Draft programme of work

Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development

Tuesday, 23 April

8.30–9 a.m. Registration

9–10.30 a.m. Opening of the session (agenda item 1)

Venue: United Nations Conference Centre, Banquet Hall

Chair: Minister of Hydraulics, Sanitation and the Environment, Niger, and Chair of the outgoing Bureau, Maizama Abdoulaye

Master of ceremonies:
- Journalist, Hannane Ferdjani

Statements:
- Minister of Hydraulics, Sanitation and the Environment, Niger, and Chair of the outgoing Bureau, Maizama Abdoulaye
- Executive Secretary, Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Claver Gatete
- Deputy Chairperson, African Union Commission, Monique Nsanzabaganwa
- Minister for Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and the Diaspora, Equatorial Guinea, Simeón Oyono Esono Angüe
- Prime Minister of Uganda, Robinah Nabbanja
- Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations, Amina Mohammed, representing the Secretary-General
Opening keynote address: Minister of Planning and Development, Ethiopia, Fitsum Assefa

10.30–11 a.m.  Group photo and coffee break

11 a.m.–1 p.m.  High-level panel 1: Stepping up ambition and innovative solutions to eradicate poverty and reinforce the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want, of the African Union (agenda item 2)

Venue: United Nations Conference Centre, Banquet Hall

Chair: Minister of Hydraulics, Sanitation and the Environment, Niger, and Chair of the outgoing Bureau, Maizama Abdoulaye

Moderator: Journalist, Hannane Ferdjani

Keynote address on the second 10-year implementation plan of Agenda 2063, Deputy Chairperson, African Union Commission, Monique Nsanzabaganwa

Presentation on the highlights of the 2024 Africa Sustainable Development Report, focusing on innovative and transformative actions for integrated and accelerated implementation of the two agendas, Deputy Executive Secretary (Programme) and Chief Economist, ECA, Hanan Morsy

Panellists:

- Minister of State for Planning and Development, Ethiopia, Nemera Gebeyehu
- Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Africa, Cristina Duarte
- Assistant Administrator and Regional Director for Africa, United Nations Development Programme, Ahunna Eziakonwa
- Executive Director, Pan African Climate Justice Alliance, Mithika Mwenda
- Group President and Managing Director, Eastern and Southern African Trade and Development Bank, Admassu Tadesse

General discussion

1–1.30 p.m.  Organizational matters (agenda item 3)

Venue: United Nations Conference Centre, Banquet Hall

(a)  Election of the Bureau

Chair: Minister of Hydraulics, Sanitation and the Environment, Niger, and Chair of the outgoing Bureau, Maizama Abdoulaye

(b)  Adoption of the agenda and programme of work

Chair: Chair of the Bureau

1.30–2.30 p.m.  Lunch break
2.30–4 p.m. **High-level panel 2: The race to 2030 and beyond: leveraging the Summit of the Future to get back on track towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals** (agenda item 4)

**Venue:** United Nations Conference Centre, Banquet Hall

**Chair:** Chair of the Bureau

**Opening statement:** Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations, Amina Mohammed

**Moderator:** Journalist, Hannane Ferdjani

**Guest speaker:** Under-Secretary-General for Policy, Guy Ryder

**Panellists:**

Dialogue group 1
- Permanent Representative of Namibia to the United Nations, and Co-Facilitator, Summit of the Future, Neville Gertze
- Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Mauritania, Niang Mamoudou

Dialogue group 2
- Special Coordinator for Development in the Sahel, Abdoulaye Mar Dieye

Dialogue group 3
- Chair, Expert Mechanism on the Right to Development, Human Rights Council, Isabelle Durant
- Co-Chair, Steering Committee, Africa Regional Mechanism for Major Groups and Other Stakeholders, Martin Tsounkeu

4.30–6 p.m. **High-level panel 3: Priorities of young people regarding the Summit of the Future and the reinforcement of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063** (agenda item 5)

