



MEDIA ADVISORY

Conference on the Role of Private Universities in Higher Education in Africa

INVITATION TO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MEDIA

- When:** Wednesday, 08 - Friday, 10 August 2012
- Time:** 9:00am daily
- Where:** African Union Commission Old Building Conference Complex, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
- Who:** Jointly organized by African Union Commission (AUC), The Association of African Universities (AAU), and St. Mary's University College (SMUC).
- Objectives:** The conference is being organized to achieve the following objectives:
- Assessing the impact of private higher education provision on the revitalization of higher education in Africa;
 - Determining pedagogical reforms that would contribute to the core functions of teaching, learning and research in private universities;
 - Exploring areas for effective collaboration in research between public and private universities in Africa;
 - Reviewing the impact of globalization on the 'true' values in higher education in Africa with particular emphasis on the 'commodification' of higher education as a tradable good under the General Agreement on Trade and Services (GATs); and
 - Making recommendations for the maintenance of the maximum social benefit to be derived from the pursuit of higher education.

Expected outcomes:

The conference is expected to produce the following outcomes:

- Commissioned papers and policy briefs as advocacy tools on quality assurance and accreditation issues in private universities;
- Facilitate collaboration and building of synergies between public and private universities in Africa;
- Contribute to strategic planning and pedagogical reforms towards the pursuit of the three core functions of teaching, learning and community service in private universities; and
- Provide an enhanced platform for networking amongst private universities in Africa.

Participants: The participants expected at the conference will include vice-chancellors, rectors, presidents, and principal of public and private higher education institutions, as well as researchers, scholars; policy makers, development partners and other stakeholders.

Background: This Conference is being organized as the 10th in the series of consultative annual conference on private higher education provision organized by St. Mary's University College (SMUC) to promote dialogue and better understanding of their roles in the society. This year, SMUC is partnering with the Association of African Universities (AAU), which is the apex higher education body in Africa, to broaden the scope and theme beyond the Ethiopian experience, as had been in the past.

The Association of African Universities (AAU) is an international non-governmental organisation set up in November 1967 by universities in Africa to promote cooperation among themselves and between them and the international academic community. It has a current membership of 270 institutions comprising universities and other higher education institutions drawn from all parts of the continent. Its headquarters is in Accra, Ghana, and it officially operates in three working languages, English, French and Arabic. The AAU has over the years become the major actor and coordinator of activities for African higher education, including the implementation of regional programmes in research, leadership development, ICT capacity building, academic staff exchange, student fellowships, management and dissemination of scholarly information, gender, HIV/AIDS and quality assurance.

Journalists are invited to cover the Conference on the Role of Private Universities in Higher Education in Africa from Wednesday, 08 to Friday, 10 August 2012.

Attached the program of event:

