



DRAFT ANNOTATED PROGRAM

Theme: Boosting Africa's Transformation Through Education, Science, Technology, and Innovation

Venue: UN Conference Center ECA- venue confirmed

Date: 19th February 2024

9.00 – 9.15
(15 mins)

Opening of the Forum

Moderator: **Ms. Tania Habimana TV Anchor on CNBC Africa (confirmed)**
(welcome and housekeeping announcement & keep the sessions running smoothly & recognise sponsors)

Opening remarks:

Executive Secretary, Economic Commission for Africa and UN Under Secretary General, Claver Gatete (confirmed)

9.15 – 10.30
(75 mins)

Segment 1 – Presidential Panel

Session title: **Setting the scene - Boosting Africa's Transformation Through Education, Science, Technology, and Innovation**

In this segment eminent leaders will (i) reaffirm the role and their commitment to education, science, technology, and innovation to drive Africa's transformation; (ii) share their views the existing untapped opportunities that must be harnessed; (iii) the important role that private sector plays in this ambition; & (iv) to briefly share strides or key milestones their administrations are making/achieving

Moderator: Ms. Tania Habimana TV Anchor on CNBC Africa

Proposed presidential panelists¹: (TBC)

East Africa

1. President of Rwanda (Board Chairman -SMART Africa)
2. President of Tanzania
3. President of Kenya
4. Prime Minister of Ethiopia

West Africa

5. President of Togo (recognised as Africa's cybersecurity champion)
6. President of Ghana (host of AI Research Center Google)

Central Africa

7. President of Congo (ECA AI centre)

North Africa

8. President of Tunisia

Southern Africa

9. President of Botswana
10. President of Zambia

¹ The following will be invited – noting that not all presidents will be available

11. **Mr. Doron Avni** -Google's Vice President of Government Affairs (**confirmed**) could speak from the private sector perspective as a lead in Tech and would cover what Google is doing & its ambitions in Africa.
12. Mr. Aliko Dangote – Founder, chairman, and CEO of the Dangote Group (TBC – will speak from an industrialist, investor and philanthropic perspective)
13. Mr. Mostafa Terrab - Chairman and CEO of the OCP Group (TBC will speak from an industrialist and global provider of phosphate and other products that develops fertilizer solutions & opportunities for the continent in the context of the theme on food security and fertilizer production & distribution)

Announcement:

Signing of an MOU between Google and ECA (TBC)

10.30 –
11.05
(35 Mins)

Session title: **Trail Blazers in Action**

This session will showcase examples of 5 transboundary initiatives (3 mins each) representing the 5 regions that are operational and making an impact. Presenters will pitch how their company is making a developmental impact across Africa's borders and possibly beyond; how emerging technologies are changing the landscape of the start-up ecosystem; and to highlight the types of bottlenecks start-ups face in scaling products and services, including those related to financing or investment.

Moderator: **Ms Pren-Tsilya Boa-Guehe, Government Affairs & Public Policy Manager, Google Africa (confirmed)**

1. WA – Mr. Olugbenga Agboola, Co-founder and CEO of Flutterwave (TBC)
(fintech solution operating Nigeria, United States, The United Kingdom, Canada, Ghana, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, South Africa, Zambia, Cameroon, Ivory Coast, Sierra Leone, Burkina Faso, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Senegal, Rwanda, Tunisia, Guinea Conakry and over 30 other Countries)
2. EA - Mr. Will Clurman. Co-founder and CEO of eKitabu (TBC)
(awareness for accessible ICT and how children with disabilities can actively participate in education using accessible digital books – operating in Kenya and Rwanda.)
3. Dr. Peter Owotoki, co-Founder, iZola (health AI startup) (**confirmed**)
4. SA Cordel Robbin-Coker, Carry1st CEO -*growth partner for game developers looking to scale in Africa* (TBC)
5. CA- TBC recommendation is under consultation with Google
6. NA- Mr. Karim Beguir, Co-Founder & CEO of InstaDeep (TBC)
(InstaDeep delivers AI-powered decision-making systems for the Enterprises - headquarters in London, and offices in Paris, Tunis, Lagos, Dubai and Cape Town.)
7. AI - Fred Swaniker CEO of Sand Technologies & CEO of the African Leadership Group
8. Ms. Beibei Yan - Transsion Holding Investment Director (**Confirmed**)
(how Africa can improve its foothold in high-tech services and investment in start ups)

Other names for consideration

1. *Tidjane Deme, Partech Africa General Partner, (Venture Capital firm that invests in startups)*
 2. *Bunmi Akinyemiju, Founder GreenHouse Capital (Venture Capital firm)*
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3. *Dr. Steve Beck, Co-founder and Managing Partner, Novastar Ventures Ltd (venture capital firm)*
4. *Maelis Carraro, Managing Partner, Catalyst Fund (Startup Accelerator)*

Summary of key takeaways by moderator
Group photo of speakers

11.05 -11.25 Health Break & Speed networking

11.25 – **Segment 2**

12.30
(65 mins)

