

**African Science, Technology and
Innovation Forum**

Marrakech, Morocco, 16 April 2019

Draft Programme of Work

16 April 2019	
8–8.30 a.m.	Registration
8.30–9 a.m.	<p><i>Opening of the meeting</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome remarks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Deputy Director General, South Africa, Mmboneni Muofhe ○ Executive Secretary, Economic Commission for Africa, Vera Songwe • Opening remarks: Minister of Scientific Research, Morocco <p>Moderator: Oliver Chinganya, Director, African Centre for Statistics and Officer in Charge, Technology, Climate Change and Natural Resources Management Division</p>
9–10 a.m.	<p><i>High-Level Policy Dialogue on Science, Technology and Innovation and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and implementation of Agenda 2063: The African We Want</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive Secretary, Economic Commission for Africa, Vera Songwe • Minister of National Education, Vocational Training, Higher Education and Scientific Research, Morocco, Saïd Amzazi • Minister of Science and Higher Education, Afework Kassu Gizaw • Deputy Minister of Education and Scientific Research, Egypt, Yasser Refaat Abdelfattah Mohamed <p>Moderator: Deputy Executive Secretary, Economic Commission for Africa, Giovannie Biha</p>
10–11 a.m.	<p>Session 1</p> <p>Sustainable Development Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all</p> <p>Inclusive, equitable quality education and lifelong learning are critical for achieving most of the targets of the Sustainable Development Goals. Lifelong learning for all is especially critical in view of the great transformation in the world of work driven by digital technologies and digitally enabled</p>

	<p>technologies. New technologies, such as the web, massive open online courses and digital transmission of learning materials, can improve learning outcomes at a lower cost. New technologies can reduce the cost of production and delivery of content not just in official languages, but also in local languages. Panel members will explore the issues, offer suggestions of initiatives and propose possible policies that member States can consider in the context of new technologies and innovations to achieve Goal 4. Governments play a key role in the provision of education. In many countries, the private sector has also become a major provider of education. In that context, the panel will explore the role of government in setting regulatory standards on technology in the classroom.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director, Ghaith Fariz, <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusive and equitable quality education through Project Prisma, Luyanda Vappie • Director, UNESCO Régional Bureau for Sciences in the Arab States Cluster, Egypt, Fariz, Ghaith, Egypt • Director General of Research and Innovation, Senegal, Joseph Saturnin DIEME • Human Capital and Training Manager, Morocco Digital Development Agency, Manal Bani <p>Moderator: Executive Director, Network of African Science Academies, Jackie Olang-Kado</p>
11–11.20 a.m.	Coffee break
11.20 a.m.– 12.20 p.m.	<p>Session 2</p> <p>Sustainable Development Goal 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all</p> <p>The evidence is clear that the history of economic growth is the history of the deliberate application of science, technology and innovation to increase social welfare. The impact of science, technology and innovation has not been neutral to neither income nor employment. In many cases, it has resulted in deepening social and economic inequalities, unfulfilling and monotonous work, unemployment and social and economic exclusion. This session will explore how the downsides of science, technology and innovation in promoting economic growth can be attenuated while deploying the same technologies to promote inclusivity and decent work for all. Examples from Africa and the world at large will be used to explore the topic.</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusive economic growth and employment: the role of ICT Mesh Network, Siya (Jay) Masebulele • Team Leader, United Nations Development Programme Regional Centre, Mansour Ndiaye

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior Manager, United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network, Eve de la Mothe Karoubi • Project Manager, Innovation for Inclusive Development, Technology Innovation Agency, South Africa, Anitha Ramsuran <p>Moderator: Prof. Chaouki Farid, Morocco</p>
12.20–1.20 p.m.	<p>Session 3</p> <p>Sustainable Development Goal 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries</p> <p>Inequality has risen to the top of the policy agenda. According to a number of studies, income inequality across the world is at its highest level in recent history. Rising income inequality is seen as a key factor behind the financial crisis of 2008, the rise of nationalists in Europe and the increasing opposition to migration. Africa accounts for 10 of the world’s 19 countries with the highest income inequality. Previously, governance and institutions were seen as factors advancing high inequality, but increasingly, the blame is being put on technology. Advances in information and communications technology (ICT) (robotics, automated processes, machine learning, the Internet of things, open government data and big data, and artificial intelligence) are suggested, by accumulating evidence, as a major driver of inequality within and among countries that have created winner-takes-all societies. However, technology can also be applied to reduce income, wealth and other inequalities. The application of digital technologies can improve revenue taxation and enable more effective targeting of anti-poverty measures. Point-of-care technologies, by improving diagnoses and treatment in remote areas, are helping to bridge health inequalities. Digital technologies, by reducing the cost of access to education, are reducing educational inequalities. Digital identification technologies may make it possible for governments to better track the poor and deliver essential social services. New technologies can create new skills requirements and create new sectors, which, in turn, leads to job creation and greater income. Panellists will discuss the opportunities presented by technology to reduce inequality within and across countries.</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing inequality through the SolarTurtle, Lungelwa Tyali • Deputy Director General, Department of Science and Technology, South Africa, Mmboneni Muofhe • Director of African Center for Innovative and Sustainable Solutions, Morocco, Fatima Arib • Director Content Development and Online Services, Algeria, Bani Ali <p>Moderator: Regional Director, International Science Council, Daniel Nyanganyura</p>
1.20–2 p.m.	Lunch break
2–3 p.m.	<p>Session 4</p> <p>Sustainable Development Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts</p>

