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2011

APC African Presidential Roundtable 2011

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APARC African Presidential Roundtable

2011



A P I C T O R I A L C H R O N I C L E

Cover photo standing (left to right) - His Excellency Thabo Mbeki (Former President of the Republic of South Africa), His Excellency Amani Abeid Karume (Former President of Zanzibar), His Excellency Pierre Buyoya (Former President of the Republic of Burundi), Ambassador Charles Stith (Director APARC), His Excellency Caseem Uteem (Former President of the Republic of Mauritius), Chargé d’Affaires Troy Fitrell (U.S. Embassy in Mauritius),
Sitting: His Excellency Karl Offman (Former President of the Republic of Mauritius), His Excellency Nicéphore Soglo (Former President of the Republic of Benin), ***His Excellency Dr the Hon Navinchandra Ramgoolam (Prime Minister of the Republic of Mauritius)***, His Excellency Frederick Tluway Sumaye (Former Prime Minister of the United Republic of Tanzania), His Excellency General Salou Djibo (Former President of the Republic of Niger), His Excellency Joaquim Chissano (Former President of the Republic of Mozambique)

Photo opposite page - Former African Heads of State and Government in attendance at the African Presidential Roundtable 2011 Opening Reception held at the U.S. Ambassadorial Residence

African Presidential Roundtable 2011: 21st Century Energy Agenda for Africa



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The African Presidential Roundtable 2011:
21st Century Energy Agenda for Africa
May 31st-June 2nd, 2011
Hotel Maritim
Balaclava, Mauritius

The African Presidential Roundtable 2011: 21st Century Energy Agenda for Africa was held from May 31st-June 2nd, 2011 in Balaclava, Mauritius. This multi-continental conversation involved leaders from the public and private sectors, energy experts, students, and faculty from the United States, Europe, and Africa. They met together with nine former African Heads of State and Government to discuss the ways in which energy is critical to Africa's development.

The Roundtable was held in Mauritius at the invitation of Mauritian Prime Minister Navinchandra Ramgoolam, with support from the Government of the Republic of Mauritius. Mauritius was an ideal site for such a summit because of the commitment the country has made toward energy reform and advancement. The country's energy policies serve as an excellent example for the African continent and laid a solid foundation for the conversation at hand.

The three-day event yielded an incredible array of perspectives, opinions, and information that resulted in a set of recommendations for policy-makers across the continent and around the world.

The Roundtable was held at the Hotel Maritim, which stands on the grounds of the Ruins of Balaclava, a historic colonial landmark in the fight for sub-Saharan African independence. The event saw over 200 public and private sector leaders participate in the deliberations, forums, and functions, alongside more than 70 student leaders and faculty in attendance under the sponsorship of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).





“Colleagues, fellow participants, and friends, as both the former President of Mauritius and a former APARC Balfour President-in-Residence, Bienvenue a Mauritius! It is a pleasure to have this unique initiative here in my home country. The African Presidential Roundtable is an event that brings together people from all walks of life. We are all here because we believe that energy is important to Africa’s future. We cannot resolve all of the challenges of energy in just two days, but the discussions we will have over the next couple of days can have an enormous impact on the development of African nations. Again, I would like to welcome you to Mauritius. Merci Beaucoup!”

–His Excellency Karl Offmann, former President of the Republic of Mauritius

Welcome Reception
Ambassador's Residence
U.S. Embassy Mauritius

In the absence of Ambassador Mary Jo Wills, Chargé d'Affaires Troy Fitrell hosted the Roundtable Welcome Reception at the U.S. Ambassadorial Residence on the evening of Tuesday, May 31st.

The reception was an opportunity for delegates to introduce themselves and meet local dignitaries in anticipation of the coming days' proceedings, as well as enjoy the rare experience of conversations with former Heads of State and Government.

Following Ambassador Stith's introduction, Chargé d'Affaires Troy Fitrell gave opening remarks and a welcome to the reception. Following Mr. Fitrell, His Excellency Former President of the Republic of Mauritius, Caseem Uteem, toasted his colleagues for their participation in the Roundtable, as well as the students and delegates. Many were meeting for the first time, while a number of delegates had participated in previous Roundtables. At the end of the evening, His Excellency Lieutenant General Salou Djibo, former President of the Republic of Niger, gave a vote of thanks to the evening's host – the U.S. Embassy Mauritius.





“In this iteration of the Roundtable, we gather to discuss the future of energy in Africa. This is not a limited subject. Everything to which we aspire, from economic development to social progress to ecological diversity, depends on efficiencies in the energy sector. When I speak of efficiencies, I speak of the production, transmission, usage, marketing; I speak of producers, consumers, and governments. And, while energy takes many forms, access to electricity must dominate the discussion.

