



Virtual Policy Dialogue for North Africa

Theme: Improving access to financing for SMEs in North Africa for a better post-COVID-19 recovery

Tuesday 19 April 2022, from 9 to 11 am Rabat time

Registration link: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_q2Y4HfwsRIKX1weTEYzOpA

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME OF WORK

09:00-09:05

Opening Session

Welcome and opening remarks:

Ms. Zuzana Brixiova Schwidrowski, Director, ECA/SRO-NA

09:05 -09:30

Session I: Keynote Speakers Intervention

- **H.E. Younes Sekkouri**, Minister of Economic Inclusion, Small Business, Employment and Skills
- **Pr. Fiona Tregenna**, South African Research Chair (SARChI) in Industrial Development, University of Johannesburg
- **Mr. Larabi Jaidi**, Senior Fellow, Policy Center for the New South

Moderator:

Ms. Zuzana Brixiova Schwidrowski, Director, ECA/SRO-NA

Open discussion

09:35-10:20

Session II: Highlights of documents about SME financing and solutions for improvement in North Africa

Presenters:

- **Ms. Amal Elbeshbishi**, Senior Economist, Chief of the Employment and Skills Section, ECA SRO-NA
- **Mr. Zoubir Benhamouche**, Senior Economist, ECA/SRO-NA
- **Mr. Grakolet Gourene**, Fellow, ECA/SRO-NA

Q & A (15 minutes)

10:20 -10:55

Session III: Audience intervention

- Civil society and Private sector
- Policymakers
- Academic sector

10:55-11:00

Closing Session

Closing Remarks:

Ms. Zuzana Brixiova Schwidrowski, Director, ECA/SRO-NA