**Venue:** United Nations Conference Centre, Banquet Hall

**Chair:** Chair of the Bureau

**Moderator:** Assistant Secretary-General for Youth Affairs, Felipe Paullier

**Panellists:**

Dialogue group 1
- Former President of Malawi, and member of the Advisory Committee for the twenty-ninth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Joyce Banda
• African Union Youth Envoy, Chido Cleopatra Mpemba

Dialogue group 2
• Administrator, Science and Technology Incubation Hub, Elevate Trust, and Founder, Mentor Me Please, Ropafadzo Sandra Shoko
• Vice-President, Pan African Youth Union, Mutesi Oliver

Dialogue group 3
• Chief Executive Officer, Wootlab Foundation, Chioma Okoro
• President, National Youth Council, Democratic Republic of the Congo, William Mukambila
• Director, YouLead Africa, Sodfa Daaji

Reflection on main messages: Under-Secretary-General for Policy, Guy Ryder

6.30–8 p.m.
Award ceremony of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) - Equatorial Guinea International Prize for Research in the Life Sciences

Wednesday, 24 April
9–10.30 a.m. Plenary round-table panel on voluntary national and local reviews and actions to reinforce institutions, policies, plans and budgets to speed up and scale up integrated implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 (agenda item 6)
Venue: United Nations Conference Centre, Banquet Hall
Chair: Chair of the Bureau
Moderator: Deputy Executive Secretary (Programme) and Chief Economist, ECA, Hanan Morsy
Panellists:
• Secretary of State, Ministry of Economy, Planning and International Cooperation, Chad, Sainta Ndem Ngoidi
• Permanent Secretary, Office of the Prime Minister of Uganda, Dunstan Balaba
• Mayor of Banjul, Rohey Malick Lowe
• Youth Champion, African Youth Sustainable Development Goals Summit, Olivia Tutu
• Chief Executive Officer, African Peer Review Mechanism secretariat, African Union Commission, Eddy Maloka

General discussion
10.30–11 a.m. Coffee break
11 a.m.–12.30 p.m. Plenary round-table panel on the transformation and modernization of statistical systems in order to
produce high-quality data and statistics that can be used to track progress and reinforce national policies and plans to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 (agenda item 7)

Venue: United Nations Conference Centre, Banquet Hall

Chair: Chair of the Bureau

Moderator: Director, Public Diplomacy, Research and Policy Analysis, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Botswana, Mavis Matenge

Panellists:

- Minister of Planning and Development, Ethiopia, Fitsum Assefa
- Government Statistician, Ghana Statistical Service, Samuel Kobina Annim
- Regional Director, East and Southern Africa Regional Office, United Nations Population Fund, Lydia Zigomo
- Director, Africa Hub, Development Initiatives, Stephen Chacha
- Senior Statistician, Namibia Statistics Agency, Fransina Amutenya
- Director, African Centre for Statistics, ECA, Oliver Chinganya

General discussion

12.30–1.30 p.m. Launch of the Economic Report on Africa 2024: Investing in a Just and Sustainable Transition in Africa

1.30–2.30 p.m. Lunch break

2.30–4.30 p.m. Parallel meetings for an in-depth review of progress made, peer learning and acceleration actions regarding the sub-themes of the Regional Forum (agenda item 8)

(a) No poverty

Venue: United Nations Conference Centre, Banquet Hall

Chair: Chair of the Bureau

Moderator: Country Representative, United Nations Children’s Fund in Ethiopia, Aboubacar Kampo

Presenter: Chief, Social Policy Section, Gender, Poverty and Social Policy Division, ECA, Saurabh Sinha

Panellists:

- Minister of Gender, Children and Social Protection, Ghana, Dakoa Newman
- Secretary-General, Ministry of the Civil Service, Labour and Social Protection, Burkina Faso, Hamidou Sawadogo
• Director, Health and Humanitarian Affairs, African Union Commission, Julio Rakotonirina
• Resident Coordinator, United Republic of Tanzania, Zlatan Milišić
• President, Ethiopian Economics Association, Addis Ababa University, Tasew Woldehanna
• Executive Director, Sustainable Development Goals Kenya Forum, Florence Syevuo
• Young negotiator on agriculture, Botswana, Tsaone Mukwotsa

