the realisation of Decent Work in Africa.
- Global context and comparative developments.
- Human Resource and skills development, and productivity
- Social Protection and the fight against poverty.
- Strategies for combating gender and HIV/AIDS discrimination.
- Combating child labour
- The informal economy.

CALL FOR PAPERS

We invite research and policy based papers on the overall theme of the Congress and sub-themes, including the special workshop on the public sector.

Abstracts deadline: 16 November 2007

Communication of Abstract acceptance: 7 December 2007

Submission of full papers: 25 January, 2008

CONTACT

Contributors can send their abstracts to the president of IRasa via email to the following address:

- edwinm@pscabc.org.za

We look forward to welcoming you to South Africa for this inspirational and interactive event and hope that you will enjoy your stay in the Sunny Tip of Africa.