



ADEA Book Development conference kicks off in Nairobi

Book development forum focuses on policies implementations and concrete legislative frameworks

NAIROBI October 3, 2011 – Lack of policy and poor implementation of existing regulations were identified as some of the factors hampering book development in Africa, on the opening day of three day international ADEA book development conference .

Key industry stakeholders meeting in Nairobi deliberated the role of the African Publishing industry and the many challenges like Publishing in African languages and also limited funds.

The international conference hosted by ADEA's Working Group on Books and Learning Materials, WGBLM, underlined the importance of ensuring that the national policies formulated within the book industry are applied to uplift the standards of education in Africa and access to books and learning materials.

“We can talk about policies year in and out but it’s the checking of the implementation that is important to moving forward,” said the Coordinator of the WGBLM Erato-Nadia Bizos. “What we need to focus on is what we should put in place in order for the already formulated policies to actually move.”

The delegates also measured the challenges of producing reading materials written in African Languages that would allow the natives to acquire the relevant skills and also the link between publishers and the African culture.

The over 60 participants drawn from 23 countries also identified key components like quality of the books and the high cost of printing and sales that adversely affect the distribution and publishing of reading materials in the continent.

Association for the Development of Education in Africa

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1/2

“This forum is therefore important for us as the discussions are focussed closely related to the theme of the forthcoming ADEA Triennale that will be held next February in Burkina Faso,” said Mamadou Ndoye, the General Coordinator of the 2012 Triennale.

“Just like this forum the Triennale will concentrate extensively on education and training as the main factors in sustainable development.”

The 2012 Triennale that will be held in the capital Ouagadougou, on February 12-17 is designed along the theme of “Promoting critical knowledge, skills and qualifications for sustainable development in Africa:how to design and implement an effective response through education and training system.”

The Nairobi conference which draws stakeholders from the Governments, Culture and Justice, Development partners, Writers, Publishers, booksellers and representatives of library and book development councils which will prepare a paper that will be presented at next years ADEA organised Triennale .

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