

Umoja Africa Campaign – Youth Contributing to the Implementation of the AfCFTA”

Outline of Module 1: Towards greater integration: An introduction to the AfCFTA

19 May 2022 from 17:00-19:00 GMT, 19:00-21:00 CAT, 20:00-22:00 EAT

Virtual

Summary

In this module, participants will be provided an overview of the AfCFTA. Beginning with the context in which the AfCFTA became necessary, we will connect the trends in economic development in Africa over the years to the vision of an integrated and liberalised market. African youth will also become familiarised with the AfCFTA’s current member States, its core objectives, the structure of governance as well as the potential political, social and economic benefits of the newly formed free trade area. By creating a foundation of understanding about what the AfCFTA is, African youth will be sensitised to its objectives and begin to reflect on their role in advancing its initiatives.

Webinar outline:

Moderator: Nadia, UNECA

Welcome remarks by AfCFTA representative (TBC)

1st presentation: Mahlet, UNECA (25 min)

- Why the AfCFTA and its objectives
- Structure and governance of the AfCFTA
 - Protocols
 - Instruments of the AfCFTA
- Status of negotiation and implementation
- What benefits from the AfCFTA are we expecting to see in the foreseeable future

2nd Presentation: Komi, UNDP (25 min)

- Rules of Origin, including practical examples
- Trade in Services

3rd Presentation : Mie, UNECA (20 min)

- What is the role of youth in the AfCFTA
 - Entrepreneurship
 - Skills development

4th Presentation: Youth rep. who trades on the continent (20 min)

- Edith Njage
 - To explain how she as an entrepreneur can leverage the AfCFTA and to provide a practical example of how she has grown her business through intra-African trade.

Q&A Session (30 minutes)

- Moderated by Nadia