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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA
SUB REGIONAL OFFICE FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA

Joint Intergovernmental Committee of Senior Officials and Experts of Eastern and Southern Africa

10 - 13 November 2026
Windhoek, Namibia

PROGRAMME OF WORK

DAY 1 | Tuesday, 10 November 2026

Time	Activity
08h00 – 08h30	***Registration***
08h30 – 08h45	**Review and Adoption of the Agenda**
	Co-Chairs:
08h45 – 11h00	**SESSION 1: Macroeconomic and Social Overview of the Region**
	Co-Chairs:
08h45 – 09h15	Presentation on Macroeconomic and Social Overview of Eastern Africa, Mr. Andrew Mold, ECA
09h15 – 09h30	Country interventions
09h30 – 10h00	Presentation on Macroeconomic and Social Overview of Southern Africa, Mr. Mzwanele Mfunwa, ECA
10h00 – 10h15	Country interventions
10h15 – 11h00	**Interactive Question and Answer Session**
11h00 – 11h15	***Health Break***
11h15 – 12h30	**SESSION 2: Theme Presentation: Bridging Eastern and Southern Africa: Connectivity, Trade and Investment for a More Integrated Continent**
	Co-Chairs:
11h15 – 11h35	**Presentation —** Presentation of the thematic study, Mr. Innocent Bayai, ECA
11h35 – 11h40	Intervention 1: Mr. Andrew Mold, ECA
11h40 – 11h45	Intervention 2: Ms. Eunice Kamwendo, ECA
11h45 – 12h30	**Interactive Question and Answer Session**
12h30 – 13h00	**SESSION 3: Theme Presentation of the 2026/7 Economic Report on Africa**
12h30 – 12h40	**Presentation —** Presentation of the ERA 2026/7, Ms. Zuzana Schwidrowski, ECA
12h40 – 13h00	**Interactive Question and Answer Session**
13h00 – 14h00	***Lunch Break***
14h00 – 15h45	**SESSION 4: Regional and international agendas and other special initiatives**
	Co-Chairs:
14h00 – 14h15	Presentation of the working paper, Ms. Elena Acebes, ECA
14h15 – 14h30	Presentation of the working paper, Ms. Ranhee Kim, ECA
14h30 – 15h00	**Interactive Question and Answer Session**
15h00 – 15h15	***Health Break***

Time	Activity
15h15 -17h30	**SESSION 5: State of regional integration in Eastern and Southern Africa: trends in trade facilitation** ***Moderator:*** **Ms. Zodwa Mabuza, ECA**
15h15-15h35	Presentation on the "State of Regional Integration in Eastern and Southern Africa: Trends in Trade Facilitation"— Mr. Rodgers Mukwaya, ECA
15h35-15h55	Presentation on "Grain Trade in Eastern and Southern Africa"—Mr. Simuwana Simon Mulenga, SADC Grains
15h55-16h15	Presentation on "Linking Southern and Eastern African through Intermodal Transport corridor" – Ms. Sharon Simwanza, Mpungulu Port
16h15-17h45	**Interactive Question and Answer Session**

DAY 2 | Wednesday, 11 November 2026

Time	Activity
09h00 – 10h00	**Opening Session** *MC:* **Namibia**
	Welcoming remarks • UN Resident Coordinator, Namibia, Ms. Hopolang Phororo • Guest of Honour, Hon. Ericah Shafudah, MP., Minister of Finance, Namibia • Outgoing Bureau Chair, Eastern Africa: Uganda • Outgoing Bureau Chair, Southern Africa: Eswatini • Director, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Sub-regional Office for Southern Africa, Ms. Eunice Kamwendo
10h00 – 10h30	***Health Break***
10h30 – 10h40	**Constitution of the ICSOE Bureaus**
	Co-Chairs:
10h40 – 11h50	**Ministerial Segment: A Conversation with the Leaders** Moderators: Mr. Andrew Mold and Ms. Eunice Kamwendo Presentation: **The Buy Africa Initiative: Catalysing Regional Value Chains and Intra-Africa —** Hon. Neal Rijkenberg - Minister of Finance, Kingdom of Eswatini Panel Discussion • Hon. Radonirina Lucas Rabearimanga, Minister of Energy and Hydrocarbons, Madagascar • Hon. Selma Ashipala-Musavyi, Minister of International Relations and Trade, Namibia • Hon. Cissy Mulondo, State Minister of Finance, Uganda • H.E. David Masondo, Deputy Minister of Finance, South Africa • Hon. Dennis Lazoro Londo, Deputy Minister: Industry and Trade, Tanzania
11h50 – 12h45	**SESSION 5: State of Regional Integration in Eastern and Southern Africa: Trends in Trade Facilitation (Continuation)** **Moderator: Ms. Paulina Elago**
11h50-12h15	Panel Discussion: Opportunities and Strategies for Deepening Trade and Economic Integration between Eastern and Southern Africa Panel Members: • Mr. Christopher Mugaga, Zimbabwe National Chamber of Commerce (ZNCC) • Mr. Thomas Andrew Mcharo, Ministry of Industry and Trade, Tanzania • Ms. Daisy Kambalame, Malawi Confederation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (MCCCI) • Mr. Raymond Shoniwa, Southern African Railways Association (SARA) • Representative, Government of South Africa
12h15 – 13h00	**Interactive Question and Answer Session**

