

## **FOCAC: Creating a platform for Africa's sustainable development**

- Doubletree by Hilton Hotel Cape Town
- August 26-27, 2015

Since its establishment in 2000, FOCAC has become a crucial platform for collective dialogue and an effective mechanism for enhancing cooperation between China and African countries. Along with the evolution of China-Africa relations, the implications and subsequent responsibility of China has become greater than before. The pattern of Chinese engagement has become diversified and various actors have become involved; therefore a comprehensive approach is needed. This conference aims to assess the role of FOCAC and to contribute to the preparation for the upcoming FOCAC VI meeting in South Africa by creating more in-depth knowledge. The conference will serve as a high level platform for discussion, fostering understanding among stakeholders and developing shared visions.

### **25<sup>th</sup> August**

Opening dinner at 19h00 at the Double Tree by Hilton Hotel

### **26<sup>th</sup> August (Day One)**

08:00 - 08:30: Registration/coffee

08:30 - 09:00: Welcome addresses

09:00 - 10:30: ***Building political partnerships to promote peace, security and stability***

This panel will examine the current political relationship between China and Africa and will discuss how this relationship can be made to contribute to Africa's peace and security. The panel will discuss China's role and how it can serve to achieve sustainable development on the continent.

- Chair: Ross Anthony (Centre for Chinese Studies)
- David Shinn (George Washington University)
- Li Weijian (Shanghai Institutes for International Studies)
- Hugo Basson (Department of International Relations and Cooperation, RSA)
- Discussant: Zhou Yuyuan (Shanghai Institutes for International Studies)

10:30 - 11:00: Coffee

11:00 - 12:30: ***Building political partnerships to promote peace, security and stability***

- Chair: Zhang Chun (Shanghai Institutes for International Studies)
- Yazini April (Human Sciences Research Council)
- He Wenping (Chinese Academy of Social Sciences)
- Li Wentao (China Institutes of Contemporary International Relations)
- Discussant: Sven Grimm (German Development Institute)

12:30 - 14:00: Lunch

14:00 - 16:00: ***China Africa economic relations in the global economy***

China's increasing economic clout in the global economy has significant implications for the rest of the world and Africa is no exception. This panel will look at China's economic engagement through investment and trade in Africa. The focus will be on how African countries are affected by the Chinese economy and on how Africa can draw the maximum benefit from China's engagement.

- Chair: Zhang Xiaofeng (Institute of African Studies Zhejiang Normal University)
- Kobus van der Wat (Beijing Axis)
- Tang Xiaoyang (Tsinghua University)
- Ron Sandrey (TRALAC)
- Discussant: Sun Zhina (Institute of African Studies Zhejiang Normal University)

16:00 - 16:30: Coffee

16:30 - 18:00: ***Diversifying economic cooperation for sustainable development***

Chinese economic engagement in Africa has diversified into various sectors and this has the potential to contribute to sustainable development in Africa through technology transfer and job creation among others. This panel will examine the current economic cooperation between China and Africa in various sectors and figure out what the opportunities are and what challenges must be met effectively.

- Chair: Yejoo Kim (Centre for Chinese Studies, Stellenbosch)
- Maxime Weigert (African Development Bank)
- Hoseana Bohela Lunogelo (Economic and Social Research Foundation)
- Shem Simuyemba (African Development Bank)
- Discussant: Louise Scholtz (WWF)

19:00: Dinner

## **27<sup>th</sup> August (Day Two)**

08:30 - Tea and Coffee

09:00 - 10:30: ***China-Africa in post-2015***

It has been realised that opportunities as well as challenges can be associated with China's engagement in Africa. In this context, this panel will explore how the Chinese actors should engage in Africa and how their African counterparts should respond to ensure that this relationship is sustainable. Furthermore the role of civil society and of FOCAC in the facilitation of this process will be discussed.

- Chair: David Shinn (George Washington University)
- Zhang Chun (Shanghai Institutes for International Studies)
- Saliem Fakir (WWF)
- Sven Grimm (German Development Institute)
- Discussant: He Wenping (Chinese Academy of Social Sciences)

10:30 - 11:00: Coffee

11:00 - 12:30: ***Roundtable discussion***

During the final session of the conference, discussions and conversations regarding the main theme will be conducted. What are the main issues concerning the future of China-Africa relationship and how can we contribute to the formation of coherent policy strategies within FOCAC. It is hoped that this session will be a valuable platform for the provision of suggestions and recommendations to the decision-makers in China and Africa in order to strengthen the future relationship.

12:30 - 15:30: ***Lunch/Wine Tasting***

15:30: ***Conference ends***