UNECA Second Joint ICSOE meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Senior Officials and Experts (ICSOE)

Economic Commission for Africa, Sub-Regional Offices for Central and East Africa

Club du Lac Tanganyika - Bujumbura, Burundi
26 – 29 September 2023

Theme:
Establishing Central and East Africa as Sources of Quality Products and Investment Destinations of Choice, to Accelerate Industrialization and Economic Diversification, and to Strengthen Food Security

PROVISIONAL WORK PROGRAMME

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Day 1

08:00 – 09:00: Registration of participants

09:00 – 10:00: Opening ceremony

Opening remarks

- The Mayor of Bujumbura, the Economic Capital City, Mr. Jimmy Hatungimana
- Outgoing President of the East Africa Bureau: Seychelles
- Outgoing President of the Central Africa Bureau: Gabon
- Deputy Executive Secretary (DES), and Chief Economist of United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Dr. Hanan Morsy
- Minister of Finance, Budget and Economic Planning, Burundi, H.E. Audace Niyonzima,
- Guest of Honour: Prime Minister of the Republic of Burundi H.E. Gervais Ndirakobuca,

10:00 - 10:30: Constitution of the Bureaus, review and adoption of the agenda

Chair: Seychelles

During this session, the two new ICSOE Bureaus will be constituted. The new Bureaus will guide participants in the review and adoption of the agenda.

Press Briefing
Photos of VIPs
Group Photo

10:30 – 11:00: Coffee break

11:00 – 13:00: Session 1: Macro-economic Overview

Chair: ICSOE Bureau-EA, H.E. Audace Niyonzima, Minister of Finance, Budget and Economic Planning, Burundi

Speakers:
11:00 - 11:20: Presentation on the macroeconomic panorama of Central and Eastern Africa – Andrew Mold and Mamadou Bal

11:20 - 13:00: Discussion

13:00 - 13:30: Launch of the sub-regional profile of East Africa- Dr. Hanan Morsy an H.E. Audace Niyonzima

13:30 – 14:45: Lunch break

14:45 – 17:00: Session 2: High-level dialogue on quality improvement to accelerate industrialization and economic diversification, strengthen food security in Central and East Africa
Chair: ICSOE Bureau-CA

Moderator: Jean-Luc Mastaki, Director, Sub-Regional Office for Central Africa, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa

Speakers:


15:15 - 15:45: Presentation. State of food insecurity, Food safety, SPS and Codex Alimentarius - Cyprien Biaou and Blaise Ouattara, FAO

15:15 - 16:00: Panel Discussion

H.E. Sanctus Niragira, Minister of Environment, Agriculture and Livestock, Burundi

Hermogene Nsengimana, Secretary General of ARSO

Dr. Victor Djemba, Head of the Africa Division of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO).

PissangTchangai Dademanao, FAO Representative, Burundi

Dr. Hanan Morsy, Deputy Executive Secretary, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)

S.E. Mr Jeronimo Carlos OSA OSA NSANG, Vice-Minister of Trade, Industry and Business Promotion, Equatorial Guinea

M. KOLYANG Palébébé, Chairman of PAFFO/PROPAC (Pan-African Organization of Agricultural Producers / Regional Platform of Farmers’ Organizations of Central Africa)

16:00 – 16:15: Coffee break

Session 2: Continued

16:15 - 16:45: Panel Discussion - Continued

S.E. Jacqueline Lydia MIKOLO, Madame la Ministre du Développement des PME, de l’Artisanat et du Secteur Informel, République du Congo

S.E. Jose Mpanda, Minister of Agriculture, DR Congo

Dr Hanan Morsy Deputy Executive Secretary (DES), and Chief Economist of ECA

S.E Tabuna Honoré, Commissioner, Agriculture, food Security and Environment, CEEAC

16:45 - 17:30: Plenary discussion
08:30 - 10:30: Session 3: High level dialogue: Strengthening intra-regional food trade to improve food security in Central and East Africa: unlocking opportunities and meeting challenges

Chair: ICSOE Bureau-EA
Moderator: Mama Keita, Director, Sub-Regional Office for East Africa, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa

