

# African Business Leaders Forum

18 - 19 OCTOBER 2006, SANDTON CONVENTION CENTRE,  
JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA



## FACT HISTORY

More than 500 participants from 25 African countries attended the Eskom African Business Leaders Forum 2005 held in Johannesburg. The two-day event gathered high-level decision-makers from both public and private sectors. Four live TV broadcast debates took place during the Forum, covering issues of poverty, entrepreneurship, women in leadership and governance.

## 2006 FOCUS

As we move into the century that many have called the century of Africa, we need leaders who can bring us from the back of the race to the front. We need a leadership that will develop new value systems and new ways of looking at ourselves and the world of work and the socio-economic milieu.

Building on the success achieved in the past three years, the Fourth Annual African Business Leaders Forum will once again engage leaders from both public and private sectors in critical issues faced by the continent. These include service delivery and infrastructure development, skills development and mentorship, women empowerment, economic growth and sustainability, good governance and poverty alleviation.

The forum is targeted at chief executives, managing directors, chairmen, director generals, government advisors, legislators, political and civil society leaders, entrepreneurs, legal advisors, senior and middle-level decision-makers in public/private organisations in Africa.



## » WHAT IS THE AFRICAN BUSINESS LEADERS FORUM?

The purpose of the African Business Leaders Forum is to concentrate minds on finding solutions to challenging issues of leadership at various levels in Africa.

Through the NEPAD initiative, African governments are increasingly engaged in seeking communal improvement, expansion of infrastructure and continued social, political and economic development. The leadership challenges in executing these tasks are enormous. The African Leadership Forum provides an interface for stakeholders in the public and private sectors to make viable contributions to addressing these challenges.



## » THE NEED FOR AFRICAN BUSINESS LEADERS FORUM

In a rapidly changing African economic and political environment the quest for the ideal African leadership model continues. The African Business Leaders Forum addresses the need to engage African leaders at all levels with a view to identifying and implementing sustainable solutions to the continent's developmental challenges.





## » ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE AFRICAN BUSINESS LEADERS FORUM

### *Delegates*

- 2003 – 289 delegates from 16 African countries
- 2004 – 413 delegates from 27 African countries
- 2005 – 517 delegates from 33 African countries

### *Quality of delegates*

- In 2003-70 percent of delegates were senior decision-makers in government and private sectors in Africa.
- In 2004-90 percent of delegates were senior decision-makers in public and private sectors in Africa.
- In 2005-92.1 percent of delegates were senior decision-makers in public and private sectors in Africa. There was an increased participation from women.

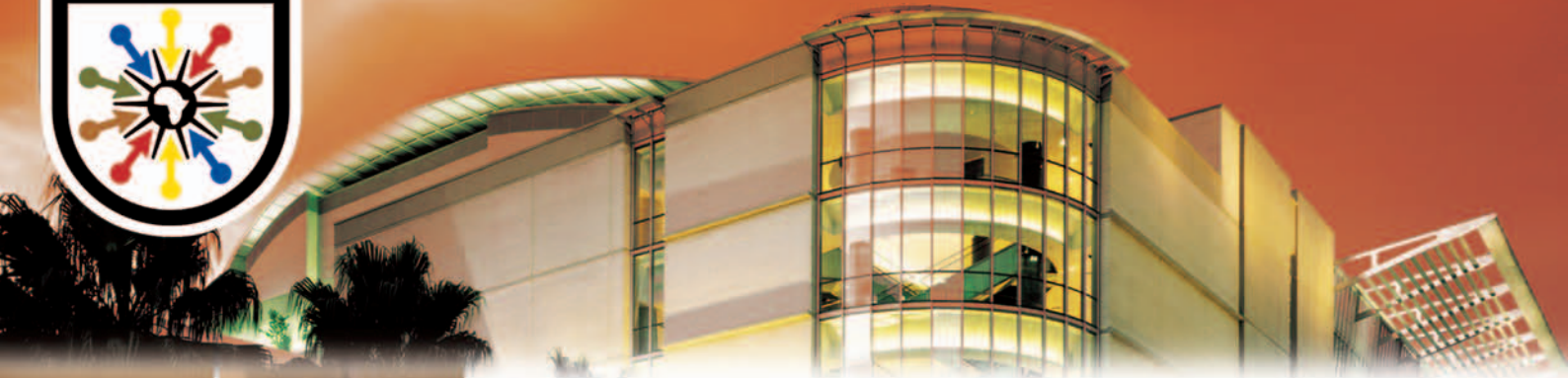
### *Speakers*

- In 2003-20 experts including academics, economists, politicians and leaders from both the public and private sectors were secured to address the forum on African leadership.
- In 2004-24 experts held workshops and presentations, including the latest research on leadership trends in Africa.
- In 2005-33 leadership experts discussed topics such as women in leadership, leading through entrepreneurship and practical leadership.

## » HIGH-LEVEL PARTICIPANTS

- President Thabo Mbeki (Represented by Reuel Khoza, the chairman of Eskom and Essop Pahad, minister in the office of the president)
- Jacob Zuma – former deputy president of South Africa
- FW de Klerk – former president of South Africa
- Sir Ketumile Masire – former President of Botswana
- 50 African ministers participated in 2003 and 2005 forums





» **LEADERSHIP LEARNING SESSIONS:**

- 77 topics of discussion critical to African leadership issues were discussed, debated during 2003 and 2005
- 10-point communiqué on outcomes of discussions sent to NEPAD institutions and governments
- 489 questionnaires completed by participants in 2004 and 2005 indicated that the forum had provided new "actionable" learning and that participants would recommend their colleagues to attend the forum.

» **PUBLICITY**

*Electronic media*

- 22 television stations covered African Business Leaders Forum 2004, while 35 television stations covered ABLF 2005.
- 3 international cable networks (CNN, BBC and CNBC) carried some of the conference live debates during 2004 and 2005.
- SABC Africa held radio broadcasts from the conference venue in 2003 and 2005.

*Print media*

- 35 newspapers covered ABLF 2004. In 2005, 30 newspapers covered the forum.

*Media value*

- R 3.9 million of media coverage generated by ABLF forum in 2003.
- R 7.5 million of media coverage generated by ABLF forum in 2004.
- R13.3 million of media coverage generated by ABLF forum in 2005.

» **AFRICAN BUSINESS LEADERS FORUM SUCCESSES IN THE THREE-YEAR PERIOD INCLUDE:**

- Engaging political leaders, legislators, entrepreneurs, investor community, bankers, venture capitalists, multinational corporations, policy makers, business development partners and emerging business leaders in the search for sustainable leadership solutions on which growth and profits can be built.
- Providing a platform for transferring practical industry experience and fresh ideas and generating a collective momentum for the creation of leadership parameters on the continent.
- Recognising, highlighting and honouring the leading light-bearers of the continent in the expectation that they continue to serve as role models.

