

Commission for Africa
<p>Description of event:</p> <p>The Commission for Africa, which was launched by Prime Minister Tony Blair in February 2004, will hold a networking event to highlight the problems and possibilities of African development. Some of the 17 commissioners, most of whom are from Africa, will table papers and lead a discussion at this networking event. The aim is to engage a wide range of Africans and others to help the Commission take an independent look at the challenges facing Africa in order to generate action for a strong and prosperous Africa. Feedback from the event will contribute directly to the report and recommendations which will be published by the Commission in spring 2005 when the United Kingdom assumes the chairmanship of both the G8 and, in the second half of the year, the European Union. 2005 offers a further opportunity to table the recommendations at the United Nation's review of the implementation of the UN Millennium Development Goals.</p>
<p>Name of organization:</p> <p>Commission for Africa</p>
<p>Description of organization:</p> <p>Africa is the only continent not to have benefitted from globalization and its people are poorer now than they were a few decades ago. Therefore, the Commission for Africa was established in order to take a fresh look at Africa's past and present, and the international community's role, in order to agree on recommendations for the future. The aim is to generate increased support for the full implementation of the G8 Africa Action Plan in 2005. There are 17 members of the Commission, most are from Africa. Amongst those from the United Kingdom are Rt. Hon Gordon Brown, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Rt. Hon Hilary Benn, the Minister for International Development, and Sir Bob Geldof. The African Commissioners include President Mkapa of Tanzania, Prime Minister Meles Zenawi of Ethiopia, Hon. Trevor Manuel, South African Minister for Finance, and Mrs. Anna Tibaijuka, Executive Director of UN-HABITAT. The Commissioners are active in a range of international fora in order to engage a wide range of Africans and others who are able to help the Commission take an independent look at the challenges facing Africa. The Commission's work has been divided into six principal thematic areas: the economy; natural resources; governance; peace and security; human development; and culture and participation. The work is intended to be comprehensive but it is not meant to duplicate or replace existing international processes. Instead, it seeks to support the best of existing work, in particular, the African leadership shown through the New Partnership for African Development (NEPAD) and the African Union. The Commission is supported in its work by a Secretariat based in London; more information can be found on www.commissionforafrica.org.</p>
<p>Partner organizations:</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>Confirmed speakers:</p> <p>Some Commissioners and representatives of the Secretariat will speak on behalf of the Commission for Africa.</p>
<p>Contact information:</p> <p>Andrew Jackson Commission for Africa africa_secretariat@dfid.gov.uk</p>