Sub-Saharan Africa is far behind other continents in electricity use and penetration. We have all seen the night time satellite imagery that shows the intense energy usage of other parts of the world.

On most of this continent, electricity supplies are insufficient and undependable. The results are more than simply annoying; they are obstacles to Africa achieving its social and economic goals.”

-United States Charge d’Affaires to Mauritius, Troy Fitrell



American - African Universities (AAU) Students' Forum: Challenges for the Next Generation of Leadership



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American-African Universities (AAU) Students
Forum: Challenges for the Next Generation of
Leadership
University of Mauritius
Tuesday, June 1, 2011

Roundtable proceedings began with a student forum on the theme of “Challenges for the Next Generation of Leadership,” and was held at the University of Mauritius. The forum was organized as a prelude to prepare participating students for the Roundtable. The student representatives were from the University of Mauritius and APARC’s AAU Collaborative, which is made up of students and faculty from Boston University, Morehouse College, Medgar Evers College, Elizabeth City State University, North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University, the University of Dar es Salaam, the University of Ghana, the University of Witwatersrand, and Cape Peninsula University of Technology.

Aleta Williams, Senior Education Advisor at the United States Agency for International Development moderated this session. One of the objectives of the session was to enable the students attending the session to get a better sense of what they needed to do to enter the science sector. Ms. Williams introduced Mr. Isaac Matthews and Ms. Rhonda Jordan of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, who offered suggestions based on their experiences.



Mr. Matthews completed a dual masters program at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Nuclear Science and Engineering as well as Technology and Policy. His research focused on global terrestrial uranium resources, economics, and nuclear fuel cycle policy. Matthews' presentation was organized around the question "why did I choose nuclear policy?" He stated:

"While a student at the University of Maryland Baltimore County, studying mechanical engineering, I took a strong interest in advanced space propulsion and energy systems as well as robotics. It wasn't until after my junior year that I was introduced to the topic of nuclear engineering while conducting summer research at MIT in MIT's Center for Advance Nuclear Energy Systems and its Gas Turbine Lab. That summer I was afforded the opportunity to study a Generation IV nuclear power conversion system, and became enthralled with the opportunities presented by the applications of nuclear science.

As a senior, I had to make a choice however between space robotics and nuclear engineering. With the future of NASA and manned space exploration hinged on the ability to advance space propulsion systems, I began to strongly consider nuclear science as a viable career choice. It wasn't until a visit to Stanford's Aerospace Department that I made my decision –in the center of the graduate student lounge was a magazine with a sobering announcement. 'Nuclear Engineers Needed! – 60,000 nuclear engineers to be in demand within the next 5 to 10 years.'





Rhonda Jordan is a PhD student at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. In summarizing her academic path, Ms. Jordan said:

"I always loved math, science and physics because it involved problem solving. I decided to go to college where I earned both a bachelors and a masters degree in electrical engineering from Columbia University. But after I finished the two degrees, I didn't know what type of work I should do. Where do my skills fit?"

One day during a visit to Luanda, Angola, I saw people and families working hard to survive and they didn't have basic services such as clean running water and electricity; I realized that this is a problem that plagues many around the world, even in my own country (U.S.A) – according to a recent study by the UN & WHO, 1.5 billion people around the world live without electricity. I thought to myself that there has to be a solution to this problem and maybe I could use my skills to help. I then decided to go back to school to get a PhD and here I am."



The African Presidential Roundtable Convenes



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Call to Order by
His Excellency Dr. the Hon Navinchandra Ramgoolam
G.C.S.K., F.R.C.P., Prime Minister of the Republic of Mauritius
Hotel Maritim
Wednesday, June 1, 2011

"It is an honour for Mauritius to host the African Presidential Roundtable 2011.

I thank the Director of the African Presidential Archives and Research Centre, Ambassador Stith of the University of Boston. When I first met him, I knew he was a man of big ideas – as Mr. Troy Fitrell said – and I must thank him for bringing together such a distinguished panel of respected former Heads of State and Government, ministers, eminent scientists, prominent writers and well known opinion leaders together, in Mauritius, to discuss the challenge of Energy for All in Africa, pending the International Year of Sustainable Energy, next year.

This meeting is taking place against a backdrop of a series of events, which have increased the risks to our energy security, namely the political unrest in certain parts of the world, the economic downturns that have affected the global economy, price volatility of oil and fossil fuels and other commodities.

This situation has been exacerbated by the recent calamity in Japan and the decision two days ago by Germany to phase out nuclear power.

