

SEVENTH INTERNATIONAL EUROPE-AFRICA CONFERENCE

«Africa: New Actors, New Partnerships»

Fondation Mérieux – Annecy, September 1-3, 2006

Press Release

Institut Aspen France organized its Seventh International Conference on Europe-Africa relations on September 1-3 in Annecy (Centre des Pensières, Fondation Mérieux). It was dedicated to the topic:

«Africa: New Actors, New Partnerships»

The Institut Aspen France Europe-Africa conferences have, for over ten years, provided in-depth reflections on development conditions in Africa and the relations between the two continents but also with the rest of the world.

This seventh conference was an opportunity to discuss questions identified during the preparatory meeting held in Ghana in November 2005, at the invitation of President John Agyekum Kufor: **Africa's evolution in the new world economic and political situation, the redefinition of partnerships, the appearance of new actors and Africa's capacity to handle the effects of globalization.**

It brought together some forty participants from Africa, Europe but also from America or emerging countries around the Aspen Table – political, economic intellectual and media personalities – as well as International Organizations' representatives such as: **Didier Acouetey**, *President, AfricSearch*; **Théophile Ahoua**, *representative of the BCEAO, WAEMU*; **Jorge Braga de Macedo**, *former Minister, President, Tropical Research Institute (Portugal)*; **Peter Chaveas**, *former Ambassador, Deputy Director, Africa Center for Strategic Studies (United States)*; **Philippe Darmuzey**, *Head of Department, Development and Relations with ACP Countries, European Commission*; **Jean-Michel Debrat**, *Deputy Director General, French Development Agency*; **Zeinabou Djibrine**, *CEO, Niger-Lait*; **Philippe Etienne**, *Director, International Cooperation and Development, French Ministry of Foreign Affairs*; **Patrick Guillaumont**, *President, Fondation pour les Etudes et Recherches sur le Développement International*; **Gilbert Hungbo**, *Under Secretary General, UNPD*; **Koosum Kalyan**, *Senior Business Development Adviser for Africa, Shell International*; **Lansana Kouyate**, *Special Representative to the Ivory Coast, Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie*; **Katherine Marshall**, *Advisor to the President, World Bank*; **Valentine Rugwabiza**, *Deputy Director General, World Trade Organization*; **Zukang Sha**, *Ambassador of China to UNO*; **Hamed Sow**, *President, Centre for the Development of Enterprise*; **Ousmane Thiam**, *Minister of Private Sector and Investments, Republic of Mali*; **Bruno Wenn**, *Senior Vice President Sub-Saharan Africa, Kf Development Bank (Germany)*; etc.

Institut Aspen France is an independent, non-partisan international forum for discussion and dialogue, with Michel Pébereau as Chairman of the Supervisory Board (Honorary Chairman: Raymond Barre) and Jérôme Huret as President of the Board of directors. It is affiliated with the Aspen Institute in the United States, Berlin, Rome, Tokyo and New Delhi. Its goal is to organize informal meetings between leaders and players from the fields of economics, politics, academia, trade unions, culture and the media so as to encourage better mutual understanding and to gain a better outlook on the economic and societal changes facing them.