Economic and Social Council

Draft programme of work

Monday, 22 March

11 a.m.–12 p.m.  Opening of the session (agenda item 1)

Moderator: Mark Eddo, CEO, Mark Eddo Media
Chair: Mohamed Benchaaboun, Chair of the outgoing Bureau

Opening statements:

- Mohamed Benchaaboun, Minister of Economy, Finance and Administration Reform, Morocco; Chair of the outgoing Bureau
- Vera Songwe, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations; Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa

Statements by special guests:

- Ken Ofori-Atta, Minister of Finance, Ghana
- Minouche Shafik, Director of the London School of Economics; former Deputy Governor, Bank of England
- Mia Mottley, Prime Minister of Barbados; Chair, Joint World Bank-International Monetary Fund Development Committee
Official opening address

- Abiy Ahmed, Prime Minister, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia

12–12.15 p.m. **Election of the Bureau and adoption of the agenda and programme of work** (agenda item 2)

12.15 –1.45 p.m. **High-level ministerial policy dialogue on the theme of the fifty-third session of the Commission** (agenda item 3)

**Lead speaker:** Uzziel Ndagijimana, Minister of Finance, Rwanda

**Panellists:**

- Li Yong, Director General, United Nations Industrial Development Organization
- Houlin Zhao, Secretary-General, International Telecommunication Union
- Ahmed Shide, Minister of Finance, Ethiopia
- Hala Helmy El-Saeed Younes, Minister of Planning, Monitoring and Administrative Reform, Egypt**
- Albert Muchanga, Commissioner for Economic Development, Trade, Industry and Mining, African Union Commission

1.45–2.45 p.m. **Lunch break**

2021 Adebayo Adedeji Lecture

- Robert Davies, Former Minister of Trade and Industry, South Africa

**Respondent:**

- Beata Habyarimana, Minister of Trade and Industry, Rwanda

2.45–6 p.m. **High-level panel discussions** (agenda item 4)

2.45–4.15 p.m. **Panel 1: The Big Debate: Was the multilateral system prepared for the COVID-19 crisis and did the private sector do enough?**

**Lead speaker:** Zainab Ahmed, Minister of Finance, Budget and National Planning, Nigeria

**Panellists:**

- Arkebe Oqubay, Senior Minister and Special Adviser to the Prime Minister of Ethiopia
- Alastair Wilson, Managing Director and Head, Moody's Sovereign Risk Group, Moody’s Investment Services

** Denotes to be confirmed.
• Masood Ahmed, President, Centre for Global Development
• Abebe Aemro Selassie, Director, Africa Department, International Monetary Fund
• Nicole Jeanine Lydie Epse Roboty (épouse Mbou), Minister of Economy and Recovery, Gabon**

4.15–4.30 p.m. Health break
4.30–6 p.m. Panel 2: Managing debt and liquidity

Lead speaker: Adama Coulibaly, Minister of Finance, Côte d’Ivoire

Panellists:
• Mthuli Ncube, Minister of Finance and Economy, Zimbabwe**
• Abdoulaye Bio Tchané, Minister in Charge of Planning and Development, Benin
• Sandra Ablamba Ahoéfavi Johnson, Minister of Planning, Development and International Cooperation, Togo
• Clay Lowery, Executive Vice-President, Institute of International Finance
• Ilyas Dawaleh, Minister of Finance, Djibouti
• Remy Rioux, Chief Executive Officer, French Development Agency
• Ibrahim Mayaki, Chief Executive, African Union Development Agency; Co-Chair, High-Level Panel on International Financial Accountability, Transparency and Integrity
• Thomas Venon, Partner, Eighteen East Capital

6–6.15 p.m. Closing of the session

Tuesday, 23 March

11 a.m.–12.30 p.m. Panel 3: Is Africa ready to finance its own vaccine? (agenda item 4)

Moderator: Lerato Mbele, journalist and presenter, BBC News

Lead speaker: Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director General, World Health Organization

Panellists:
• Winnie Byanyima, Executive Director, Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS

** Denotes to be confirmed.
• Susan Silbermann, Global Advisor, Pfizer Biopharmaceuticals Group, Pfizer Corporation
• Jose Sele Yalaghuli, Minister of Finance, Democratic Republic of the Congo
• Francis Mustapha Kaikai, Minister of Development and Economic Planning, Sierra Leone**
• Amadou Sall, Director, Pasteur Institute of Dakar
• Benedict Oramah, President, Afreximbank
• John Nkengasong, Director, Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention
• Stavros Nicolaou, Group Senior Executive, Aspen Pharmacare Holding Ltd

12.30–12.45 Health break
12.45–2.45 p.m. **Consideration of recommendations and adoption of resolutions** (agenda item 5)
Chair: Chair of the Bureau
2.45–3.45 p.m. Lunch break
3.45–4.45 p.m. **Consideration and adoption of the ministerial statement** (agenda item 6)
Chair: Chair of the Bureau
4.45–5.30 p.m. **Other matters** (agenda item 7)
5.30–5.45 p.m. **Closing of the session** (agenda item 8)

Statements:
• Vera Songwe, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations; Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa
• Chair of the Bureau

** Denotes to be confirmed.