It is important, in my view, that your discussions be placed in the broader perspectives of sustainable growth and development in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Distinguished Guests,

The long history of human development bears testimony to the power of human ingenuity in overcoming obstacles and improving living standards. Human ingenuity will, however, be much tested in the 21st century as energy prices rise and the reliance on sustainable resources takes a new urgency. The 21st century energy agenda for Africa will provide both real challenges but also enormous opportunities.

Many of the challenges Africa faces are shared by other countries. As world economic prosperity spreads beyond a small group of countries in Western Europe and North America, the price of energy has been rising sharply. Ensuring long term access to energy at reasonable prices will be important if we want to maintain our competitiveness.

Along with rising energy demands we can also expect changing demands. As Government regulation increasingly responds to the issue of sustainability and the environment we will see a growing focus on sustainable energy sources. Whilst some African countries are oil exporters, the shift towards sustainable energy offers real potential amongst a wider set of African economies which can potentially draw on solar energy and bio fuels.

In Mauritius new life has been given to old sectors such as sugar with the growing importance of energy from biomass. The twenty first century challenge of securing access to reasonably priced environmentally friendly sustainable energy is therefore a critical one for all of Africa. My own country, Mauritius is typical of the challenge we face. We have successfully for many decades developed our own economy and our future relies on our skills and flexibility as a nation. Investment and education are what drive our economy forward just as they have done in the past. But investment in new forms of energy and education amongst firms and consumers as to how best to utilize energy in a sustainable way will be crucial.

Being a small vulnerable island, Mauritius is particularly concerned with the irreversible impact of climate change on its natural resources.

When Mauritius achieved independence in 1968, it used to depend to the tune of 60% on renewable energies – by-products of the sugar cane industry and hydro-power being the main sources. With economic development and population growth, these same sources of renewable energies represent, today, only 20% of the total electricity mix. We are targeting 35% autonomy by 2025 through increased use of green energy.

The Maurice-Ile-Durable (MID) Project was launched by me as a response to the Millennium Development Goals and to the challenge of climate change. MID is essentially a vision that seeks to transform the environmental, economic and social landscape of Mauritius. It is about sustainable development and inclusive growth. The Maurice-Ile-Durable vision is embedded in a strategic framework embracing five development pillars, including energy. In 2008, my Government earmarked Rs 1.3 billion for the MID Fund which was focused on renewable energy and energy efficiency programmes. It is funding wind farms and hydropower stations.



The MID Fund has funded additional projects, such as the provision of grants for the purchase of solar water heaters, the sale – at subsidized prices – of low energy consumption lamps for households, the replacement of traditional traffic lights and street lights by energy efficient ones.

In 2008, there were 25,000 households equipped with a solar water heater. With the Maurice Ile Durable Fund, the number has almost doubled.

We have established institutional mechanisms to better address climate change and disaster related issues. We are creating awareness for sustainable development and promoting sustainable lifestyles, right from garbage disposal to more responsible behaviour towards nature, through the greening of the building codes, green procurement in the public sector and sustainable production and consumption.

In the spirit of democratization of the energy sector, we have put up a scheme that will allow households and businesses to produce their own electricity through renewable sources. They will produce for their own consumption and will have the opportunity to sell up to 70% of their production to the Central Electricity Board. This project has attracted significant interest from individual households as well as from commercial entities. The same spirit of democratization is also reaching the shores of the cane industry which has been undergoing structural changes during the past years. Small planters will be able to make an optimal use of their by-products and sell the electricity they produce.

In addition to the existing biomass and the hydropower plants, a landfill gas to energy plant will be operational later this year; and two wind farms will be feeding electricity to the national grid by next year.

Private promoters have been invited to express their interest to invest in solar technology to produce electricity.

Studies aimed at exploring the geothermal potential in the island will be carried out this year. My office has spearheaded a study on the introduction of ethanol, produced locally, to the tune of 10% for powering our cars.

While investment in renewable energy is a medium and long term objective, energy efficiency can help us to reduce and control demand within the short term and yield immediate results. As the Energy Efficiency Act has been enacted last March with the aim of developing standards and enforcing energy audits. We propose the setting up of an Energy Efficiency Management Office to formulate and implement energy efficiency strategies and recommend innovative financing.

Access to affordable energy is a critical factor in our endeavour to achieve economic growth and reduce poverty. The African continent and Small Island Developing States are facing critical challenges.

According to UNIDO, some Sub-Saharan countries have electrification rates of less than one per cent, while energy intensity per capita is extremely low – at almost less than half of the world's average. It is unfortunate that the numerous resources of the continent remain unexploited and underutilized.

Africa's vast biomass resources, if managed judiciously, can ensure both food security and energy security, so essential for sustainable development.