Speakers:
08:30 - 08:45: Presentation: Regional agricultural trade to tackle growing food insecurity in Central and East Africa – Andrew Mold and Simone Kuete Assah

08:45 - 9:30: Panel discussions
- H.E. Marie Chantal Nijimbere, Minister of Trade, Industry, Transport and Tourism, Burundi, TBC
- Hon Jean-Chrysostome Ngabitsinze, Minister of Trade and Industry, Rwanda,
- SE H.E. Jose Mpanda Kabangu, Minister of Agriculture, DR Congo.
- Hon Francis Mwembesa, Minister of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives
- Dr. Hanan Morsy, Deputy Executive Secretary, ECA
- Dademano Pissang Tchangai, Representative of de la FAO au Burundi.
- Shebani Kwalo, Export Group Trading
- Nicodemus Ndeti, Director, G5 Logistics Group Ltd
- Emmanuel Harelimana, General Manager-Garden Fresh

09:45 – 10:30: Plenary Discussion

10:30 – 10:45: Coffee break

10:45 - 12:45: Session 4: High-level dialogue on regional commodity exchanges as a means of stimulating investment, production, and industrialization by Africa.

Chair: H.E. Marie Chantal Nijimbere, Minister of Trade, Industry, Tourism and Transport, Burundi
Moderator: Mama Keita, Director, Sub-Regional Office for East Africa, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa.

Speakers:
11:15 - 12:00: Panel Discussion
- Hon. Dr Jean-Chrysostome Ngabitsinze, Minister of Trade and Industry, Rwanda,
• Edoh Kossi Amenouve, CEO, Regional Stock Exchange
• John Bosco Kalisa, CEO - The East African Business Council (EABC)
• Sonia Essobmadje, Chief, Innovative finance and capital markets
• Pascal Yembiline, AfDB Burundi Country Manager
• Joshua Rugema, Chief Executive Officer, East Africa Exchange (EAX)
• Saidi Zaina Chihabiddine Sitti Djaouharia, President—Employers Organisation of Comoros

12:00 - 12:45: Plenary Discussion

12:45 - 13:15: Special session: Launch of Burundi Tourism Investment Guide
Officiated by:
• HE Marie Chantal Nijimbere, Minister of Trade, Industry, Transport and Tourism, Burundi
• Dr. Hanan Morsy, Deputy Executive Secretary, ECA

13:15 - 14:15: Lunch Break

14:15 - 16:15: Session 5: High-level dialogue on strengthening the attractiveness of Central and Eastern Africa to promote investments for diversification, industrialization, and food security

Chair: ICSOE-CA Bureau

Moderator: Adama Ekberg Coulibaly, Head of Sub-Regional Initiatives, SRO-CA, UNECA

Speakers:
14:15 - 14:45 Presentation. Benchmarking, determinants of investment and reform quality – A new look at the evidence. Professor Christian Otchia - Université de Nagoya, Japon

14:45 - 15:00: Presentation. Foreign Direct Investment and Special Economic Zones (SEZs): Lessons from the experience of the newly industrialized countries of South East Asia – Bertrand Ngnie. International Consultant.

Panel Discussion
• Jean Claude Kessous, International Consultant, Environnement des Affaires
• Sékou Doumbouya, International Consultant, Trade and Investment
• Didace Ngendakumana, CEO Burundian Development Agency

15:45 - 16:00: Coffee Break

Panel discussion – continued
• H.E. OMANA BITIKA, Vice-Ministre du plan, RDC.
• S.E. Madame Félicité KO NGANA, Vice-Président, Conseil Economique et Social, République de la Cent Afrique (RCA).
• Charles Kahuthu, CEO & Coordonnateur Régional, Chambre de Commerce, Industrie, Agriculture de l'Afrique de l'Est.
Day 3

08:30 – 10:30 : Session 6: **Status of effective implementation of the AfCFTA in Central and Eastern Africa**

