

Press Release

SOUTH AFRICAN PHOTOVOLTAIC INDUSTRY TO MEET AT AFRICAPVSEC 2014 CONVENTION IN DURBAN 27-29 MARCH

- **About 80 Speaker from around the world will talk about Photovoltaics in Africa**
- **111 organisations from 38 countries have applied for an oral or visual presentation in Durban**
- **Conference Programme Encompasses Scope of Photovoltaic Technologies, Markets and Applications**

Munich/Durban 11 March 2014 – The detailed Conference Programme of the Africa Photovoltaic Solar Energy Conference and Exhibition (AfricaPVSEC) taking place from 27 to 29 March 2014 in Durban, South Africa, has been published online at <http://www.africapvsec.com>.

Following a comprehensive review of submitted abstracts to present at the inaugural AfricaPVSEC, the event organisers' Scientific Committee has finalised the programme of the first African Photovoltaic Solar Energy Conference. Under the guidance of Prof. Vivian Alberts, University of Johannesburg, and coordinated by the Technical Programme Chairman Dr. Arnulf Jäger-Waldau, European Commission, DG Joint Research Centre, the Conference Programme was defined and structured.

Comments of Prof. Vivian Alberts, University of Johannesburg: "The AfricaPVSEC Conference presents a perfect platform to promote photovoltaic technology as a viable alternative source of energy in Africa. This conference and exhibition aims to enhance trade and business opportunities, linking African-based professionals, academics and their global counterparts for an open exchange of ideas and information among businesses, organizations and government agencies that will maximise PV adoption and proliferation throughout the continent."

At this first AfricaPVSEC – planned to be an annual important convention on solar industry calendars of events – international speakers representing Algeria, Brazil, Congo, Germany, Kenya, Italy, Morocco, Nigeria, Portugal, Rwanda, South Africa, Syria, USA, Tunisia will discuss their latest scientific results and proposals for technical advancement.

The conference program covers three main topics, focusing on the wide spectrum of photovoltaic technology ranging from materials research to business models and policy assessments. Dr. Giovanni De Santi, European Commission, DG JRC, Director of the Institute for Energy and Transport, will lead a high-ranking delegation of the European Commission.

Dr. Arnulf Jäger-Waldau, the Technical Programme Chairman of the AfricaPVSEC, comments: “Solar-generated photovoltaic electricity is a key energy source to meet the rapidly growing energy demand in Africa, which cannot be met by traditional sources alone. The launch of AfricaPVSEC underscores the fact that there is not only a rapidly growing African scientific community in the area of Solar Photovoltaic Power Generation, but that the installation of solar photovoltaic electricity-generation systems is accelerating in many African countries.” More information: <http://programme.africapvsec.info/>

Background:

AfricaPVSEC is an initiative of EU PVSEC and SNEC, which partnered to promote the photovoltaic solar energy sector in Africa and to bring together leading experts, researchers, public authorities, representatives of international organizations, donors, and NGOs. AfricaPVSEC is supported by European and international organisations including: the European Commission, Asian Photovoltaic Industry Association (APVIA), African Renewable Energy Alliance (AREA), ECOWAS Regional Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECREEE), the International Photovoltaic Equipment Association (IPVEA), International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) and the University of Johannesburg.

The Conference Programme is coordinated by the European Commission, DG Joint Research Centre.

For further information please visit: <http://www.africapvsec.com>

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