



AiB Weekly Newsletter – Public | Monday 05.21.2012

AiB NEWS UPDATE

TOWN HALL MEETING WITH H.E. STEPHEN KALONZO MUSYOKA, VP AND MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS OF KENYA

On Friday May 18, 2012, H.E. Stephen Kalonzo Musyoka, VP and Minister of Home Affairs of Kenya met with the Kenyan Diaspora to discuss the role of the Diaspora in the country's development and the state of current affairs in Kenya. Members of Parliament as well as H.E. Ambassador Elkanah Odembo accompanied Mr. Musyoka. The event was organized and coordinated by the Kenyan Embassy in Washington, DC and the Kenyan Advisory Council of New England. A crowd of about 250+ attended the gathering which took place at the Marriott Hotel in Newton. Among the distinguished guests, "Auntie" Zeituni Onyango, the Aunt of the 44th President of the United States President Barack Hussein Obama was there to promote her book "Tears of Abuse – Her Story of Struggle and Triumph". Around 7:30p the crowd was greeted by organizers of the event with a warm "Jambo, Jambo" followed by an introduction of the delegation. Two young and promising Kenyan-Americans sang the Star Spangled Banner and then the Kenyan national anthem was played.

Bishop Joshua Wambua was one of the first speakers to address the audience. He spoke about a cohesive diaspora community and mentioned a partnership between Kenya and Boston College that would benefit Kenyans in general. Then Mercy Maina engaged the VP on the importance of a healthcare agenda. Dr. Ludeki Chweya shared his experience living abroad as a member of the Diaspora and how he finally decided to go back home to Kenya as he felt that living in the Diaspora was putting him behind by 10 years compared to his peers living back home in Kenya. Dr. Chweya went on to explain how he landed a position with the Office of the Vice President and the difficult realities of public administration he started to face.

Mr. Odembo pointed out that there are about 600,000 Kenyans living in the U.S and that the remittances sent back home contributed to about 10% of the Kenyan budget. Mr. Odembo added that if the Kenyan Diaspora were members of an hypothetical Kenyan region, it would be the wealthiest one.

Mr. Mbao, MP for Maragua suggested a representation for the Diaspora in the Parliament. He also encouraged members of the Diaspora to go back home if after 10 years they have not accomplished much the same way a government is asked to step down if there are no results to show.

The Kenyan VP highlighted President's Kibaki's legacy as completely freeing Kenyans and being the key architect in enabling railway and oil pipeline projects centered around the port of Lamu and strengthening the cooperation between Ethiopia, Kenya and South Sudan. Mr. Musyoka also indicated that he played a vital role in the negotiations of those infrastructure projects.

Social | Educational | Business | Entertainment





Mr. Musyoka also discussed his busy itinerary as he was headed to Minesota, Dallas, the British Virgin Islands and China. He also cautioned the Diaspora on the danger tribalism and the importance for Kenyans to be united for a greater cause: the strengthening and the development of the country. He explained that the new constitution that he helped put together was a great asset for Kenyans. Mr. Musyoka was a some point critical of the media pointing out the inaccuracies in the reporting. He also spoke about the upcoming presidential elections in Kenya and his candidacy, the growing Kenyan economy and the role that Kenya is playing as the emerging leading nation in East Africa.

The session concluded with an Q&A during which Ambassador Odembo addressed a body repatriation question stating that there are 1 reported death a week in the Diaspora for about 2 non reported and that the government could not simply assume the burden of repatriating bodies back home. Mr. Odembo called upon Kenyans in the Diaspora's solidarity to resolve the matter. Mr. Musyoka answered a human rights question stating that a lot of work has been done on the issue and that the issue of capital punishment which he is opposed needed to be addressed in Kenya.

[See pictures below - to view all pictures go to AiB's website under Social – Pictures Galleries].





AD NET TUESDAYS | RYLES JAZZ AND CABARET CLUB IN INMAN SQUARE

African Diaspora Networking Tuesdays will take place at Ryles Jazz and Cabaret Club on Tuesday, May 22, 2012 – Come to network, eat and learn how to dance salsa.

AD Net Tuesdays | Networking and Salsa Dancing

WHEN: **Tuesday**, May 22, 2012 | 7:30pm to 1am

WHERE: Ryles Jazz and Cabaret Club | 212 Hampshire Street Cambridge, MA 02139

WHAT: Please join us at Ryles Jazz Club in Cambridge for a great night of classes, dance and fun Salsa Classes with Hedwigde and Company · 7:30-8:30pm Level I: Beginner Salsa Class · 7:30-8:30pm Levels II & III: Beginner/Intermediate Salsa Class · 8:30-9:30pm All Levels Bachata Class . 9:30 PM to 1:00 AM Social Dancing Free Parking. All ages - Please send email to [voury@makumbaestates.com] with your name info if you want to get following discounts: social dance + classes for \$11 instead of \$13, social dance only for \$6 instead of \$8.