General discussion

(b) Zero hunger

Venue: United Nations Conference Centre, Conference Room 3

Chair: Member of the Bureau

Moderator: Assistant Director-General and Regional Representative for Africa, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Abebe Haile-Gabriel

Presenter: Economic Affairs Officer, Agriculture and Business Enabling Environment Section, Private Sector Development and Finance Division, ECA, Medhat El-Helepi

Panellists:

• Minister of Agriculture, Ethiopia, Girma Amente
• Special Envoy for Food Systems, African Union, Ibrahim Mayaki
• Commissioner for Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy and Sustainable Environment, African Union Commission, Josefa Sacko [to be confirmed]
• Strategic Director, Skills, Systems and Synergies for Sustainable Development (4SD) Foundation, David Nabarro
• Director, African Union Global Office of the World Food Programme, and Representative to the African Union and ECA, Hameed Nuru
• Chief of Nutrition, United Nations Children’s Fund in Ethiopia, Stanley Chitekwe
• Senior Coordinator, Office of the Director General, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and Programme Coordinator, United Nations Food Systems Hub, Khaled El Taweel
• President, Amaya A.G., France, Mabrouk Aib
• Head of Agricultural and Environmental Strategy, Enda Tamweel, Tunisia, Kheireddine Kahia
• Resident Coordinator, Zambia, Beatrice Mutali
General discussion

(c) Climate action

Venue: United Nations Conference Centre, Conference Room 4

Chair: Member of the Bureau

Moderator: Assistant Director-General for Natural Sciences, UNESCO, Lidia Arthur Brito

Presenters:

- Secretary-General, World Meteorological Organization, Celeste Saulo
- Representative of the co-lead agencies for the sub-theme

Panellists:

- Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry, Kenya, Soipan Tuya
- Minister of Agriculture, Climate Change and Environment, Seychelles, and Chair, African Island States Climate Commission, Flavien Joubert
- Minister of Environment and Renewable Energy, Algeria, Fazia Dahlab
- Minister of Environment, Angola, Ana Paula Chantre Luna de Carvalho
- Commissioner for Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy and Sustainable Environment, African Union Commission, Josefa Sacko
- United Nations Assistant Secretary-General, and Director General, African Risk Capacity Group, Ibrahima Cheikh Diong
- Resident Coordinator, Cabo Verde, Patricia Fernandes de Souza
- Chief, Regional Office for Africa, United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, Amjad Abbashar
- High-level champion for climate action of the twenty-ninth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Nigar Arpadarai

General discussion

(d) Peace, justice and strong institutions

Venue: United Nations Conference Centre, Conference Room 5

Chair: Member of the Bureau

Moderator: Resident Coordinator, Senegal, Aminata Maiga
Presenter: Economic Affairs Officer, Economic Governance and Public Finance Section, Macroeconomics and Governance Division, ECA, Allan Mukungu

Panellists:

- Minister of Political and Public Affairs, Sierra Leone, Amara Kallon
- Chief Executive Officer, African Peer Review Mechanism secretariat, African Union Commission, Eddy Maloka
- Member of the parliamentary committee for the Sustainable Development Goals, Uganda, Judith Peace Achan
- Deputy Regional Director, East Africa Regional Office, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Maymuchka Lauriston
- Executive Director, Pan African Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Kebour Ghenna
- Executive Director, Tax Justice Network Africa, Chenai Mukumba
- Executive Director, Uganda National NGO Forum, Moses Isooba

General discussion
(e) Partnerships for the goals of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063

Venue: United Nations Conference Centre, Conference Room 6

Chair: Member of the Bureau

Moderator: Regional Director for Middle East and North Africa, International Organization for Migration, Othman Belbeisi

Presenter: Programme Management Officer, Office of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Africa, Utku Teksoz

Panellists:

- Minister of Solidarity, Social Integration and the Family, Morocco, Aawatif Hayar
- Chair, Network of Non-Governmental Organizations for the Sustainable Development Goals, Benin, Carmen Gaba
- Senior Adviser, Multilateral and Programme Country Partnerships, Partnerships and Innovation Department, World Food Programme, Chris Toe
- Deputy Director, Development Policy and Finance, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Vishal Gujadhur
General discussion

