



PRESS RELEASE

AGIS'11: Third Action for Global Information Sharing to promote Equality through Language and Cultural Diversity

The United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the Localisation Research Center (LRC), and the Center for the Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) are bringing together business people, technology experts, linguists and policy and decision makers in language and technology fields from around the world from 1-2 December 2011 to discuss and develop innovative solutions that will allow the world in general and Africa in particular to listen to its diverse voices in their own language.

The theme of third AGIS'11 is '*Promoting Equality through Language and Cultural Diversity*'. Participants will address issues among others language and technology policy, language and business opportunities in Africa, human language technologies and language service delivery for development, etc.

For the first time, AGIS '11 (Action for Global Information Sharing) will connect Africa's language industry and policy- and decision-makers with the mainstream localization and translation industry and researchers.

Action for Global Information Sharing (AGIS) is an annual global event to promote access to information and knowledge for all. Access to information and knowledge in one's own language is not just a fundamental human right; it is also a pre-requisite for development, inclusion and economic growth.

Following the highly successful AGIS '09 (<http://www.agis09.org/>) in Limerick, Ireland and AGIS '10 (<http://www.agis10.org/>) in New Delhi, India events, AGIS '11 was launched in New Delhi, India on 07 December 2010. The third AGIS (AGIS '11) event will be hosted by the ICT and Science & Technology Division (ISTD) of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) at the United Nations Conference Centre in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 1 to 2 December 2011. Ms Aida Opoku-Mensah, Director of ISTD and Reinhard Schäler launched the AGIS '11 in Addis Ababa during the UNECA's second Committee on Development Information, Science and Technology (CODIST II) held in May 2011 which was attended by all African stakeholders.

AGIS'11 calls on interested contributors to submit proposals on or before 30 September 2011 through the proposal submission form available at www.agis11.org/registration/propose/. Proposals will be evaluated based on the submission of short abstracts (maximum 300 words) and selected speakers will be notified by 15 October 2011. Online registration for participation at AGIS '11 (www.agis11.org/registration) is also open until 18 November 2011.