Africa's lack of basic infrastructure continues to hamper its competitiveness and economic growth.

According to the International Energy Agency, some US \$36 billion are necessary, each year, to provide universal access to modern energy by 2030. Unfortunately, less than 1% of total world investment, in clean technologies, goes to Africa while the continent has the greatest potential in renewable energy!

To achieve the targets of the Millennium Development Goals, it is essential to make energy accessible to all and to promote technology transfer. We need to focus our attention on strengthening the renewable energy industry and markets in Africa.

As the co-chair of the Africa-Europe Energy Partnership under the aegis of the African Union, Mauritius has been playing an active role in developing a regional energy strategy for Africa. A road map has been developed with a focus on realistic and viable targets to be attained by 2020.

The development of a sustainable economy depends on our capacity to identify and tap appropriate technologies. The importance of developing regional priorities, establishing strategic partnerships and attracting capital investments has to be constantly emphasized.

I hope that the distinguished participants in this Roundtable will have a better understanding of the complexity of the energy industry and contribute to the formulation of policies aimed at mitigating risks and preparing Africa to overcome the challenges ahead.

Our agenda is an ambitious one; but, it is attainable with the commitment of all member states and the support of our development partners.

But, we also have to bear in mind that most of what needs to be done, needs to be done in Africa, by Africans. I am confident that we can cooperate to gather the energies and talents that will bring a new light to the future of the continent.

I wish all the participants very fruitful discussions and hope we manage to work towards the 'global clean energy revolution' wished by the United Nations Secretary General.

Distinguished Guests,

The world is reshaping itself and the twenty first century holds rich opportunities for Africa. I look forward to receiving the insights of your discussions.

I now have the honor to declare the African Presidential Roundtable 2011 open.”



Session I: Africa's Energy Profile

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Session I: Africa's Energy Profile

Moderator: His Excellency Thabo Mbeki, Former President of the Republic of South Africa

Discussants: Dr. Latsoucabé Fall of the World Energy Council and Alain Rosier of Nexant Inc. and United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

Hotel Maritim

Wednesday, June 1, 2011

President Thabo Mbeki, former President of the Republic of South Africa, chaired the first session of the proceedings. The topic for discussion was "Africa's Energy Profile."

The discussants for the session were Dr. Latsoucabé Fall of the World Energy Council and Alain Rosier, Vice President of Nexant Inc. and consultant for the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

Dr. Fall began with an overview of Africa's energy landscape, as well as an outline of energy priorities and needs of the African continent:

"Specific priorities on energy may vary from region to region, or even country to country. While the industrialized and rapidly growing economies focus on security of supply and on reducing the environmental impacts of energy use - in particular climate change and air pollution - most of the African nations are more concerned with securing access to reliable, affordable, and sustainable energy services.

Our collective priorities therefore are geared toward addressing the aforementioned challenges. These priorities include:

- Expanding and accelerating access to modern energy services,
- Stepping up modern energy use,
- Promoting renewable energy and other clean energy technologies,
- Promoting large scale/trans-boundary projects,
- Promoting energy efficiency & conservation,
- Strengthening human capacity, and
- Addressing environmental issues in a sustainable way.

To meet the energy needs of all African people in a sustainable manner, the continent's energy supplies should increase at least more than 2.5 times by 2035.

This would require huge investments, including:

- \$45 billion annually by 2035, for expansion of the power sector system,
- \$17 billion annually of additional cumulative investment by 2030, for universal access to modern energy and to roll-back energy poverty, and
- \$80 billion by 2035, for expansion of continental, regional & sub-regional transmission systems."





Alain Rosier, Project Manager of the USAID Africa Infrastructure Program, furthered the discussion by addressing the governmental and financial challenges that precede the African energy crisis, while also outlining possible solutions found in new technologies:

“Renewable and clean energy is the future. Solutions to be implemented immediately include using flared gas as clean energy, as it reduces carbon emission by 60% for the same quantity of electricity produced. There are between 15,000 and 25,000 megawatts of individual generator sets in Nigeria alone. Current effective power capacity available from the Grid is below 4,000 megawatts. Current quantity of ‘Associated Gas’ flared can feed up to 10,000 megawatts of environmentally controlled gas fired power generation plants.

In the short-term and mid-term: at \$110/barrel of oil, wind power is 1.5 times cheaper than electricity produced from Heavy Fuel Oil, and 2.5 times cheaper than electricity produced by individual diesel generators. This would result in the cost of electricity decreasing by 2% per year; the cost of clean technology for coal increasing by a similar figure. There is enough energy from wind and sun in a hundredth of the surface of the Sahara to meet the requirement in electricity of our entire planet.”





