



Roundtable II:

Exploring the Multiple Roles of Trade Unions in Africa Today

African unions have been struggling to find a clear ideological discourse, as well as well-designed strategies to tackle the challenges of current political and economic realities. Nevertheless, unions have played, multiple roles throughout Africa's history. In order to shed light on the diverse and complex nature of organised labour in Africa the African Studies Centre's (ASC) 'Trade Unions and Labour Issues in Africa' research group, in cooperation with the International Institute of Social History (IISH) is organising a Roundtable on the multiple roles of trade unions in Africa today.

The Roundtable will bring together academics, practitioners, as well as policy-makers interested in the diverse nature of African trade unionism; ranging from their role as political change-makers, to their activities as entrepreneurs. Please find the preliminary programme below.

The Roundtable will be held at Leiden University, **Wassenaarseweg 52**, in room **SB 45** (5 minutes from Leiden Central Station), from 10 am until 6 pm on Wednesday 10 September 2014. Feel free to join us for specific sessions if you are not able to attend the entire programme.

Registration is free of charge and can be done by sending an email to z.vlaminck@ascleiden.nl.

We are looking forward to welcoming you on **Wednesday 10 September**.

Programme

Time	Topic	Speaker	Discussant
09:30 – 10:00	Registration		
10:00 – 10:15	Welcome	André Leliveld (ASC), Mayke Kaag (ASC) and Stefano Bellucci (IISH)	
10:15 – 11:15	Introduction: African Trade Unions in Times of Flexibilisation	Film followed by plenary discussion	
11:15 – 12:15	Challenges for Unionisation in Kenya	Collins Miruka (North West University)	Stefano Bellucci (IISH)
12:15 – 13:30	Lunch and Networking		
13:30 – 14:30	Trade Unions and Organising in the Informal Economy	Massoud Omar (Ahmadu Bello University)	William Baah-Boateng (University of Ghana)
14:30 – 15:15	Trade Unions and Social Protection	André Leliveld & Zjos Vlaminck (ASC)	Esther Droppers (CNV Internationaal)
15:15 – 15:30	Coffee Break		
15:30 – 16:30	Trade Unions as Entrepreneurs	Mark McQuinn (SOAS)	Tuur Elzinga (FNV Mondiaal)
16:30 – 16:45	Knowledge Platform on Inclusive Development Policies	Karin Nijenhuis (ASC)	
16:45 – 17:00	Strategic Actors Research Project	Mayke Kaag (ASC) & William Baah-Boateng (University of Ghana)	
17:00 – 17:15	Round-up and Conclusions	André Leliveld (ASC) and Stefano Bellucci (IISH)	
17:15 – 18:15	Drinks		