4.30–5.30 p.m.
Parallel meetings for an in-depth review of progress made, peer learning and acceleration actions regarding the sub-themes of the Regional Forum (agenda item 8) (continued)

(f) Reports on the parallel meetings

Venue: United Nations Conference Centre, Banquet Hall

Chair: Chair of the Bureau

Moderator: [to be determined]

Presenters:

• Rapporteur from the parallel meeting on the sub-theme of no poverty
• Rapporteur from the parallel meeting on the sub-theme of zero hunger
• Rapporteur from the parallel meeting on the sub-theme of climate action
• Rapporteur from the parallel meeting on the sub-theme of peace, justice and strong institutions
• Rapporteur from the parallel meeting on the sub-theme of partnerships for the goals of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063

Thursday, 25 April

9–10.30 a.m.

Plenary round-table panel on leveraging science, technology, innovation and digital transformation for poverty reduction and reinforcement of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 (agenda item 9)

Venue: United Nations Conference Centre, Banquet Hall

Chair: Chair of the Bureau

Moderator: Director, African Institute for Economic Development and Planning, Karima Bounemra Ben Soltane [to be confirmed]

Panellists:

• Assistant Director-General for Natural Sciences, UNESCO, Lidia Arthur Brito
• Minister of Innovation and Technology, Ethiopia, Belete Molla
• Minister of Posts, Telecommunications and Digital Economy, Comoros, Kamalidini Souef
- Acting Head, Research, Innovation Ecosystems and Entrepreneurship Education Office, and Focal Point, ECA Origin Research and Innovation Lab Physical Hub of East Africa, Dedan Kimathi University of Technology, Kenya, Ndirangu Kioni

- UNESCO Chair on Innovative Technologies for Sustainable Development in Africa, and Director, Center for Photonics and Smart Materials, Zewail City of Science, Technology and Innovation, Egypt, Salah Obayya

- Representative of Smart Africa

General discussion

10.30–11 a.m. Coffee break

11 a.m.–1 p.m. Presentations and discussions on transformative pathways and ambitious actions for accelerated implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 (agenda item 10)

Venue: United Nations Conference Centre, Banquet Hall

Chair: Chair of the Bureau

Moderator: Regional Director for Africa, Development Coordination Office, United Nations, Yacoub El Hillo

(a) Presentation on transformational initiatives by entities of the United Nations development system to reinforce the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063

Presenter: Regional Director, East Africa Regional Office, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Marcel Akpovo, speaking on behalf of the Regional Collaborative Platform for Africa

(b) Presentation on perspectives of major groups and other stakeholders with regard to reinforcing and accelerating implementation of the two agendas

Presenter: Co-Chair, Steering Committee, Africa Regional Mechanism for Major Groups and Other Stakeholders, Kofi Kankam

(c) Presentation on the transformation of food systems as an accelerator for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in Africa

Presenter: Senior Coordinator, Office of the Director General, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and Programme Coordinator, United Nations Food Systems Coordination Hub, Khaled El Taweel

(d) Presentation of commitments and actions to accelerate the delivery of sustainable development

Presenters: [to be determined]

General discussion

1–2.30 p.m. Lunch break
2.30–3.30 p.m. Consideration and adoption of key messages and the Addis Ababa declaration on the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions to reinforce the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 and to eradicate poverty in times of multiple crises (agenda item 11)

Venue: United Nations Conference Centre, Banquet Hall

Chair: Chair of the Bureau

Presenter: Rapporteur of the Bureau

3.30–3.45 p.m. Theme, dates and venue of the eleventh session of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development (agenda item 12)

Venue: United Nations Conference Centre, Banquet Hall

Chair: Chair of the Bureau

3.45–4 p.m. Other matters (agenda item 13)

Venue: United Nations Conference Centre, Banquet Hall

Chair: Chair of the Bureau

4–4.30 p.m. Closing of the session (agenda item 14)

Venue: United Nations Conference Centre, Banquet Hall

Chair: Chair of the Bureau

Statements:

