



**INSTITUT ASPEN FRANCE EUROPE - AFRICA CONFERENCE**

*Annecy, August 26<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>, 2004*

**PRESS RELEASE**

Institut Aspen France is organizing its **sixth international Europe-Africa conference**, to be held from **August 26<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup>, 2004** at the Mérieux Foundation's Centre des Pensières in Annecy. The Institute will also be celebrating the tenth anniversary of these meetings.

Every other year, Institut Aspen France organizes an international conference on the subject of relations between Africa and Europe. These meetings bring together some fifty high-level African, European and American leaders from the fields of economics, politics, finance, academia and international organizations. The past conferences have been opportunities for in-depth discussions on how to include Africa in globalization, its economic integration, and the private sector's contribution in implementing NEPAD.

This sixth conference will be more specifically dedicated to the following topic:

***“New International Trade Rules and their Impact on Africa”***

This will be a privileged opportunity for open, cross-cultural discussions on how to involve Africa more effectively in international trade (Session I), its new economic advantages in relation to new developments in international trade (Session II), actions to be carried out for a better use of its potentials on the local and regional levels (Session III) and internationally (Session IV).

**President Blaise Compaoré (Burkina Faso) and President Amadou Toumani Touré (Mali) are scheduled to take part in this conference (to be confirmed).**

Other personalities such as **Uri Dadush**, *Director of the International Trade Department of the World Bank*; **Moussa Para Diallo**, *President of the Fouta Djallon Peasants Federation (Guinea)*; **Patrick Guillaumont**, *Chairman of the Centre for Study and Research for International Development*; **Omar Kabbaj**, *President of the African Development Bank*; **Mamadou Lamine Loum**, *Former Prime Minister of Senegal and International Consultant*; **Jean-Paul Ngoupande**, *Former Prime Minister of the Central African Republic*; **Maria Niculescu**, *Director of Economic Cooperation at the Agence Intergouvernementale de la Francophonie* and **Michel Roussin**, *Vice-President for Africa at the Bolloré Group* will also be among the participants.

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*Institut Aspen France is an independent, non-partisan international forum for discussion and dialogue, with Mr. Raymond Barre as Chairman and Jérôme Huret as President. 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.*

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