



## Economic and Social Council

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**Economic Commission for Africa  
Conference of African Ministers of Finance,  
Planning and Economic Development  
Fifty-third session**

Addis Ababa (hybrid), 22 and 23 March 2021

Item 2 of the provisional agenda\*

**Election of the Bureau and adoption of the agenda  
and programme of work**

### 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

\*E/ECA/CM/53/1/Rev.1.



- 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
  - Masood Ahmed, President, Centre for Global Development
  - Abebe Aemro Selassie, Director, Africa Department, International Monetary Fund

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\*\* Denotes to be confirmed.

- 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 Tchane, 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
- Rémy 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
- Susan Silberman, Global Advisor, Pfizer Biopharmaceuticals Group, Pfizer Corporation

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\*\* Denotes to be confirmed.

- 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

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| 12.30–12.45     | Health break   |
| 12.45–2.45 p.m. | <b>Consideration of recommendations and adoption of resolutions</b> (agenda item 5)<br>Chair: Chair of the Bureau  |
| 2.45–3.45 p.m.  | Lunch break  |
| 3.45–4.45 p.m.  | <b>Consideration and adoption of the ministerial statement and the communiqué on special drawing rights for low-income and middle-income countries</b> (agenda item 6)<br>Chair: Chair of the Bureau   |
| 4.45–5.30 p.m.  | <b>Other matters</b> (agenda item 7)   |
| 5.30–5.45 p.m.  | <b>Closing of the session</b> (agenda item 8)<br>Statements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Vera Songwe, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations; Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa</li><li>• Chair of the Bureau</li></ul> |

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