Session II:
Africa's Energy
Potential: Its Needs and the
World's

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Session II: Africa's Energy Potential: Its Needs and the World's

Moderator: His Excellency Karl Offmann, Former President of the Republic of Mauritius

Discussants:

- **Dr. the Honorable R. Beebeejaun, G.C.S.K., F.R.C.P, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Energy and Public Utilities of the Republic of Mauritius.**
 - **The Honorable Foumakoye Gado, Minister of Mines and Energy of the Republic of Niger,**
 - **The Honorable Salvador Namburete, Minister of Energy of the Republic of Mozambique, and**
 - **Mahaman Laouan Gaya, General Director of Hydrocarbons for the Niger Ministry of Mines and Energy**
- Hotel Maritim**

His Excellency Karl Offmann, former President of the Republic of Mauritius moderated Session II: "Africa's Energy Potential: Its Needs and the World's." This session included three current Ministers of Energy.

Minister Beebeejaun, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Ministry of Energy and Public Utilities of the Republic of Mauritius began the session with an informative and optimistic overview of the progress made in the host country with regards to energy advancement. Second, Minister Gado and his General Director of Hydrocarbons, Mahaman Gaya of the Niger Ministry of Mines and Energy, spoke on development and recent investments made by the international community in Nigerien oil explorations. Lastly, the Honorable Salvador Namburete, Minister of Energy of the Republic of Mozambique, gave an enlightening and provocative presentation, which called for the improvement of the relationship between governments and private sector investors in order to bolster energy developments.

"Looking at the world energy scenario today, we are confronted with the unfortunate truth that policies and practices, both national and international, have achieved very little, in overcoming today's challenges [particularly in Africa]. ... Despite the abundance of energy resources in the vast majority of African countries- with a few exceptions- only 20-30% of





urban populations and 5-10% of rural populations, on average, have access to modern energy.

The need to cope with radical changes in the international energy front has led to the imperative for:

- Adequate institutions, policies and practices to overcome global energy crises and their long-term negative impacts on the poorest among the poor;*
- Efficient national and international policy coordination mechanisms;*
- Effective engagement of the financial institutions, in particular the multilateral, bilateral and development agencies, with the vital role of promoting the development of the energy sector;*
- The establishment of an adequate framework and the creation of an enabling environment to attract infrastructures investment.*

The comprehensive analysis and discussions on the energy sector throughout Africa taking place here, will greatly raise the awareness and understanding of the urgent need to implement the identified energy projects, with the aim to create the necessary conditions for the provision of more and better energy services in a sustainable manner in African countries, in view of the economic and social growth and poverty alleviation.

Government responsibility and joint efforts with development partners, to simplify access to funds, and establish adequate investment-friendly structures for the power sector development, are all critical to making a difference.

Making a difference means that Governments need to move from the traditional role of promoting private-based investment projects, to playing a larger financial role, including providing guaranties for infrastructure project development, with direct and substantial impact on economic and social growth.”

American - African Universities (AAU) Students Leadership Breakfast with African Heads of State



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Session III:
African Strategies for Energy
Sufficiency: Renewable and
Traditional Sources,
Supra-regional and National

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**Session III: African Strategies for Energy Sufficiency:
Renewable and Traditional Sources, Supra-regional
and National Approaches**

**Moderator: His Excellency Joaquim Chissano, For-
mer President of the Republic of Mozambique**

**Discussant: Dr. Kenneth Jennings, Managing Direc-
tor, K2J Environmental**

Hotel Maritim

Thursday, June 2, 2011

On the second and final day of the Roundtable, His Excellency Joaquim Chissano, former President of the Republic of Mozambique, chaired the final session, “African Strategies for Energy Sufficiency.” The discussant for the session was energy expert Dr. Kenneth Jennings of K2J Environmental.

Dr. Jennings’ presentation, entitled “African Strategy for Energy Sufficiency: Supra-regional Bloc Model for Cooperation and Development,” concentrated on exploring new opportunities in energy advancement and improving those that already exist in sub-Saharan Africa. Dr. Jennings argued that African governments and institutions should be encouraged to consider organizing supra-regional blocs as a way to link these twin requirements. The focus of such blocs would be:

- Coordinating with overarching development plans,
- Attracting capital-private, public, human and multinational donors,
- Incorporating environmental sustainability, and
- Accommodating solutions and systems that are currently in place.





Dr. Jennings concluded his presentation by emphasizing that the subtext to the success of regional blocs is: “Political stability and commitment, consistent regulatory environment, especially compliance and enforcement, complimentary growth rates and strategies, compatible tax law - especially incentive to renewable energy and a comprehensive energy plan for each bloc that address each sector’s needs in industry, government, business, residential, and transportation”.