	<p>There is consensus that Africa will bear the brunt of climate change. The effects of climate change may lead to increased frequency, intensity and duration of droughts, floods, storms and heatwaves, among others. This session will focus on emerging scientific, technological and innovative solutions that countries are carrying out to manage the challenges and exploit the opportunities that climate change poses. During the session, the discussion will revolve around these opportunities and challenges from sectoral (such as energy, agriculture and health), economic (such as costs and investment), social (such as conflicts over land or water), and environmental (such as biodiversity and use of environmental issues in trade) perspectives, among others, and how science, technology and innovation can be applied in such cases to achieve favourable outcomes for Africa.</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Combating climate change and improving health: the case of Mashsha Stoves, Louise Williamson • Chief Executive Officer, National Institute of Science, Technology and Innovation, Seychelles, Felix Xavier Estico • Ministry of Post and Telecommunication, Cameroon, Denis Ngai • Graduate student, Mohammed VI Polytechnic University, Marrakech, Morocco, Toyib Aremu <p>Moderator: Director, Sub Regional Office of ECA for North Africa, Lilia Hachem Naas</p>
3–4 p.m.	<p>Session 5</p> <p>Sustainable Development Goal 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all, and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels</p> <p>Technologies can be seen as a double-edged sword; they can be used to promote and build peaceful and inclusive societies, but they can also be used to seed discontent and divide peaceful societies. This session will focus on how countries can harness science, technology and innovation to achieve the targets of Goal 16 through, for example, legal and regulatory mechanisms, administrative procedures, support measures and initiatives. It will include discussions on technologies and processes that can be applied to enable science, technology and innovation to promote peaceful and inclusive societies, provide access to justice and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions, and on how rapidly changing technologies are posing challenges to meeting the targets of Goal 16.</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assistant Director, Academy of Scientific Research and Technology, Egypt, Arm Abdelkhalek • Secretary General, Ministry of Scientific Research and Innovation, Burkina Faso, Badiori Ouattara • Technical Advisor, Ministry of ICT and Innovation, Rwanda; Paul Ingabire,

	Moderator: South Africa, Director Multilateral Cooperation and Africa, Mmampei Chaba
4–4.20 p.m.	Coffee break
4.20–5.20 p.m.	<p>Session 6</p> <p>Sustainable Development Goal 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development¹</p> <p>Science, technology and innovation is a major tool for promoting global partnerships. On that basis, this session will focus on strengthening and revitalizing science, technology and innovation global partnerships for the sustainable development of Africa. Despite good trade and investment relations, very few African countries have an umbrella science, technology and innovation agreement with the developed countries that are the major suppliers of technology. More importantly, very few regional economic communities have fully operationalized plans to promote cooperation in research and development related to technology. In addition, the continuous strengthening of intellectual property rights and the absence of a transparent global market for technology remain key impediments to technology transfers, especially for African countries. The session will focus on examples on how to revitalize and strengthen intra-African cooperation and South-South and North-South partnerships to build a sound science, technology and industrial base in Africa to meet the targets of the Sustainable Development Goals and implement Agenda 2063. Another point of discussion will be addressing how the global intellectual property regimes can facilitate technology transfer.</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director, Africa Region, World Intellectual Property Organization, Switzerland, Marc Sery-Kore • Head, Industrialization, Science, Technology and Innovation Hub, AUDA-NEPAD, Tichaona Mangwende, • President, The Network of African Science Academies, Mostapha Bousmina <p>Moderator: Amr Farouk, Egypt</p>
5.20–6 p.m.	<p>Session 7</p> <p>Key messages and wrap up</p> <p>During this session, key messages and recommendations emanating from the deliberations will be consolidated. The recommendations will feed into the fifth session of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development and the fourth Multi-stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals, to be held in New York on 14 and 15 May 2019.</p>

¹ Based on the submission on Partnerships for the Goals.

	Adoption of the recommendations Closing remarks: Deputy Executive Secretary, Economic Commission for Africa, Giovanie Biha Deputy Director General, DST
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Contacts

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