**Chair:** ICSOE- East Africa Bureau  
**Moderator:** Andrew Mold, Chief Trade and Regional Integration section, SRO-EA

08:30 - 09:00 : Experiences sharing on AfCFTA implementation by AfCFTA Secretariat and the RECs

**Speakers:**  
- Emmanuel Mbarga, Regional Adviser, AfCFTA Secretariat  
- Osman Mohammed Babikir, Director, Economic Cooperation and Regional Integration Division, IGAD  
- Jacob Kotcho, Director, Common Market Division, ECCAS  
- Marie-Angelique Umulisa, Principal Trade Officer, EAC

09:00 - 09:30 : Experiences sharing on AfCFTA implementation by private sector

**Speakers:**  
- John Bosco Kalisa, CEO East Africa Business Council  
- Shebani Kwalo, Export Group Trading  
- Celestin Tawamba, President Central Africa Employers Union (UNIPACE)

09:30 - 10:30 : Plenary Discussions

10:30 – 10:45 : Coffee break

10:45 - 12:45 : Session 7: **Towards building bridges to strengthen collaborative frameworks in quality infrastructure**

**Chair:** ICSOE-EA Bureau  
**Moderator:** Adama Ekberg Coulibaly, Head of Sub-Regional Initiatives, Sub-Regional Office for Central Africa, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa

**Speakers:**  

11:05 -11:25 : Presentation. One Market One Standard: Some construction blocks and solutions. **Mr. Lassane KABORE.** Director of industry and private sector,
11:25-12:05: Panel Discussion

- Severin Sindayikengera, CEO Burundian Agency for Standardization and Quality Control
- Beyina Gregory, Director of Industrial Development, Mines and Tourism, CEMAC
- Yves Ariat, International Consultant, Quality Infrastructure
- Aka Kouassi, Technical Advisor, ACP Infrastructure Development Programme Quality, UNIDO
- Heba Hammad Radi Hammad, General Manager of Standards, Egyptian Organization of Standards
- Dr. A Raj, CEO, Quality Council of India
- Tak Leong CHEONG, Director, Enterprise Singapore

12:05 - 12:45: Plenary Discussion

13:00 - 14:00: Lunch break

14:00-16:00: Session 8: Presentation of the offices of SRO-CA and SRO-EA, activity reports since ICSOE 2022

Chair: ICSOE-CA Bureau

Speakers:

14:00 - 14:20: Presentation of the Activity Report and recent initiatives, Sub-Regional Office for Central Africa- Sandrine Koissy-Kpein, Economic Policy Officer, SRO-CA

14:20 - 14:40: Presentation of the Activity Report and recent initiatives, Sub-Regional Office for Eastern Africa- Emelang Leteane, Head of Sub-Regional Initiatives, SRO-EA

14:40 – 16:00: Plenary Discussion

16:00 - 16:15: Coffee break

16:15 -16:30: Presentation, Theme of annual Conference of Ministers (COM2024). Adam Elhairika, Directeur, Division de la Macro-économie et gouvernance

16:30-16:45: Plenary discussions

16:45 - 17:00: Presentation of the Sustainable Development Report for Africa – Progress in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Central Africa and East Africa. Bartholomé Armah, Head of the section in charge of development planning, Macroeconomics and Governance Division

17:00 -17:30: Plenary discussions
08:30 - 12:30: Session 9: Closing

Chair: ICSOE Central Africa Bureau

08:30 - 09:00: Presentation of the theme, date, and venue of the next ICSOE meeting. Adama Ekberg Coulibaly, Head of Sub-Regional Initiatives, SRO-CA, UNECA

09:00 - 09:15: Any other business

09:15 - 11:00: Review and adoption of the report of the joint ICSOE meeting

11:00 - 11:30: Coffee break – Group photo

12:00 - 12:30: Closing of the joint meeting 2023
- United Nations Resident Coordinator, Burundi
- New President of the SRO-EA Bureau/New President of the SRO-CA Bureau
- SRO-CA Representative/ SRO-EA Representative
- Representative of the Government of Burundi

12:30 - 13:00: Press Conference

13:00 - 14:00: Lunch break

14:00: Site Visit