



NEWS RELEASE

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African Technology Conference 2008 to be Held in Ghana Promises to Enhance Africa's Global Competitiveness

(Research Triangle Park, NC – May 6, 2008) The African Technology Conference, to be held in Accra, Ghana July 15–18, 2008, promises to build bridges between global IT leadership and Africa, says Life for Africa Founder and Chairman, King Adamtey I, Suapolor of Se (Shai) Traditional Area. Registration is now available online at www.africantechologyconference.com.

The theme for the conference is *Africa NOW: Building Technology for Future Generations*. "Technology is the fuel for driving globalization and economic prosperity. Bringing together corporate executives and African leaders to collaborate is key to transforming Africa's potential into reality," says Sandra K. Johnson, Ph.D., Vice President, Life For Africa, General Conference Chair for the conference, and an IBM Technical Leader.

The conference will include a series of presentations and panel discussions on educational and technology infrastructure, entrepreneurship, and business and government policy, with the following objectives:

- to create a dialogue and explore several avenues for successfully enhancing the Ghanaian technology and educational infrastructure, and for business development
- to create networking opportunities between corporate technology professionals, entrepreneurs, venture capitalists, academicians, students, and government policy makers, including Africans in the Diaspora
- to brainstorm options for successfully creating a world-class technology center in Ghana, the Drolor Technology Park, with plans to replicate its success in sub-Saharan Africa

Some of the confirmed speakers for the conference include:

- Rod Adkins, Senior Vice President, Development and Manufacturing, IBM
- Siisi Adu-Gyamfi, Senior Vice President, International & Marketing, Textron, Inc.
- Phillip L. Clay, Ph.D., Chancellor, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)
- Dr. Pat Francis, International Businesswoman
- Marc Hannah, Ph.D., Co-Founder, Silicon Graphics, Sunnyvale, CA
- Roland Martin, CNN Contributor
- Fred McBagonluri, Ph.D., Director of Engineering, Siemens
- Thomas Mensah, Ph.D., CEO, Georgia Aerospace Systems
- Michael Robinson, General Manager, Public Sector Middle East and Africa, Microsoft
- Tyrone Taborn, CEO, Career Communications Group

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Student scholarships will be provided to enable Ghanaian university students to attend the conference.

Conference sponsors include Microsoft and Dell, with student scholarships sponsored by Cisco and IBM.

Life for Africa's mission includes enhancing Africa's global economic competitiveness by leveraging technology, developing a world-class IT infrastructure in sub-Saharan Africa, and developing Africa's human resources through technology skills training. For more information, visit our web site at www.africantechologyconference.com.

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