**MEDIA ADVISORY**

**EVENT:** **Press conference with international education union leaders, Cape Town**

**DATE:** Thursday, 21 July from 12:30-14:00

**CONTACT:** +32 473 950 275 or pav@ei-ie.org

**DEPUTY PRESIDENT MOTHLANTE TO OPEN EI CONGRESS
IN CAPE TOWN**

Education International (EI), the organisation representing 30 million teachers and education workers worldwide, is holding its sixth World Congress from 22-26 July in Cape Town. The Congress theme is: ‘Building the future through quality education’.

The Congress will be opened officially by Deputy President Motlan of theSouth Africa and addressed by Carol Bellamy, Chair of the US$1 billion Fast Track Initiative. The Congress will also hear from representatives of UNESCO, OECD and inter-governmental organisations with an interest in promoting education for all.

The 1,600 Congress participants will include the most influential education union leaders and teachers from Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, Europe and Americas. They will use their expertise to review recent developments in global education policy and debate best practices to recruit, prepare and support teachers and other education employees to deliver effectively quality public education for all. Congress delegates from EI’s 400 member organisations will be asked to adopt a comprehensive policy on the future development of education. This policy will then be used by EI globally and by its members nationally, to advocate for improved quality in education systems throughout the world.

EI Congress encourages open discussion among participants. Major debates will explore the impact of the global economic and financial crisis on the provision of quality education. However, this cannot come at the cost of teachers’ rights and appropriate conditions of employment. The Congress will set EI’s course of work for the next four years, elect the union’s new leadership, and award two teachers with international recognition for their commitment to the profession.

**Due to high demand and for security reasons, media access to the press conference and main Congress will be limited. Attendees must register in advance**. Information about the Congress will be sent on registration. Lunch is provided before the press conference starts.

**PRESS CONFERENCE:**

**WHO: EI President** *Susan Hopgood*

 **EI General Secretary** *Fred van Leeuwen*

 **EI Vice President Africa** *Irene Duncan Adanusa*

 **NAPTOSA General Secretary** *Henry Hendricks*

 **SADTU General Secretary** *Mugwena Maluleke*

 **SAOU President** *Dr. Jopie Breed*

**WHAT:** Press conference on Congress theme: Building the future through quality education

**WHEN:** Thursday, 21 July from 12:30-14:00

**WHERE:** Room 1.63-1.64 in the Cape Town International Convention Centre

**HOW:**  Media interested in attending should RSVP immediately to: pav@ei-ie.org

**Education International**

Education International (EI) is the global union federation that represents 30 million education workers across 396 nationally affiliated unions in 171 countries. EI is proud to acknowledge the contribution of teachers and their unions to delivering high quality publically funded education for all from early childhood to higher education.

**EI Executive Board**

EI has an Executive Board that is elected at each World Congress. The Board is currently composed of 26 members:

**President:**

Susan HOPGOOD, ***Australia***

**Vice Presidents:**

Irene DUNCAN ADANUSA, ***Ghana***

Juçara Maria DUTRA VIEIRA, ***Brazil***

S. ESWARAN, ***India***

Haldis HOLST, ***Norway***

Reg WEAVER, ***United States of America***

**General Secretary:**

Fred VAN LEEUWEN, ***Netherlands***

**Members:**

Teopista BIRUNGI MAYANJA, ***Uganda***

Maria Teresa CABRERA, ***Dominican Republic***

José CAMPOS TRUJILLO, ***Spain***

Salimata DOUMBIA, ***Ivory Coast***

Patrick GONTHIER, ***France***

Mugwena MALULEKE, ***South Africa***

Grahame McCULLOCH, ***Australia***

Abdelaziz MOUNTASSIR, ***Morocco***

Yuzuru NAKAMURA, ***Japan***

Emily NOBLE, ***Canada***

Jorge PAVEZ URRUTIA, ***Chile***

Alain PÉLISSIER, ***Canada***

Patrick ROACH, ***United Kingdom***

Eva-Lis SIRÉN, ***Sweden***

Branimir STRUKELJ, ***Slovenia***

Ulrich THÖNE, ***Germany***

Randi WEINGARTEN, ***United States of America***

Lok YIM PHENG, ***Malaysia***

José Antonio ZEPEDA LÓPEZ, ***Nicaragua***

**PRESS CREDENTIALS APPLICATION FORM**

The sixth World Congress of Education International, which represents 30 million teachers and education workers around the world, will be held in Cape Town’s International Convention Centre (CTICC) from 22-26 July, 2011.

A pre-Congress press conference will take place with senior EI officials and guests from 12.30-14.00 on Thursday 21 July in the CTICC.

His Excellency President Jacob Zuma will make his opening address on the morning of Friday 22 July, followed by the EI President’s address.

There are a number of hotels in close proximity to the CTICC. Please visit: http://www.ei-ie.org/congress6/en/participants.php to see hotels that you can contact directly to make your own booking. EI will not subsidise accommodation costs for any media representatives.

Press credentials, the conference programme and documentation will be sent to registered media representatives in advance. **To register, please complete and return the form below**.

**No press or media representatives will be allowed access to the Congress Centre, press briefings or interviews with guest speakers without appropriate accreditation.**

**For further information contact: Pav Akhtar, tel: +32 473 950 275 or email: pav@ei-ie.org**

**PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM BY FRIDAY 15 JULY 2011**

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| **Please State Any special requirements:**  |  |

**RETURN TO:** Communications’ Unit, Education International, 5 Blvd du Roi Albert II, B-1210, Brussels, Belgium. **Email: pav@ei-ie.org Fax: +32 2224 0606**