



International Network for School Social Work
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GHANA BRAGS:
5th International School Social Work Conference to be in Accra, Ghana

The 5th International School Social Work Conference will be held in Accra, Ghana April 10 through 13, 2012. The official announcement was graced by government officials, members of the diplomatic missions, representatives of corporate organizations, humanitarian and civil society organizations, university lecturers, members of the School Social Work Association of Ghana, educationists, students and the media. In a speech delivered on her behalf, the Minister for Education, Mrs. Betty Mould Iddrisu, expressed happiness that the conference would be held in Africa and stated that Ghana and Africa look forward to the learning experiences to be gained from sharing experiences and best practices, and comparing notes with international partners.

Venue for the Conference in April 2012

The Accra International Conference Centre was built in 1991 to host the Heads of States meeting of the Non-Aligned Movement. It is the largest conference centre in Ghana with a conference hall sitting capacity of 1600 and other meeting room facilities.



Hotels close to the conference centre



Golden Tulip Alisa Hotel Novotel Mensvic Ange Hill Xpress Int.

Conference Updates

The Organizing Committee is so much excited about the upcoming 2012 5th International School Social Work Conference since it emphasizes Education for all the World's Children and we hope you can join us. We have received numerous interesting abstracts covering the Conference's thematic areas, and therefore look forward to an inspiring and interesting conference in Ghana.

There will be individual, group, panel, workshop and poster sessions by presenters from various countries, including Australia, Canada, Ghana, India, Iran, Korea, Nigeria, South Africa, United States of America and Zimbabwe. We are preparing a great line-up of speakers and would love to have your work showcased. Please email us if you would like more information or have questions about the conference. We look forward to seeing you from April 10th to 13th 2012 in Accra, Ghana. Please check our website regularly, as we continue to post new information.

We are still accepting abstracts/proposals for the 2012 Conference. More information can be found on our website. Please go online at www.sswaghana.org for the Abstract Proposal Form and contact Dr. Mavis Dako-Gyeke at <mailto:mavisdako@yahoo.com> if you have questions.

Whether or not you would be presenting, please make sure you attend. We want you to register early, so you can take advantage of the early bird rate. The registration form can be downloaded from our website. Once your registration is in place, please take the next step and book your hotel room. We have great discounted per night deals from selected nice hotels in Accra. Rooms are filling quickly, so get yours as soon as possible!! Information on hotels is posted on our website. There will be Airport pick-up and Shuttle Service in the mornings from attendees' hotels to the Conference venue and in the evening back to the hotels (April 10th-13th, 2012).

Tours/Recreation

Enjoy Ghana's beautiful beaches, take a guided tour through forests and/or a canopy walk at Kakum National Park. Take a historical tour and visit Ghana's castles, where a tour guide will take you through the era of the slave trade. Visit the Kwame Nkrumah Mausoleum where Ghana's first president who set the tone for independence not only in Ghana but also in Africa is buried.



A Brief on Ghana

Ghana is found on the West coast of Africa with an area of 238,500 square kilometres and a population of approximately 24 million people. Ghana is highly multi-ethnic and multi-lingual and was the first country to gain independence in sub-Saharan Africa in 1957 and set the pace for other countries in Africa to follow suit. Ghana has enjoyed a stable democracy since 1992 and serves as a good example of a working democracy, peace and stability in the region. Our presidents often act as ambassadors of peace in the region. The role Ghana played in hosting the Liberia Peace Talks is an example of Ghana's role in fostering peace. Ghana has been referred to as an 'Island of Peace' within a region that is plagued with conflict.

Accra is in a savannah zone and experiences tropical savannah climate. The city hosts the National Museum, the National Theatre, the Kwame Nkrumah Mausoleum, a cultural and Art Centre, historic castles, and the Du Bois Centre which holds research works and the graves of the African American Scholar W.E.B. Du Bois and his wife Shirley Graham Du Bois.

In Ghana, education is a government priority hence several measures have been initiated to promote basic education for all children. The Ghana School Feeding Programme, the School Capitation Grant, free tuition, free textbooks and exercise books, and free school uniforms for deprived children are among government's laudable efforts at achieving basic education for all children in Ghana. A Girl's Education Unit has also been established within the Ghana Education Service to help achieve gender parity.

Ghanaians are among the friendliest people in Africa. Enjoy the Ghanaian warm *Akwaaba* when you arrive in our country. We have a rich cultural heritage. Each of the 10 regions in Ghana has its own beautiful and unique culture. Ghana has a wide range of traditional dances which every visitor to Ghana falls in love with.