Dr. Jennings’ presentation rounded out the proceedings and elicited livened discussions regarding lucrative solutions to the 21st Century Energy Agenda for Africa. After the close of discussions, attendees were dismissed while Ambassador Stith, the Heads of State and Government, and discussants drafted a summary of the proposal for solutions to Africa’s energy crisis. This was then presented at a press conference as the final action of formal deliberations.





The Balaclava Communiqué Hotel Maritim Balaclava, Mauritius June 2, 2011

At the close of the Roundtable, the Heads of State and Government who convened the Roundtable hosted a press conference where a formal statement was release to the international press which summarized the deliberations and proposals put forward at the Roundtable.

Ambassador Stith, alongside the former Heads-of-State and Government, issued the following statement:

“During these deliberations, the Roundtable was moderated by leading experts in the public and private sector, from institutions such as World Energy Council, the Africa Infrastructure Program, USAID, the Ministries of Energy of Mauritius, Mozambique, and Niger, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Diverse forms of energy were discussed; such issues as biomass, hydropower, geothermal, wind, solar, coal, oil, gas, and nuclear energy. The Roundtable addressed the broad-scale needs of African nations, from small island states to large land-locked countries. The Roundtable concluded that multi-faceted and staged approaches must be used in concert to meet Africa’s present and future energy needs. The strategy for energy sufficiency in Africa must take a stepwise approach to unlocking the continent’s huge potential and meeting the needs of its citizens and development.”

The Roundtable identified the major energy challenges facing the continent, and highlighted the following:

- *Africa’s technically exploitable hydropower capability is estimated to represent about 13% of the global total.*
- *Only 26% of Africa’s oil production is consumed continentally. Consequently, 77.5% of the population in Sub-Saharan Africa has no access to electricity, compared to less than 14% in Latin America and*

East Asia.

- *Despite the continent having about 14% of the world's population and producing 7% of the world's commercial energy, it consumes only 3% and exports more than half of its production.*
- *Energy consumption is skewed: about 40% is consumed in the northern region, 40% in South Africa, and the remaining 20% by all other African countries. (continued on next page)*
- *The electricity supply in most African countries is characterized by high system losses when compared with the international target of 10 to 12%. Some of the African countries record losses as high as 40%.*
- *Ten countries have plans or have expressed interest in building nuclear power plants: Nigeria, Uganda, Niger, Senegal, Kenya, Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco, Ghana, and Egypt. Ghana has reportedly put its plans on hold.*

It was stressed at this summit that most African governments have made a concerted effort to deal with the issues of energy sufficiency and have designed action and strategic plans to address the problem. The Roundtable recognized and encouraged African governments and institutions to continue to their search for viable solutions to Africa's energy crisis consistent with strategies they have already developed. As a compliment to already-established plans and efforts, the meeting encourages African leaders and institutions to consider the following issues raised at the Roundtable:

- *Organizing the continent into Supra-regional blocs,*
- *Coordinating overarching development plans,*
- *Attracting capital – private, public, human, and multinational donors,*
- *Incorporating environmental sustainability, and*
- *Accommodating solutions and systems that are currently in place.*

All are valuable components of the continent's arsenal for addressing the energy crisis.

In the final session of the Roundtable - "African Strategies for Energy Sufficiency: Renewable and Traditional Sources, Supra-regional, and National Approaches"- the point was made that the key to energy sufficiency is to act soon and to act multi-nationally. Supra-regional blocs are vital to this strategy, because they touch on essential political and economic issues. Leadership is, of course, of critical importance.

The Roundtable recommended that in order for supra-regional blocs to be viable, the nations of each bloc must provide:

- *Political stability and commitment,*



- *Consistent regulatory environment, especially compliance and enforcement,*
- *Complementary growth rates and strategies,*
- *Compatible tax law, especially incentives for renewable energy, and*
- *A comprehensive energy plan for each bloc that addresses each sector's needs (industry, government, business, residential, transportation).*

Conscious of its importance in Africa, and desiring to bring this debate to a higher level, the former Heads of State and Government and the participants made the following recommendations to pave the way forward:

- *APARC, in collaboration with the Africa Forum, would convene a follow-up conference on energy sufficiency in Africa that will bring together key stakeholders including the African Union, the regional economic communities and other experts, from the public and private sector.*
- *APARC, in collaboration with the Africa Forum, would constitute an advisory group of experts, which will be called the Africa Energy Infrastructure Advisory Group (AEIAG).*
- *APARC, in collaboration with the Africa Forum, would prepare terms of reference for AEIAG which should cover funding issues relative to energy sufficiency in Africa, capacity development, joint sub-regional projects, and how to best use the expertise in the meeting to operationalize the outcomes and recommendations of the Roundtable 2011, particularly in the area of low-cost, accessible, and affordable energy technology.*





The former African Heads of State and Government that convened the Roundtable are committed to continuing the search for solutions to the problem of energy sufficiency in Africa for the benefit of African people. In that vein, a follow-up meeting will be convened within the next year. The date and venue of that gathering will be determined after consultation with the relevant stakeholders.

