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South African Institute of International Affairs

Cordially invites you to two special youth events on the COP 17 calendar:

Youth Climate Negotiations and presentation of a South African Durban Youth Protocol

After an intensive year-long programme involving research and presentations, 18 high school learners have been selected from across the country to take on the role of various sectors to hold their own youth climate negotiations. The simulated climate negotiations and the ensuing protocol forms part of SAIIA's Environmental Sustainability Project (ESP) for high school learners, and is sponsored by the US State Department and Sasol.

The negotiations, to be held on 28 November, will culminate in the presentation of learner research findings and the handover of a South African Durban Youth Protocol to take place the next day on 29 November, at an official UNFCCC COP17 side event.

SAIIA Youth Climate Negotiations

Date: 28 November 2011

Venue: Umngeni Room, Climate Change Response Expo (CCR)

Time: 09h00 – 15h15

South African Durban Youth Protocol Handover

Date: 29 November 2011

Venue: Levubu River Room, Durban Exhibition Centre (DEC), UNFCCC Side Events Rooms

Time: 15h00 – 16h30

For further information and to RSVP please email: chevon.erasmusporter@wits.ac.za or call +27 (0)11 339 2021 or +27 (0)82 820 8036

Event Background

The Environmental Sustainability Project (ESP) is a youth programme of the South African Institute of International Affairs (SAIIA). As a think tank with an area of research dedicated to climate change, SAIIA believes it is important for young people to understand that environmental issues go beyond littering or not turning off lights. Air and water pollution, deforestation, and food security are global concerns and many of these issues often affect people more directly in the developing world.

This year's ESP is themed 'Road to COP 17', and is divided into three parts: a research paper, a presentation, and finally a model or simulated climate summit taking place during the COP 17 proceedings in Durban.