Time	Activity
13h00 – 14h00	***Lunch Break***
14h00 – 17h45	**SESSION 6: Energy Connectivity, ICT and Regional Power Market Pooling in Support of Industrialization in Eastern and Southern Africa** **Moderator: Ms. Olayinka Bandele, ECA**
14h00 – 14h20	Presentation: Mr. Oliver Maponga, ECA
14h20 – 15h15	Panel discussion • Mr. James Wahogo, East Africa Power Pool • Mr. Wilson Masango, Southern African Power Pool • Ms. Halima Letamo, ITU • Mr. Kudakwashe Ndhlukula, SACREEE
15h15 – 15h30	***Health Break***
15h30 – 15h40	• Mr. Yohannes Hailu, ECA
15h40 – 17h45	**Interactive Question and Answer Session**
18h00 –	Cocktail reception – kindly hosted by the Government of Namibia

DAY 3 | Thursday, 12 November 2026

Time	Activity
08h30 – 12h30	**SESSION 7: From Profitable Banking to Productive Finance: Reducing the Cost of Credit for Investment in Eastern and Southern Africa** **Moderator: Ms. Fatima Tesi Kaven, Business Report –The New Times**
08h30 – 09h15	Presentations: 'Achieving Financial Stability and Growth in Africa,' presented by Ricardo Gottschalk, RCO South Africa 'Credit and Blame – the (Worrying) State of Domestic Financial Intermediation in Eastern and Southern Africa' Presented by Andrew Mold, ECA
09h15 – 10h30	**Round-table** • Central Bank of Namibia Representative • COMESA Business Council • Trade and Development Bank • National Treasury, South Africa • National Treasury, Kenya • Bank of Zambia
10h30 – 10h45	***Health Break***
10h45 – 11h00	Presentation – 'Digital Financial Innovation in Eastern Africa – a Case Study' presented by Kato Kimbugwe, Africa School of Governance
11h00 – 11h10	Intervention – Ms. Sonia Essobmadje, ECA
11h10 – 12h30	**Interactive Question and Answer Session**
12h30 – 13h30	***Lunch Break***
13h30 – 17h30	**SESSION 8: State of Tourism in Eastern and Southern Africa** **Moderator: Mr. Frederick Golooba-Mutebi, Independent Researcher, Writer, Columnist, and Analyst**
13h30 – 14h00	Presentation: "State of Tourism in Eastern and Southern Africa" – Geoffrey Manyara, ECA
14h00 – 15h00	Panel discussion: • Ms. Maureen Kahonge, Director Commercial & Communications, African Airlines Association (AFRAA) • Mr. Kwakye Donkor, CEO African Tourism Partners • Mr. Ismail Garo, Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) • Ms. Charmaine Matheus, Chief of Marketing, Namibia Tourism Board
15h00 – 15h15	***Health Break***
15h15 – 17h30	**Interactive Question and Answer Session**

DAY 4 | Friday, 13 November 2026

Time	Activity
09h30 – 10h15	**SESSION 9: Presentation of the activity report of the SRO-EA and SRO-SA since the last sessions of the ICSOEs and programme of work for the remainder of the 2026 annual programme**
09h30 – 09h40	Presentation by Eastern Africa, Ms. Emelang Leteane, ECA
09h40 – 09h50	Presentation by Southern Africa, Mr. Henry Lubinda
09h50 – 10h15	Interactive Question and Answer Session
10h15 – 10h45	**SESSION 10: Presentation of the CoM 2027 Theme**
10h15 – 10h25	Presentation of the theme of the 2027 Conference of African Ministers of Finance and Economic Development (CoM-59)
10h25 – 10h45	**Interactive Question and Answer Session**
10h45 – 11h45	***Health Break***
11h45 – 12h45	**SESSION 11: Consideration of the Draft Outcome Statement**
12h45 – 13h00	**Any Other Business**
13h00 – 13h15	**Closing of the Joint Meeting**
13h15 – 13h45	Press conference
13h15 – 14h15	***Lunch Break***