MAR09-2008-007656

Abstract for an Invited Paper for the MAR09 Meeting of the American Physical Society

Physics in Africa: The Case of Congo

BERNARD M'PASSI-MABIALA, Marien NGouabi University

We will present a review on the state of research and education in physics in the Republic of Congo, one developing country in Central Africa. Special emphasis will be placed on the School of Science of the Marien NGouabi University located in the capital, Brazzaville. We will also discuss the impact of the Physics Department within this University as a whole. One of the main problems in Africa is the serious lack of equipment to provide adequate hands-on trainings for students and for faculty to perform forefront research. To illustrate strategies for the development of Physics in the continent, we will describe some ongoing inter-continental collaborations between our university and some neighboring countries, along with some ways for expanding the framework of the interactions between US and African physicists.