

Professional News

News

National Assembly Passes FOI Bill again

The Nigerian National Assembly, made up of two chambers- House of Representative and Senate, has passed the Freedom of Information (FOI) Bill. It is now awaiting the harmonisation of the two chambers before it will be presented to His Excellency President Goodluck Jonathan for his assent. It will be recalled that the former National Assembly passed the bill after much foot dragging. Unfortunately, the required assent was not given before the end of the administration of President Olusegun Obasanjo, hence the present sojourn of the bill in the National Assembly. Feelers from the Presidency are that the President would assent to the bill once it is presented to him. Some countries in Africa- South Africa, Uganda, Angola and Zimbabwe have enacted the FOI bill.

Libraries get a Boost

The Nigerian President, His Excellency, President Goodluck Jonathan, launched the "Bring Back the

Book" campaign recently. The aim of the campaign is to improve the reading culture of Nigerians, aimed at having a knowledge society. The campaign was launched on December 20, 2010. Since then, many stakeholders, including librarians in Nigeria, have been holding seminars, public lectures and workshops on how they can benefit from the unprecedented interest of a Nigerian President in improving the reading culture of Nigerians.

Forth Coming Conferences

Second Session of the Committee on Development Information Science and Technology (CODIST- II). Addis Ababa, (UNCC-AA) Ethiopia, 2 to 5 May 2011. Organised by the United Nations Conference Centre Addis Ababa, (UNCC-AA) Ethiopia. Theme: Innovation for Africa's Industrial Development. For further information contact: www.uneca.org/codist

African Library Summit 2011, Muldersdrift, Johannesburg, Guateng, South Africa, 11-13 May, 2011. Organised by the University of South Africa (Unisa) library and the IFLA Regional Office for Africa and IFLA. Africa Section. For further information contact: <http://www.cvent.com/EVENTS/Info/Summary.aspx?e=50a1a753-e739-4261-9ba3-bca44e41d9cd>