Finally, on behalf of Their Excellencies convening this summit and the Roundtable participants, let me express our gratitude to Prime Minister Navinchandra Ramgoolam and the Prime Minister's Office, the Government, and the people of Mauritius for the invitation to locate this year's Roundtable in Mauritius. There certainly could not have been a venue more beautiful or with an atmosphere more fertile for the discussion about energy in Africa than Mauritius. Lastly, we thank Prime Minister Ramgoolam for his keynote address in which he issued an inspiring and insightful charge to begin our deliberations."

-Ambassador Charles Stith, Director of APARC



The African Presidential Roundtable Closing Dinner



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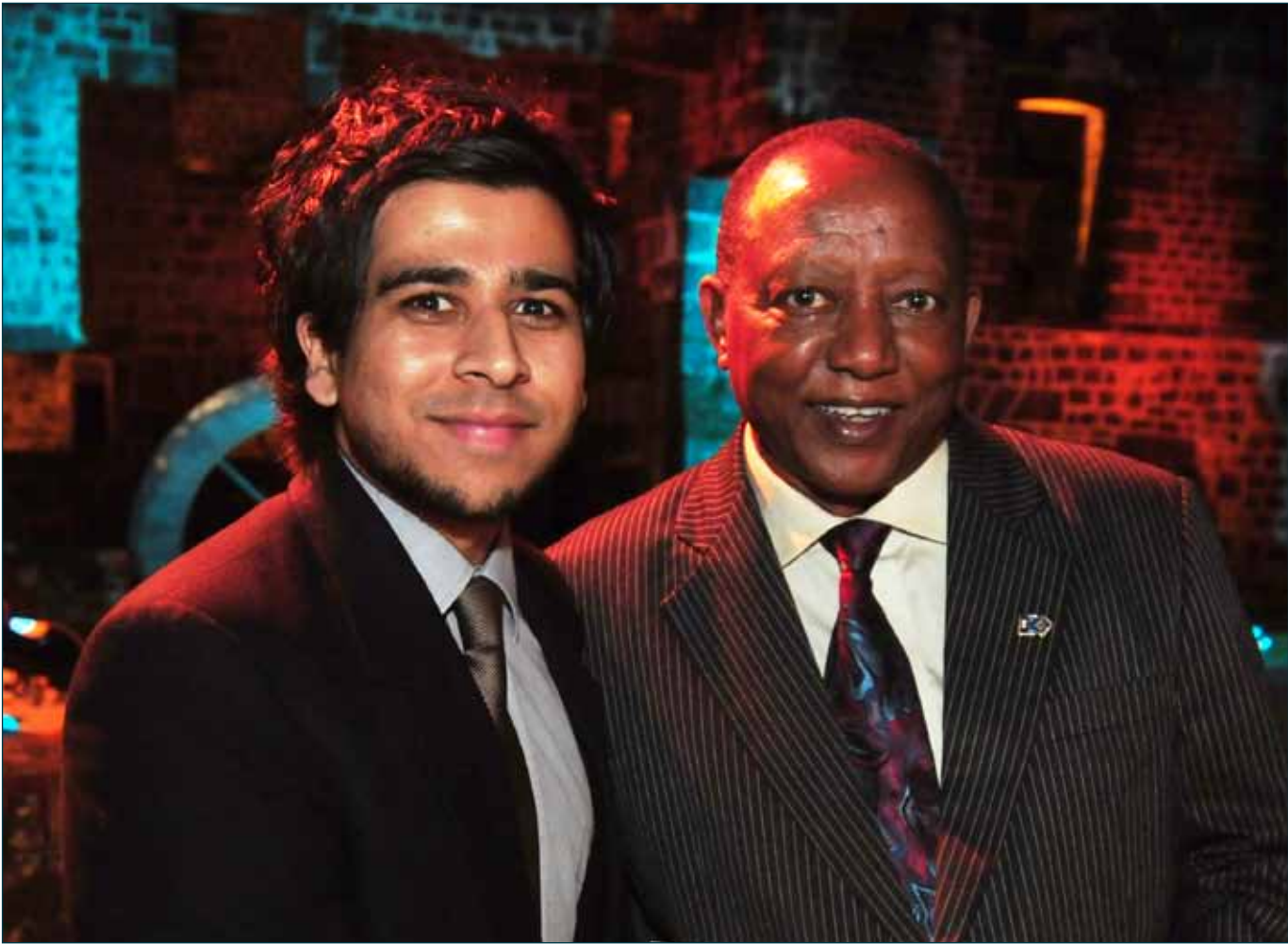


“Our discussions over the past two days at the Maritim have addressed the ways that governments, institutions, and individuals can help Africa find a resolution to the challenges [as well as the] opportunities involving energy in Africa.

