

YES Kenya 2006 Inaugurated with Pomp and Color

3rd Global Youth Employment Summit “YES Kenya 2006” has been inaugurated with pomp and color by HE President Mwai Kibaki on 13th September at Kenyatta International Conference Centre.

Dr. Salam Al – Zobbai, Deputy Prime Minister of Iraq delivered the keynote address to the delegates at the inauguration function.

A number of dignitaries from UN organization and ministers from more than 15 countries graced the opening ceremony. Along with this more than 2000 Delegates from over 120 countries have come to Nairobi to take part in the summit. Newly appointed president and CEO of EDC Incorporation, Mr. Luther Luedtke was also there for the opening ceremony.

While addressing the delegates attending the summit, HE President Mwai Kibaki said that his government has taken important steps to bolster Youth Unemployment. He also informed that a Youth Enterprise Development Fund has been created with the contribution of 1 Billion Shillings from the Government. The YES Executive Director, Ms Poonam Ahluwalia, said that the YES Model represented a good opportunity for youth to explore their potential and take them to next level. “She said that the Government should recognize the potential of youth and allow them to set pace on employment matters. This will enable them to become global role models”

Immediately after inaugurating the summit the president moved to inaugurate the Innovative Market place, where young innovators from 45 countries were waiting to showcase their success in field of employment creation in their respective countries.

“I am impressed to see young people making use of their talents and creativity to earn a healthy living” said Dr. Salam, the Deputy Prime Minister of Iraq while visiting the Innovative Market Place.

The first day of the summit was marked by the presentation of the two Plenary Sessions and 8 Break out sessions. The major Plenary Session revolved around the Theme of the Summit “Creating Markets Unleashing Entrepreneurship” a workable approach. This Plenary session was addressed by speakers like Nick Moon, Co – Founder of Kick Start, Cheick Diarra, Africa Chair of Microsoft, Nardos Bekele – Thomas, Deputy Resident Representative for UNDP Kenya and Samuel Gonzalez, Country Coordinator for YES Mexico.
