

AFRICAN UNION

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UNIÃO AFRICANA

Addis Ababa, ETHIOPIA P. O. Box 3243 Telephone: +251 11 551 7700 Fax: +251 115 517844 Website: [www.au.int](http://www.au.int)

## AfCFTA Business Summit

*Leveraging the power of business to drive Africa's integration*

20<sup>th</sup> March 2018

Draft abridged programme

Kigali Convention Centre, Rwanda



Creating One African Market

## Overview

History will be made on March 21st 2018, when Africa's single market comes into existence.

His Excellency President Paul Kagame of Rwanda, the Chairperson of the African Union, and His Excellency Mr Moussa Faki, the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, will convene an extraordinary meeting of the Heads of State and Government of the continent in Kigali, Rwanda, to formally launch the Africa Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

The launch of the Africa Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) is a major step towards regional integration. It will involve the AUC, the private sector, academia and civil society and will provide a Pan-African platform for promoting and enhancing multi-stakeholder trade policy advocacy and dialogue consistent with the goals of the BIAT (the adopted theme of 'Boosting Intra-African Trade') and the AfCFTA.

The AfCFTA launch affords the AUC the opportunity to debate and exchange views on the continent's economic transformation through trade with a wide range of key stakeholders. According to the findings of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the AfCFTA is expected to increase intra-African trade by 52% by 2022. The project aims to bring together a total of 55 states in a free trade area across the continent.

Ahead of the launch, on March 20th, is the first ever '*AfCFTA Business Summit*'. The summit will be the platform for multi-stakeholder dialogue on the future of the AfCFTA. This invigorating day will involve speeches, Davos-style discussion panels, and presentations. The *AfCFTA Business Summit* will be attended by high-level government officials including Heads of States, representatives from the private sector, civil society, academia, parliamentarians, Regional Economic Communities (RECs), development partners and the media. The event provides an ideal framework for stakeholder mobilization to harness the opportunities offered by the AfCFTA agenda. It is also the ideal opportunity to gather the input and aspirations of the private sector towards the integrating Africa's economies.

Following the AfCFTA Business Summit Heads of States will gather on March 21 to officially sign into existence the African Continental Free Trade Area.

## Draft Programme

**19 March 2018**

Time	Agenda Item
09.00 - 18.00	<b>Participant Registration</b>
18.00 - 21.00	<b>Welcome Reception</b> <b>Venue: Kigali Marriott Hotel</b>

**20 March 2018**

### Business Breakfast

Time	Agenda Item
07.45 - 08.50	<p><b>The AfCFTA Business Breakfast. Organised by AfroChampions</b></p> <p>Presentations and a Panel discussion followed by Q&amp;A</p> <p><b>Suggested discussion theme:</b> <b><i>Made in Africa: AfCFTA and Africa's structural transformation</i></b></p> <p><i>Many African countries still specialize in a few primary commodities, while most of their imports consist of manufactures, thus the potential for intraregional trade is limited because of this lack of diversification and competitiveness.</i></p> <p><i>Across Africa, the Services sector is growing rapidly and is becoming diversified. It has become an important contributor to economic growth and the GDP of an increasing number of African countries. This session will discuss lessons learned, with particular attention to how</i></p>

	<p><i>the AfCFTA can support the implementation of Boosting Intra-African Trade (BIAT) and the African Industrial Development for Africa (AIDA) as well as accelerate services development in Africa.</i></p>
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**20 March 2018**

**AfCFTA Business Summit**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Agenda Item</b>
09.00 - 09.05	<p><b>Short Film</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><i>ONE: The birth of Africa's Continental Free Trade Area</i></b></li> </ul>
09.05 - 09.20	<p><b>Welcome:</b></p> <p><b>Ms. Clare Akamanzi</b>, Chief Executive Officer, Rwanda Development Board (5 minutes)</p> <p><b>H.E. Albert M. Muchanga</b>, Commissioner for Trade and Industry, African Union Commission (5 minutes)</p>
09.20 - 10.00	<p><b>Keynote Address</b></p> <p><b>H.E. Paul Kagame</b>, President of Rwanda &amp; Chairperson of the African Union</p> <p><b>Opening Plenary:</b> <b><i>The opportunities of One market for Africa</i></b></p> <p><b>Speakers:</b> Heads of State and Leading Private Sector CEO's</p> <p>Moderator: <b>Mark Eddo</b>, Former BBC Presenter &amp; CEO, Mark Eddo Media</p>