Tuesday, 7th August 2012	
16.00 – 18.00	Arrival/ Registration
Wednesday, 8th August 2012	
08.30 – 09.00	Arrival/ Registration Continued
09.00 – 09.10	Opening Remarks by Organisers/Introduction of Participants
09.10 – 09.20	Introduction of Chairman, Keynote Speakers & Guests of Honour
09.20 – 09.30	Chairman's Opening Remarks
09.30 – 09.50	Short Addresses by (i) AAU Secretary General; (ii) VC of St. Mary's University College; (iii) VC of Covenant University
09:50 – 10:00	Message from AUC Commissioner His Excellency Jean-Pierre O. Ezin
10.00 – 10.15	Welcome Address by H.E. Ato Demeke Mekonnen, Minister, Ethiopian Ministry of Education
10.15 – 10.30	Keynote Address on the theme: <i>The Role of Private Universities in Higher Education in Africa</i> Prof. Olugbemiro Jegede, Secretary to the Government of Kogi State, Nigeria/Former AAU Secretary General
10.30 – 11.00	Group Photograph/Health Break
11.00 – 12.00	<p>Chair: Dr Teshome Yizengaw, Africa Program Officer, Higher Education Development</p> <p>Rapporteur: Ato Samson Tilahun, SMUC, Ethiopia</p> <p>Plenary Presentation on the subtheme <i>Public-Private Partnership in Higher Education in Africa</i> Dr. Rajendar Dhoj Joshi</p> <p>Plenary Presentation on <i>African Union Commission's Programs on Higher Education</i> AUC Representative</p>
12:00 – 12:30	Discussion
12.30 – 13.30	Lunch Break
13.30 – 15.10	<p style="text-align: center;">Parallel Sessions</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Panel 1: Public-Private Partnership in Higher Education in Africa</i></p> <p>Chair: Professor Belay Kassa</p> <p>Rapporteur: W/t Selamawit Negasi, SMUC, Ethiopia</p> <p>13:30-13:50. <i>Financing University Education through Public-Private Partnership at Midlands State University in Zimbabwe.</i> Jephias Matunhu, Midlands State University, Zimbabwe</p> <p>13:50-14:10. <i>Financing Higher Education in Kenya: Public-Private Partnership Approach</i> Caleb Gudo (PhD), KCA, Kenya</p> <p>14:10-14:30. <i>Public-Private Partnerships for Research in Private Universities in Uganda.</i> Kukunda Elizabeth Bacwayo (PhD), Uganda Christian University</p> <p>14:30-14:50. <i>Deregulation, Private-Public Partnerships, and Private Universities in Nigeria</i> Prof. Anthony Osagie, Benson Idahosa University, Nigeria</p> <p>14:50-15:10. Discussion</p>

	<p style="text-align: center;">Panel 2: Private Higher Education Provision in Africa: Strategies for Success and Opportunities</p> <p>Chair: Mr Tedla Haile Rapporteur: Ato Goitom Abrha, SGS, SMUC</p> <p>13:30-13:50. <i>Study Conditions at a Private University in Tanzania: A Perspective on Students' Experiences</i> Bernadette Müller (PhD) and Max Haller University of Graz, Austria</p> <p>13:50-14:10. <i>Distance Education as a Tool for Development: The prospect of private distance education in Ethiopia</i> Taye Mohammed and Tesfaye Teshome (Associate Professor), HERQA</p> <p>14:10-14:30. <i>Private Higher Education in Africa is a better alternative: The Case of Monash University, South Africa</i> Geoffery Sestswe (Professor), Monash University, South Africa</p> <p>14:30-14:50 <i>21st Century Private Higher Education in Africa: Improving the quality of Curriculum Development with Financial Intelligence</i> Samuel Faboyede Covenant University, Ota, Ogun State, Nigeria</p> <p>14:50-15:10. Discussion</p>
15.10-15.30	Health Break
15.20-16.50	<p style="text-align: center;">Parallel Sessions</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Panel 1: Private Higher Education at the Crossroads: Strategic Planning and the Pursuit of the Public Good</p> <p>Chair: Dr. Kebede Kassa Rapporteur: Dr. Eyilachew Zewdie, SGS, SMUC</p> <p>15:30-15:50. <i>Private Universities, Endogenous Knowledge Regime and Problem Solving Scholarship in Africa: A Polycentric Planning Perspective.</i> S., R. Akinola (PhD), Covenant University, Nigeria</p> <p>15:50-16:10. <i>Private Higher Education Institutions in Ethiopia: Opportunities, Challenges, and Ways Forward.</i> Kassahun Kebede and Tesfaye Teshome (Associate Professor), HERQA, Ethiopia</p> <p>16:10-16:30. <i>Higher Education in Africa and the Role of Private Universities: A Focus on Nigeria.</i> Iruonagbe, Tunde Charles (PhD), Covenant University, Nigeria</p> <p>16:30-16:50. Discussion</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Panel 2: Private Higher Education Provision in Africa: Strategies for Success and Opportunities</p> <p>Chair: Prof. Daniel Aina, VC Adeleke University, Nigeria</p>