Tonight, we are gathered at the beautiful Ruins of Balaclava to celebrate our coming together around an issue that has so often divided us on this continent. It is our hope that these proceedings will provide a model not only for those in a position to make changes today, but to all the students in attendance who will bring tomorrow’s winds of change.”

-His Excellency Pierre Buyoya

African Presidential Roundtable 2011
Closing Dinner
Ruins of Balaclava
Thursday, June 2, 2011





NOTES



USAID

FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

The African Presidential Archives and Research Center thanks the United States Agency for International Development/Africa Education Initiative for funding the African Presidential Roundtable 2011 Retrospective.

African Presidential Archives
and Research Center

Director
Ambassador Charles R. Stith

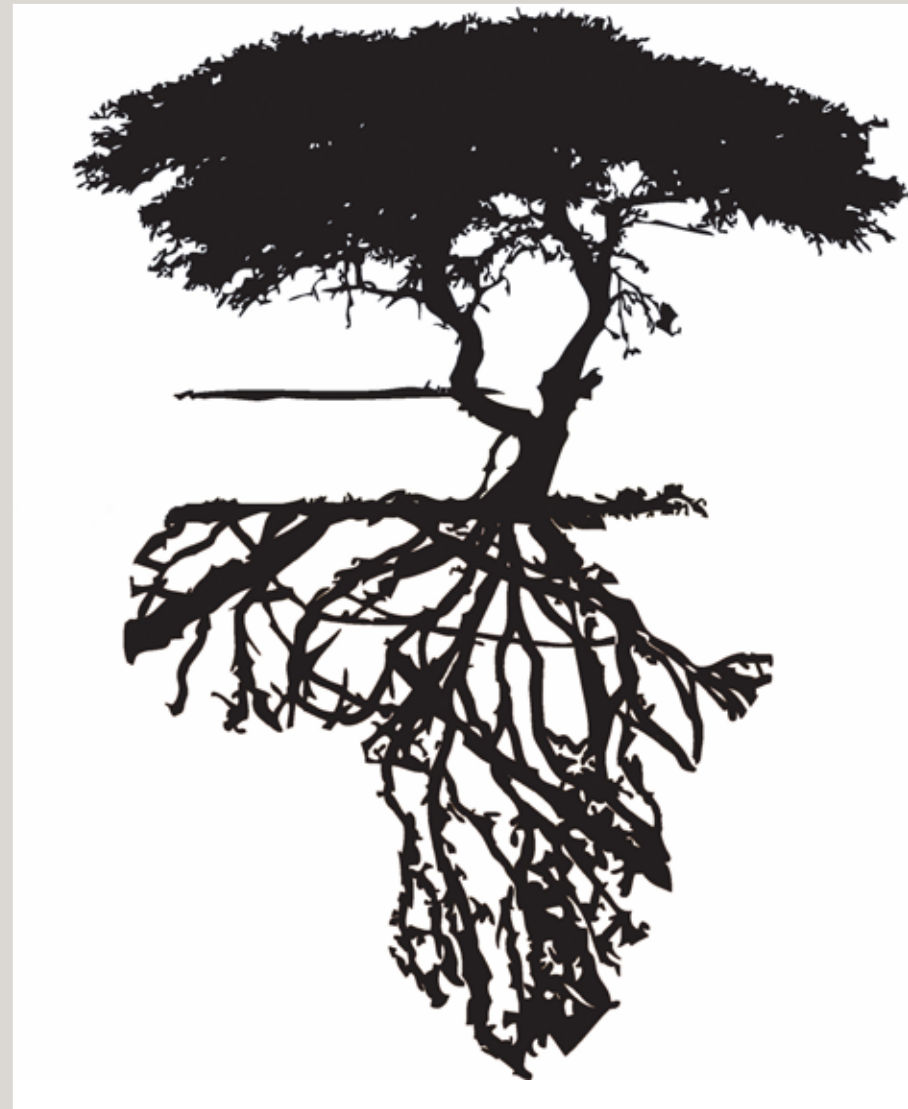
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