	Africa, Nigeria
10.00 - 11.00	<p><b>Plenary II - Leveraging the power of business to drive Africa's integration</b></p> <p><b><i>One-on-one with ... An AU Head of State</i></b></p> <p><b>Panel Discussion:</b>  <i>The AfCFTA presents African Economies and Industries an unparalleled opportunity to strengthen and grow. Now more than ever private sector and policy-makers must develop a symbiotic relationship to achieve those goals. In this opening panel some of Africa's leading business people join Ministers and multilateral agencies to explore how all stakeholders could work together for the evolution of a single market for the prosperity of all.</i></p> <p><b>Panel discussion</b> with Leading Private Sector CEO's, Ministers, Policy Makers and civil society leaders followed by Q&amp;A with audience</p> <p>Moderator: <b>Mark Eddo</b>, Former BBC Presenter &amp; CEO, Mark Eddo Media Africa, Nigeria</p>
11.00- 11.20	<b>Coffee/Tea Networking Break</b>
11.20 - 11.30	<p><b>Launch of the AfCFTA Country Index</b></p> <p><b>David Luke</b>, Coordinator of the African Trade Policy Centre (ATPC) at the UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)</p>
11.30 - 12.30	<p><b>Plenary III - Jobs, Youth &amp; Women: What AfCFTA means for Africa's citizens</b></p> <p><b><i>One-on-one with...An AU Head of State</i></b></p> <p><b>Panel Discussion:</b>  <i>The single market for Africa has the potential to supercharge economies,</i></p>

	<p><i>rapidly scale-up industries, grow small &amp; medium-sized businesses into big continent-wide operators and solve some of Africa's most chronic development issues such as youth unemployment and gender inequality. So what are the next steps to achieving that?</i></p> <p><b>Panel discussion</b> with leading Private Sector CEO's, Ministers, Policy Makers and other stakeholders followed by Q&amp;A</p>
12.30 - 13.30	<p><b>Plenary IV - Reducing the cost of doing business through the Free Movement of people and goods via air, land and sea</b></p> <p><i>In January 2018 the African Union launched the Single African Air Transport Market, a new initiative that could open up Africa's skies for easier air travel, lower prices and increased connectivity. Tomorrow Africa's Heads of State will sign the protocol for the Free Movement of People programme. This could pave the way for Africans to move more freely, reside, work, study or do business in any AU country. As the AU Commission chairperson Moussa Faki Mahamat said: "(This) puts an end to the treatment of Africans as strangers on their own continent."</i></p> <p><i>These remarkable initiatives – together with the African Continental Free Trade Area - are vital to the achievement of the long-term vision of an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa under the AU Agenda 2063. In this panel a select group of high-level stakeholders will explore the opportunities the AfCFTA and the new initiatives present for Africa's industrial development.</i></p> <p><b>Panel discussion</b> with Head of State, Leading Private Sector CEO's, Policy Makers and other stakeholders followed by Q&amp;A</p> <p>Moderator: <b>Ibrahima Cheikh Diong</b>, Chief Executive Officer of Africa Consulting and Trading (ACT) &amp; Former Minister to the President of Senegal, <i>Senegal</i></p>
13.30 - 14.45	<p><b>AfCFTA Networking Lunch</b></p>

14.45 - 16.00	<p><b>Plenary V: Financing intra-Africa trade</b></p> <p><i>There are still significant deficits in meeting the demand for trade finance in Africa. The conservative estimate for the value of trade finance shortfall is estimated at 1US\$ 110 to 120 billion. These figures suggest that the market is significantly underserved. In addition intra-African trade is hampered by the multiplicity of currencies. How do we increase availability and enhance accessibility intra-African trade and investment finance and guarantee programmes as well as facilitating payment between African traders. The panel will also discuss issues related to a Pan African payment and settlement system to facilitate the implementation of the AfCFTA, taking into consideration the growing of e-commerce on the continent.</i></p> <p>Areas of discussion include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Mitigating the effects of currency depreciation</li><li>● Encouraging &amp; supporting the development of continental supply chains and export manufacturing capacity.</li><li>● How is regulation being strengthened around finance?</li><li>● Tapping into international capital markets to finance projects</li><li>● Continental Payment Systems and the AfCFTA</li><li>● Financing Infrastructure development</li></ul> <p><b>Panel discussion</b> with Leading Private Sector CEO's, Ministers, Policy Makers and other stakeholders followed by Q&amp;A with audience</p>
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16.00 - 17.00	<p><b>Closing Plenary: Technology, Innovation and Intra-Africa Trade</b></p> <p><i>They're calling it "the 4th Industrial Revolution": the impact of technology on the way we live and work. From digitalisation and interconnectivity to robotics and 3D printing, industries and jobs are going through a seismic shift in innovation that is creating new business models and improving the delivery of goods and services.</i></p> <p><i>Africa has a youth bulge that presents an opportunity in this brave new world. How can the development of the African Continental Free Trade Area create a fertile platform for the next generation of innovative workers? Where are the opportunities and how can one ensure these are fully realised? This session will contextualise the African opportunity within the new framework of one market and within a global context as well as look at the challenges that it needs to overcome.</i></p> <p><b>One-on-one with ... An AU Head of State</b></p> <p><b>Panel discussion</b> with Head of State, Leading Private Sector CEO's, Policy Makers and other stakeholders followed by Q&amp;A</p>
17.00 - 17.10	<p><b>Wrap Up Session &amp; Closing</b></p> <p><b>H.E. Albert M. Muchanga</b>, Commissioner for Trade and Industry, African Union Commission</p> <p><i>The AU Commission will present a summary of key messages arising from the AfCFTA Business Summit</i></p>



18.00 - 21.00	<b>AfCFTA Cocktail Reception</b>
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