HERALD, THE 04 Oct 2004 Page: 7

Newspaper Print Quality



AFRICAN VALUES: Eskom Holdings CEO Thulani Gcabashe

development.

In a press statement after the 2003 conference, the forum committed itself "to engage political leaders, legislators, entrepreneurs, the 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".

At this year's conference, the forum will focus on concrete goals — in particular how institutions can invest their human and financial capital to create and sustain development.

The event marks the convergence of political and business awareness of the dire need for better leadership in Africa. The forum seeks to distil ideas about leadership, governance, accountability, efficiency, profitability and social responsibility into a co-

herent strategy for developing African economies.

The drive toward establishing an African business ethic has gathered significant momentum recently. In 2002, the Nepad Business Group (South Africa), was established. The group received pledges of support from 180 major businesses active in this region.

At that time, Reuel Khoza, Chairman of Eskom, made an initial presentation

of aims and objectives to delegates of the African Union Business Summit. Subsequently, in December 2003, a joint one-day conference of the African Round Table (ABR) and the Nepad Business Group for the whole of Africa was held. Addressing the conference, President Thabo Mbeki, as vice-chairman of Nepad, called for the African private sector to be mobilised in support of Nepad. The event provided new impetus for the Forum.

FROFE