	<p>Rapporteur: Dr. Nigussie, SGS, SMUC</p> <p>15:30-15:50. <i>Performance of the Higher Education Sub-Sector in Ethiopia.</i> Fitsum Zewdu, Ethiopian Economic Association, Ethiopian Economic Policy Research Institute, Ethiopia</p> <p>15:50-16:10. <i>Bridging the Gap in Education: The Role and Impact of Privately owned Learning Institutions in Zambia.</i> Velenasi Mwale Munsanje, M., Evelyn Hone College, Zambia</p> <p>16:10-16:30. <i>Students' Expectations and Attitude towards Foreign-supplied Post-Graduate Programmes through Ethiopian Private Higher Education Institutions.</i> Rakshit Negi (Ph.D) and Guta Kedida, Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia</p> <p>16:30-16:50. Discussion</p>
16:50 – 17:20	<p>Chair: Professor Olugbemi Jgede Rapporteur: Dr. Eyilachew Zewdie, SGS, SMUC</p> <p>Plenary Presentation on the subtheme <i>Funding of Private Universities in Africa</i> Dr Mrs Esther O. Asekun-Olarinmoye</p>
17:20 – 17:35	Discussion
17:40	End of session
Thursday, 9th August 2012	
08.30 – 09.00	Welcome/Review of Day's Activities
09.00 – 10.00	<p>Chair: Prof. Aize Obayan, Vice Chancellor, Covenant University, Nigeria Rapporteur: Rahel G/Chirstos</p> <p>Plenary Presentation on the subtheme <i>Quality Assurance and Accreditation of Private Universities in Africa: Challenges and Opportunities</i> Prof. Barney Pityana, Rector Anglican Theological Seminary, South Africa</p> <p>Plenary Presentation on the subtheme <i>Private Higher Education at the Crossroads: Strategic Planning and the Pursuit of the Public Good</i> Professor Paul Omaji</p>
10:00 – 10:15	Discussion
10.15 – 10.30	Health Break
	Parallel Sessions
	Panel 1: Quality Assurance and Accreditation of Private Universities in Africa: Challenges and Opportunities
	<p>Chair: Dr. Getnet Tizazu, Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia Rapporteur: Dr. Wondimagegn Chekol, Quality Assurance Office, SMUC, Ethiopia</p> <p>10:30-10:50. <i>Implementation Barriers to Internal Quality Assurance in Private Higher Education in Ghana.</i> John Kwame Boateng (PhD), Wisconsin International University College</p> <p>10:50-11:10. <i>Quality Assurance Challenges and Opportunities faced by Private Universities in Zimbabwe.</i> Evelyn C. Garwe (PhD), Zimbabwe Council for Higher</p>

10.30 – 12.40	<p style="text-align: center;">Education, Zimbabwe</p> <p>11:10-11:30. <i>Collecting Feedback from Students in Ethiopian Private Higher Education Institutions (HEIs): Implication for Quality Assurance and Enhancement.</i> Melaku Girma, St. Mary’s University College, Ethiopia</p> <p>11:30-11:50. <i>Internationalization and Quality Assurance in a Private University College.</i> John Kwame Boateng (PhD), Wisconsin International University College</p> <p>11:50-12:10. <i>Cross-Border Partnership and Collaboration in Maintaining Quality Education in Private Higher Education Institutions in Africa: Some Selected Cases from Ethiopia.</i> Wondimeneh Mammo (Asst. Prof.), Alpha University College, Ethiopia.</p> <p>12:10-12:40. Discussion</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Panel 2: Private Universities in Community Service in Africa</p> <p>Chair: <i>Professor Paul Omaji, VC Salem University</i> Rapporteur: <i>W/ro Ergogie Tesfaye, Gender Office, SMUC</i></p> <p>10:30-10:50. <i>University-Community Engagement for Sustainable Development: An Analysis of the Context of Private Universities in Zimbabwe.</i> David Chakuchichi (Prof.), Zimbabwe Open University</p> <p>10:50-11:10. <i>Higher Education and Entrepreneurship Development: What roles are private universities playing in Ethiopia?</i> Hailemeleket Taye, St. Mary’s University College, Ethiopia</p> <p>11:10-11:30. <i>Higher Education as an Agent of Inclusive Development: The Role of Private Universities in Africa.</i> Tsitsi Chataika, University of Zimbabwe</p> <p>11:30-11:50. <i>Knowledge about HIV/AIDS, Risk Reduction Behaviors and Readiness to undergo Voluntary Counseling and Testing (VCT): Focus on Public and Private College Students in Oromia Regional State, Ethiopia.</i> Kabtamu Ayele Jimma (Asst. Prof.), Asela College of Teacher Education, Ethiopia</p> <p>11:50-12:10. <i>The Role of Private Higher Education Institutions in Student Readiness for HE.</i> Misganaw Solomon, SMUC, Ethiopia</p> <p>12:10-12:40. Discussion</p>
12.40 – 13.30	Lunch Break
13.30-14.00	<p>Chair: <i>Professor Barney Pityana, Rector Anglican Theological Seminary</i> Rapporteur: <i>Dr Daniel Kubuafor, AAU</i></p> <p>Plenary Presentation on the subtheme <i>Private Universities in Community Service in Africa</i> Professor Everett Standa</p>
14.00 – 14.15	Discussion
Parallel Presentations	