• Deputy Executive Secretary (Programme) and Chief Economist, ECA, Hanan Morsy
• Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator, Ethiopia, Ramiz Alakbarov
• Chair of the Bureau
• President, Economic and Social Council, and Permanent Representative of Chile to the United Nations, Paula Narváez

Pre-events, side events and other major meetings on the margins of the Forum

Monday, 15 April

8.30–9 a.m. Registration

9 a.m.–5.30 p.m. Science, technology and innovation boot camp for young people (online)

Tuesday, 16 April

8.30–9 a.m. Registration

9 a.m.–5.30 p.m. Science, technology and innovation boot camp for young people (online) (continued)
Wednesday, 17 April
8.30–9 a.m. Registration
9 a.m.–5.30 p.m. Science, technology and innovation boot camp for young people (online) (continued)

Friday, 19 April
8.30–9 a.m. Registration
9 a.m.–5.30 p.m. Expert group meeting on the 2024 Africa Sustainable Development Report (United Nations Conference Centre, Conference Room 4)

Saturday, 20 April
8.30–9 a.m. Registration
9 a.m.–5.30 p.m. Expert group meeting on the 2024 Africa Sustainable Development Report (United Nations Conference Centre, Conference Room 4) (continued)

Sunday, 21 April
8.30–9 a.m. Registration
9 a.m.–5.30 p.m. Sixth African Science, Technology and Innovation Forum (United Nations Conference Centre, Banquet Hall)
Youth workshop on voluntary national and local reviews (United Nations Conference Centre, Caucus Room 10)

Monday, 22 April
8.30–9 a.m. Registration
9 a.m.–5.30 p.m. Africa climate talks (United Nations Conference Centre, Conference Room 5)
Preparatory regional workshop on voluntary national and local reviews (United Nations Conference Centre, Conference Room 3)
Dialogue on carbon markets (United Nations Conference Centre, Conference Room 5)
Preparatory and capacity-development workshop for major groups and other stakeholders in Africa (United Nations Conference Centre, Caucus Room 11)
Review of progress in the transformation of food systems (United Nations Conference Centre, Conference Room 6)
Sixth African Science, Technology and Innovation Forum (United Nations Conference Centre, Banquet Hall) (continued)

Wednesday, 24 April
8.30–9 a.m. Registration
9–10.30 a.m. Event on the “Power of data: unlocking the data dividend for the Sustainable Development Goals and Agenda 2063” (United Nations Conference Centre, Conference Room 3)
Moderator: Senior Programme Director, Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data, Davis Adieno

Panellists/presenters:
- Statistician General, Statistics Botswana, Burton Mguni
- Government Statistician, Ghana Statistical Service, Samuel Annim
- Director General, Kenya National Bureau of Statistics, Macdonald George Obudho
- Representative, National Bureau of Statistics, Nigeria
- Director, African Centre for Statistics, ECA, Oliver Chinganya

9–10.30 a.m. Harnessing the potential of innovative financing to reinforce the implementation of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme for an Africa that is free of hunger and for sustainable and resilient agrifood systems (United Nations Conference Centre, Conference Room 6)

9–11 a.m. Annual meeting of the Regional Collaborative Platform for Africa (United Nations Conference Centre, Conference Room 4)

11.15 a.m.–1.15 p.m. Meeting of the Resident Coordinators with the Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations (United Nations Conference Centre, Conference Room 4)

Thursday, 25 April

8.30–10.30 a.m. Annual meeting of the Regional Collaborative Platform for Africa with the Resident Coordinators (United Nations Conference Centre, Conference Room 3)

Friday, 26 April

8.30–9 a.m. Registration

9 a.m.–5.30 p.m. Retreat of the Resident Coordinators (United Nations Conference Centre, Conference Room 5)

Youth Forum on the Summit of the Future (United Nations Conference Centre, Caucus Room 11)

Saturday, 27 April

8.30–9 a.m. Registration

9 a.m.–5.30 p.m. Youth Forum on the Summit of the Future (United Nations Conference Centre, Conference Room 3) (continued)