Session title: **Reimagining Africa's Tech and STEM future**

Moderator: Dr. Nkem Khumbah, African Academy of Science as Head of STI Policy Systems, Governance and Partnerships (**confirmed**)

1. Professor Neil Turok –Higgs Chair of Theoretical Physics, University of Edinburgh and Founder of the African Institute for Mathematical Sciences (AIMS) (**Confirmed**)
Global perspective on science and the future
2. H.E. Prof. Mohammed Belhocine African Union Commission Commissioner for Education, Science, Technology, and Innovation (TBC)
Share reflections on actions that are being taken to transform education systems in Africa to prepare the continent for the future and the bottle necks that must be overcome.
1. Dr. Thulani Dlamini, CEO, Council of the Scientific and Industrial Research (TBC)
*What needs to be done in the area of scientific and industrial research to produce the skill set and required knowledge to drive industry and the future of jobs in Africa (**confirmed**)*
2. Ms. Somachi Chris-Asoluka, CEO of the Tony Elumelu Foundation (**confirmed**)
Is the current state of African industry today ambitious enough to boost transformation and create jobs we need for the future?
3. Lacina Kone, CEO, Smart Africa (**ES- Confirmed**)
What is required to propel Africa into a digital economy that is globally competitive.

Followed by interactive Q&A
Summary of key takeaways by moderator
Group photo of speakers

12.30 -2.30 Networking Lunch

Address by Mr. Amandeep Singh Gill, United Nations Secretary-General's Envoy on Technology (**video message**)

This address will focus on what the digital compact is; how Africa can contribute to it.

2.30 -3.30 **Segment 3**

(60 mins) Session title: **Scaling – up transformative initiatives for developmental impact**

Moderator: Mr. Said Adejumbi, Director of the Strategic Planning, Oversight & Results Division, ECA (**confirmed**)

This segment will examine six key transformative initiatives for Africa, the role that education, science, technology and innovation will play in them to heighten their impact and highlight the key challenges faced in being able to scale them up for the impact needed including crowding in finance/ investment needed.

Proposed speakers:

1. Dr. Gainmore Zanamwe, Senior Manager for trade facilitation · African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank) (**confirmed**)
Battery industry– the example of the development of value chains in electric battery and clean energy sector.
2. TBC
Energy - the example of green hydrogen to support Africa’s quest for transition of its transport and energy systems
3. Mr. Aneto Okeke (TBC) - *Health - the example of the RNA (mRNA) vaccine manufacturing facility in Kigali.*
4. Mr. Abdoulaye Diack Program Manager for Google AI Center in Ghana (**Confirmed**)
Innovation & solutions: the example of the AI Center in Ghana from combining AI with satellite imagery for planning to flood forecasting, detect locust outbreaks to improve maternal health outcomes
5. Dr. Anthony Githinji, CEO and Managing Director, Semiconductor Technologies Limited (**confirmed**)
Innovation & solutions – the example of the Origin Initiative, a physical hub in East Africa, place where people come to innovate and solve human problems with a focus on Agri-tech, Information and Communication Technology (ICT), and Design
6. Mr. Valentine Chitalu, Group and IC Chairman of Phatisa and also Chair of the Board of AgDevCo (TBC)
Food security- the example of the Common African Agro-Parks Programme (CAAPs).

Note – Ambassador of Brazil can no longer make it due to a high-level mission

3.30 -4.00 Health Break

4.00 – 5.00 Segment 4

(60 mins)

Session title: Making development investable

This segment will discuss perspectives and bankable investment models, on the opportunities available to scale private capital mobilization at speed, through co-creating ambitious climate and Agenda 2063 supportive blended investments and institutional investor-public partnerships (IIPPs) that leave no one behind.

Moderator: Dr Hubert Danso, CEO and Chairman, Africa investor (Ai) Group (**confirmed**)

Proposed speakers:

1. Mr. Admassu Tadesse, Trade Development Bank Group President and Managing Director (**confirmed**)
2. Mr. Solomon Asamoah, CEO of the Ghana Infrastructure Investment Fund (**Confirmed**)
3. H.E. Ms. Nardos Bekele-Thomas, Chief Executive Officer of the African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD) (TBC)
4. GIGA Representative (**confirmed in principal – speaker will be communicated**)
5. Ms. Jo Bourne, Chief Technical Officer Global Partnership for Education (**Confirmed**)
What the Global Partnership for Education is doing, the impact it is having and greatest challenges including financing– weave in leaving no one behind

Followed by interactive Q&A

Summary of key takeaways by moderator

Group photo of speakers

5.00- 5.30 Closing take-aways by Sponsors & contributors
Moderator: Ms. Tania Habimana TV Anchor on CNBC Africa

1. H.E. Prof. Mohammed Belhocine African Union Commission Commissioner for Education, Science, Technology, and Innovation
2. Mr. Doron Avni is Google's Vice President of Government Affairs
3. Executive Secretary, Economic Commission for Africa and UN Under Secretary General, Claver Gatete

5.30 – 7.00 Reception
