



Association for the
Development of
Education in
Africa

Education for Peace: Fourteen African countries will meet in Mombasa to give education a central role in developing a culture of peace

Tunis, September 8, 2009: From September 14 to 16, the Association for the Development of Education in Africa (ADEA) will co-organize a meeting on "Education for Peace: Integration and Partnerships" in partnership with the Ministry of Education of Kenya. The purpose of the meeting, which will be held in Mombasa, Kenya, is to facilitate the sharing of experiences related to peace education. Another aim is to draw up national frameworks that will enable education to act as an agency for building peaceful societies and preventing conflicts.

Fourteen national delegations are expected, made up of African ministers of education, government officials and civil society representatives from the following countries: Angola, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritania, Mozambique, Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, Uganda and Zimbabwe.

In June 2004, ADEA organized a first ministerial conference, also in Mombasa, on education in countries in crisis or post-conflict situations. The final communiqué, signed by twenty African countries, committed Ministers of Education to "utilize our education systems as agencies and forces for peace-building, conflict prevention, conflict resolution and nation building". The ADEA Inter-Country Quality Node (ICQN) on Peace Education was created in response to this objective, which was reaffirmed by African Ministers at a Round-Table organized by ADEA in Istanbul on April 1, 2009, on the occasion of the Global Consultation of the Inter-Agency Network for Education in Emergencies (INEE).

The Mombasa workshop is the first meeting of the ICQN on Peace Education. This ICQN, hosted by Kenya's Ministry of Education, brings together those countries interested in implementing peace education policies and programs. It serves as a venue for dialogue and

cooperation as well as for exploration and formulation of mutually-shared policies to tackle common challenges.

The meeting calls for discussions of various topics, including: conflicts in Africa; education as a foundation for developing a culture of peace; existing partnerships, or partnerships needing reinforcement, for the consolidation of peace; a model for peace education. The workshop also emphasizes exchange of experiences and good practice based on current initiatives to develop peace education policies and programs. Small group sessions will be used to help countries in their efforts to establish national frameworks to make education a powerful agency for strengthening national cohesion and peaceful coexistence. Lastly, the participants will decide on the role and broad lines of the ICQN on Peace Education, as well as on the way forward.

The meeting will be opened by the Minister of Education of Kenya, the Hon. Professor Sam Ogeri, on the morning of September 14.

The country delegations will produce a communiqué to be released at the end of the meeting.

Tunis, September 8, 2009.

Press contacts:

- **Thanh-Hoa Desruelles**, External Relations and Communication, ADEA t.desruelles@afdb.org, tel.: +216/ 7110 3432 (office), +216/ 21 69 11 46 (cell).
- **Virginia Wangari**, Communication Officer, Ministry of Education of Kenya, +254/ 72 269 43 69.
- **Lawalley Cole**, Coordinator, ADEA Working Group on Communication for Education and Development (WG COMED), l.cole@unesco.org; +229/ 21 32 04 12/ 2132 03 53 (office); +229/ 95 29 51 55 (cell).