Hakuna Sundays | Africans in Boston networking mixer

WHEN: **Sunday**, May 27, 2012 | 6pm-10pm

WHERE: TBD – Go to www.africansinboston.org - Social – Events Calendar

WHAT: Join us, meet Africans in the Boston area, friends of Africans and others and have some fun !

Hakuna Sundays is a bi-weekly social for African students, young professionals, entrepreneurs, business men and women and others to network. **Hakuna Sundays** is run by AiB. AiB is an organization that fosters the socio- economic and educational development of its members by offering a platform that connects the African Diaspora in the greater Boston area and in the state of Massachusetts. The organization provides its members with various resources by cultivating meaningful and professional relationships and by creating a thriving environment. For more info: www.africansinboston.org - Social/ Event Calendar or email : info@africansinboston.org

AIB MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AVAILABLE ONLINE

You now have to be a registered AiB member to continue receiving the full version of the weekly newsletters. Membership benefits include full version of the weekly newsletter, jobs/internships opportunities, functions, networking events, free tickets to movie shows and art shows , discounts to cruise events and more ...

- Register online: www.africansinboston.org - Membership tab

- Request a membership application form: info@africansinboston.org





TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP

- o Student: \$20/year : Student Benefits: Newsletter, limited access to AiB membership database
- o Associate: \$50/year : Associate Benefits: Newsletter, access to AiB database
- o Full: \$100/year : Full Benefits: Newsletter, full access to AiB database, voting rights

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

AD Net Tuesdays | Networking and Salsa Dancing

WHEN: **Tuesday**, May 21, 2012 | 7:30pm to 1am

WHERE: Ryles Jazz and Cabaret Club | 212 Hampshire Street Cambridge, MA 02139

WHAT: Please join us at Ryles Jazz Club in Cambridge for a great night of classes, dance and fun Salsa Classes with Hedwigde and Company · 7:30-8:30pm Level I: Beginner Salsa Class · 7:30-8:30pm Levels II & III: Beginner/Intermediate Salsa Class · 8:30-9:30pm All Levels Bachata Class . 9:30 PM to 1:00 AM Social Dancing Free Parking. All ages - Cost: \$13 w/classes - Please send email to [voury@makumbaestates.com] with your name info if you want to get following discounts: social dance + classes for \$11 instead of \$13, social dance only for \$6 instead of \$8.

Hakuna Sundays | Africans in Boston networking mixer

WHEN: **Sunday**, May 27, 2012 | 6pm-10pm

WHERE: TBD – Go to www.africansinboston.org - Social – Events Calendar

WHAT: Join us, meet Africans in the Boston area, friends of Africans and others and have some fun !

Hakuna Sundays is a bi-weekly social for African students, young professionals, entrepreneurs, business men and women and others to network. **Hakuna Sundays** is run by AiB. AiB is an organization that fosters the socio- economic and educational development of its members by offering a platform that connects the African Diaspora in the greater Boston area and in the state of Massachusetts. The organization provides its members with various resources by cultivating meaningful and professional relationships and by creating a thriving environment. For more info: www.africansinboston.org - Social/ Event Calendar or email : info@africansinboston.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

RIAC | Men's Health Fair Focusing on Prostate Cancer

WHEN: **Saturday**, June 23, 2012 | 10am to 3pm

WHERE: Yawkey Club of Roxbury | 115 Warren St, Boston, MA 02119

WHAT: Men's Health Fair focusing on prostate cancer awareness | Resources – Food – Music – Information – Health Screenings | For more information call 617-238-2430 | Funded by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health

05.21.2012 – Africans in Boston © | info@africansinboston.org | 617.623.1413

Social | Educational | Business | Entertainment



www.africansinboston.org



Africans in Boston

www.africansinboston.org



**AFRICANS
IN BOSTON**

“A universe of dreams,
a world of possibilities”

Hakuna Sundays

www.africansinboston.org



“No worries, Be happy”

Makumba Estates

191 Sumner Street
Newton Centre, MA
617-623-1413
617-244-2755

www.makumbaestates.com



“Because Life is Beautiful”

My Buzz 365

485 Massachusetts Ave. -Suite 300
Cambridge, MA 02139
1-800-316-1460

www.mybuzz365.com



“Your Buzz is our success”

Karibu Restaurant

10 Crescent Street
Waltham, MA 02453
781-899-7444
781-888-9239

www.tasteofkaribu.com



“Delicious food for all tastes”

AD Net Tuesdays

Ryles Jazz Club and Cabaret
212 Hampshire St. Cambridge
Every Tuesdays – 7:30p
Salsa Classes
Social Dancing



“Networking and Salsa Dancing”

Social | Educational | Business | Entertainment

