

JOHANNESBURG

What democracy really means...

The Training Centre for Democracy continues to run a variety of training courses for companies. Each course is based on the specific needs of the company and its workforce. The centre also focuses on relationship building courses within companies.

Similar programmes are run for principals, teachers and schools as a means of broadening the education for democracy campaign. For further information contact Paul Maseko or Alison Curry at (011) 484-3694.

The rural vote

The Training Centre for Democracy is involved in the production of a voter education package designed specifically for use in rural and peri-urban areas. The package will comprise posters and a training manual and will be available for use with illiterate and semi-literate groups from early in June.

WESTERN CAPE

Democracy for youth

A youth workshop on 'Education for Democracy' will be held on April 17 in conjunction with the Western Cape Youth Forum. For details telephone Idasa at (021) 462-3635.

On May 7, there will be an introductory 'Schools in Transition' workshop for the staff of Nompumelelo School in Guguletu.

Metro moves

The process of 'levelling the playing fields' in the metropolitan transition will be under discussion at a meeting to be held on April 28 at the Woodstock Holiday Inn from 7.30-9.30 pm. Telephone the Western Cape office for reservations and details.

PORT ELIZABETH

Pondering the unknown

'Transitional Uncertainties', is the title of a public debate to

be held at the Port Elizabeth City Hall on April 15. Speakers include Jeremy Seekings, Ian Philips and Kader Asmal.

Also on April 15, the same speakers will address a business luncheon in the city.

Local government, local needs

On April 23 a seminar will be held in Port Alfred to examine regional development needs.

The question of an interim local government in the Eastern Cape is the theme of a conference to be held at the end of April. For details please contact Idasa's PE office at (041) 55-3301.

Community courts

Two further meetings on the subject of community courts will be held in the next few weeks.

On April 17 & 18 there will be a workshop in Humewood, with a follow-up workshop on April 24 or 25 (date to be confirmed). For further details contact Max Mamase at (041) 55-3301.

EAST LONDON

Schools in transition

Idasa's East London and Western Cape offices will combine their resources to run two workshops for schools in the Border region in April.

On April 14 there will be a workshop for the staff and governing body of Dale Junior College, King William's Town and on April 15, a similar workshop in East London.

Economic development

Following the 'Finance for Development' seminar on April 3, the next seminar topic will be local economic development, on May 8. Speakers are still to be confirmed.

A regional workshop on transition in local government will be held on April 17. For details telephone Glenn Bownes on (0431) 43-0047.

NATAL

Union views on economic policy

The next Future Forum seminar will focus on the National Economic Forum's role in moulding economic policy. The speaker will be Alec Erwin, education officer of the National Union of Metal Workers of SA. Contact Louella at (031) 304-8893.

TRANSVAAL

Processes in progress

Idasa's Pretoria office continues its facilitation work with a meeting of the Eastern Transvaal Economic Development Forum in Nelspruit on April 24.

In May a closed workshop will be held to discuss a code of conduct with teachers, parents and students at J Kekana High School in Mamelodi.

BAROMETER ON NEGOTIATION

POLITICAL CHANGE (Volume 5 Number 2)

SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHANGE (Volume 5 Number

3)

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INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS CONFERENCE

SA begins the climb back into the world economy

By WARREN KRAFCHIK

SOUTH Africa's re-integration into the world economy must rate as one of the most pressing priorities facing this country as it moves towards reconstruction. Yet South Africa's emergence from decades of isolation comes at a time not only of worldwide recession and turbulence, but also of dramatic global economic shifts and realignments.

All of which makes the need to fully understand international economic trends, and how they will affect this country and this region, essential for future policy-makers. It is in this context that Idasa will be holding an international conference at the end of April, to focus the spotlight on South Africa's international economic relations in the 1990s. Organised jointly by Idasa and the Washington-based Aspen Institute, the four-day gathering will bring together some of South Africa's leading economic policy-makers and top international advisors and practitioners. The conference will draw on the experience of countries at similar stages of development or that face similar challenges, like Mexico, Korea, Malaysia and Argentina.

Among the international guests will be Duckwoon Nam, the former Prime Minister of Korea; Dominic Mulaisho, the governor of the Bank of Zambia; Daim Zainuddin, the former Malaysian Minister of Finance and Thorvald Stoltenberg, the Norwegian Minister of Foreign Affairs, who will also deliver the keynote address.

The aim of the conference is to inform and stimulate discussion, across South African party lines, about the critical issues facing the economy in the years ahead. The focus will be mainly on global trends in trade, capital flows and international finance institutions.

The conference aims to highlight the significant role that economic growth will have to play in facilitating internal development and redistribution. It will start from the premise that growth is linked to export capacity, foreign investment, loans and aid –

all important external factors that need to be analysed and assessed, particularly in the light of previous balance of payment constraints on economic growth.

The foreign participants will focus on their areas of expertise – international economic trends, the comparative experience of other countries and the nature of the post-Cold War economic environment.

The agenda for the conference is the product of a process of regional meetings and consultations with all the major economic actors in the country over the past 12 months. Expected at the conference will be a

range of top officials and opinion-makers who are concerned with shaping future economic policy in South Africa.

These will include ANC president Nelson Mandela, who will open the conference, and ANC economics head Trevor Manuel. Among government representatives will be Gerhard Croeser, the director-general of the Department of Finance and JP Botha, chief

economist of the Central Economic Advisory Services. SA Reserve Bank governor Chris Stals will also attend.

The PAC delegation includes Gora Ebrahim and Sipho Shabalala. Gavin Woods will represent the Inkatha Institute. Trade unionists will include Jayendra Naidoo (Cosatu), James Mdlalose (Nactu) and Marcel Golding (Num). Academics from universities and research institutes across the country will also attend, along with prominent financial leaders such as Anglo American's Michael Spicer.

Morning plenary sessions will be devoted to broad analysis, and the afternoons will be for intensive small-group discussion and examination. Beyond this two-tier approach, attempts will be made to reach a wider audience through the release of a post-conference book summarising keynote addresses and conference findings.

Warren Krafchik, Idasa's economics consultant, is co-ordinating the conference. Alex Boraine of Idasa and Pauline Baker of the Aspen Institute are co-directors of the project.

'South Africa's re-integration into the world economy must rate as one of the most pressing priorities facing this country'

Kadalie on board

Idasa welcomes University of the Western Cape academic, Ms Rhoda Kadalie, to its board of trustees. A graduate of The Institute for Social Studies at The Hague in the Netherlands, Kadalie specialises in women and development. As UWC's Gender Equity officer she is responsible for addressing issues of university affirmative action policy with regard to women.



Rhoda Kadalie

She recently presented a paper on violence against women in South Africa at a seminar in Stockholm, and last year delivered a paper at a conference in Japan on 'Women's Organisations in South Africa: Models for Peaceful Co-existence in the New South Africa'. These are the latest in a long line of papers and publications Kadalie has to her name.

Kadalie has visited West Germany and the Netherlands on sabbatical and, in 1990, participated in a staff exchange programme with the University of Missouri in Michigan.

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