14.40 – 15.40	<p>Panel 1: Quality Assurance and Accreditation of Private Universities in Africa: Challenges and Opportunities</p> <p>Chair: Dr Getnet Tizazu, Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia Rapporteur: Dr. Mulugeta Taye, SGS, SMUC</p> <p>14:20-14:40. <i>Quality Assurance and Accreditation of Private Universities in Uganda: Challenges and Opportunities.</i> Francis Otto and Benon Musinguzi, Uganda</p> <p>14:40-15:00. <i>Academic Staff Capacities in Private Universities in Tanzania.</i> Simon Peter Ngalomba, University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania</p> <p>15:00-15:20 <i>Assessing Graduate Employability Skills: Implications for Quality in Higher Education.</i> Zenawi Z., (PhD), Assefa A., Biadglign D., & Tsegazeab K., Mekelle University, Ethiopia</p> <p>15:20-15:40. Discussion</p> <p>Panel 2: Private Universities in Community Service in Africa</p> <p>Chair: Professor Aize Obayan, VC Covenant University Rapporteur: Dr. Bekabil Fufa, SGS, SMUC</p> <p>14:20-14:40. <i>Private Universities in Community Services: Bridging the Gap in the Provision of Appropriate Sanitation.</i> Chigunwe Gilliet and Ndoró Mercy, Zimbabwe</p> <p>14:40-15:00. <i>Factors Dictating Students' Career Choice in the Ethiopian Higher Education Environment.</i> Asaye Teklu, St. Mary's University College, Ethiopia</p> <p>15:00-15:20. <i>The Role of Private Higher Education Institutions in Community Service in Africa: Ashesi Approach,</i> Elsbeth Adzo Ashie, Ghana</p> <p>15:20-15:40 <i>The Engagement of African Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in Response to HIV/AIDS</i> Daniel Kweku Kubuafor (PhD), AAU, Ghana</p> <p>15:40-16:00 Discussion</p>
16:00 – 16:30	Health Break
16.30-17:00	<i>The International Fellowship Program of AAU,</i> Araba Botchway, AAU
17:00 -17:15	<i>Adoption of the Addis Ababa Declaration on the Role of Private Universities in Higher Education in Africa</i> Professor Michael Omolewa, Former President of the General Conference of UNESCO
17.15 – 17.30	Closing Remark Tedla Haile, Executive Vice President, SMUC, Ethiopia
Friday, 10th August 2012	
09.00 – 12.30	Excursion (Optional) to Entoto Mountain- Menelik Museum, Addis Ababa University Museum (Site of objects related to Emperor Haile Selassie), Trinity Cathedral (Ark of Covenant Site)
12.30 –	Departure

CONTACTS:

AUC-HRST: NjengaB@africa-union.org

AAU: jegedeo@gmail.com

SMUC: Misganaw_solomon@smuc.edu.et