Has Covid-19 turbo-charged e-commerce and digitalization, or not? And how can policy react accordingly? UNCTAD and the United Nations Regional Commissions joined forces as part of the eTrade for All Group to answer these questions and compare the differing trends between respective world regions. This session launches the report for Africa, based on interviews with Africa’s leading tech entrepreneurs as well as high frequency data to analyse the growth trends and challenges for e-commerce in Africa in the context of Covid-19. Comparative perspectives are to be presented drawing from the respective studies of Latin America and Western Asia, as well findings from the global synthesis study.

**PROGRAMME**

**SPEAKERS:**
- Guy Futi, University of Oxford
- Torbjorn Fredriksson, UNCTAD, Chief ICT Policy Section
- Ayman Elsherbiny, ESCWA, Chief of Information and Communication Technology Policies
- Nanno Mulder, ECLAC, Chief International Trade Unit
- Ify Ogo, UNDP, Regional Coordination Specialist (AfCFTA)

**MODERATOR:** Jamie MacLeod, UNECA

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