



United Nations
Economic Commission for Africa



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**AFRICAN CONTINENTAL FREE TRADE AREA
(AFCFTA)**

NATIONAL AWARENESS WORKSHOP

DRAFT PROGRAMME

09 – 10 NOVEMBER 2022

WESTIN TURTLE BAY RESORT & SPA

BALACLAVA, MAURITIUS

Organised by

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade

In collaboration with

The United Nations Economic Commission for Africa

(African Trade Policy Centre and Sub-regional Office for Southern Africa)

Supported by

European Union (EU)

DAY 1 – 09 NOVEMBER 2022

09.30 – 10.00	Registration
10.00 – 10.30	<p><u>Opening Ceremony</u></p> <p><i>(MC – Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade, International Trade Division)</i></p> <p>Statement by Mr. Sebastien Vauzelle, Senior Economist, United Nations Resident Coordinator Office (UNRCO)</p> <p>Statement by Mr. Melaku Desta, Coordinator, ECA African Trade Policy Center, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) <i>(video message)</i></p> <p>Statement by Mrs. Alexia Schmiliver, First Secretary, Head of the Regional Trade Section, Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Mauritius and the Republic of Seychelles</p> <p>Statement by Hon. Dr. Renganaden Padayachy, Minister of Finance, Economic Planning and Development (TBC)</p> <p>Keynote Address by Hon. Mr. Alan Ganoo, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade</p>
10.30 – 10.45	<p><u>Launching of the AfCFTA National Response Strategy</u></p> <p>Hon. Mr. Alan Ganoo, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade</p>
10.45 – 11.15	<i>Tea/Coffee Break</i>
11.15 – 11.45	<p><u>Brief overview of the AfCFTA National Response Strategy</u></p> <p><u>Presenter:</u> Mr. Paul Baker, International Economics Consulting Ltd</p> <p><i>Q&A</i></p>
11.45 – 12.30	<p><u>Presentation on AfCFTA State of Play [Phase I and Phase II]</u></p> <p><u>Presenter:</u> Mr. Danandjay Luximon, Deputy Director, International Trade Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade</p> <p><i>Q&A</i></p>
12.30 – 13.30	<i>Lunch Break</i>

13.30 – 14.30	<p><u>Opportunities on the African Continent [Trade in Goods and Trade in Services]</u></p> <p><u>Presenters:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mr. Andrew Mold, Chief of AfCFTA, UNECA subregional office for Eastern Africa 2. Ms. Viola Sawere, Regional Trade Advisor, SADC Secretariat 3. Mr. John Stuart, Trade Expert, TRALAC <p>Q&A</p>
14.30 – 15.15	<p><u>Panel discussion on Logistics and Connectivity</u></p> <p><u>Moderator:</u> Mr. Yousouf Ismael, Secretary General, Mauritius Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI)</p> <p><u>Panelists:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mr. Sebastien Vauzelle, Senior Economist, UNRCO Mauritius & Seychelles 2. Mrs. Nomita Seebaluck, Ag. Director, Port Operations, Mauritius Ports Authority 3. Mr. Vinay Guddye, Director, Economic Development Board 4. Mr. Amil Emamdin, Association des Professionnels Transitaires 5. Association Professionnelle des Agents Maritimes Mauriciens (TBC) <p>Q&A</p>
15.15 – 15.30	<i>Tea/Coffee Break</i>
15.30 – 16.00	<p><u>Day 1 Conclusion and Wrapping Up</u></p> <p>Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade, International Trade Division</p>
<p>DAY 2 – 10 NOVEMBER 2022</p> <p><i>Dedicated Session for Women and Youth: Inclusive Trade Under the AfCFTA</i></p>	
09.30 – 10.00	Registration
10.00 – 10.20	<p><u>Welcoming Remarks</u></p> <p><i>(MC – Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade, International Trade Division)</i></p> <p>Statement by Hon. Mrs. Kalpana Devi Koonjoo-Shah, Minister of Gender Equality and Family Welfare (TBC)</p> <p>Keynote Address by Hon. Mr. Soomilduth Bholah, Minister of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives (TBC)</p>

10.20 – 10.30	<i>Tea/Coffee Break</i>
10.30-11.00	<p><u>Brief Overview of AfCFTA</u></p> <p><u>Presenter:</u> Ms. Bineswaree Bolaky, Economic Affairs officer, UNECA subregional office for Southern Africa</p>
11.00 – 12.15	<p><u>Panel Discussion: Women and Youth in Trade</u></p> <p><u>Moderator:</u> Ministry of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives (SME Div) (TBC)</p> <p><u>Panelists:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mr. Tony Muhumuza, PhD, Senior Economist, UNDP 2. Ms. Nadia Hasham, Trade Policy Expert, ECA Africa Trade Policy Center 3. Mrs. Vandana Jodhoa, Ag. Head, Gender Unit, Ministry of Gender and Family Welfare 4. Mr. Sachin Mohabeer, Ag. Deputy CEO, Economic Development Board 5. Mrs. Françoise Charlotte, Chairperson of the National Women Entrepreneur Council (NWECC) <p>Q&A</p>
12.15 – 13.15	<i>Lunch Break</i>
13.15 – 14.15	<p><u>Information session on export procedures [Rules of Origin/Standards/SPS]</u></p> <p><u>Presenters:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>Rules of Origin, and Non-tariff Measures under the AfCFTA</u> Mr. Andrew Mold, Chief of AfCFTA, UNECA subregional office for Eastern Africa 2. <u>Rules of Origin</u> Ms. Anoushka Permalloo, Team Leader, Customs Department, Mauritius Revenue Authority 3. <u>Standards</u> Mrs. Sandhya Boygah, General Manager, Mauritius Standards Bureau 4. <u>SPS</u> Mrs S. Jawaheer, Senior Scientific Officer, National Plant Protection Office (NPPO) Dr. L. Ramprogus, Veterinary Officer, Division of Veterinary Service, Ministry of Agro-Industry and Food Security <p>Q&A</p>

14.15 – 14.30	<i>Tea/Coffee Break</i>
14.30 – 16.00	<p><u>Improving competitiveness and resilience of SMEs: Experience-sharing session by Exporting SMEs</u></p> <p><u>Moderator:</u> Ms. Theresa Auckloo, Senior Business Support Executive, SME Mauritius</p> <p><u>Panelists:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ms. Bineswaree Bolaky, Economic Affairs officer, UNECA subregional office for Southern Africa 2. Dr. Drishtysingh Ramdenee, Head, Services and Emerging Sectors, Economic Development Board 3. Ms. Catherine Malepa, Manager, Franc & Co Ltd (NWECA) 4. Mrs. Amada Cochowonh, Eden Bliss Ltd (NWECA)
16.00-16.30	<p><u>Day 2 Conclusion and Wrapping Up</u></p> <p>Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade, International Trade Division</p>