



# United Nations Economic Commission for Africa

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**Sub-Regional Office for West Africa**

**Twenty-First Session of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts  
(ICE)**

Cotonou (Benin)  
27 to 29 June 2018

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15 June 2018  
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**Theme: “Regional Integration in West Africa: New  
Challenges and Prospects”**

**DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK**

## DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27, 2018**

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|----------------------|---|
| 09:00 – 09:30        | Registration of participants  |
| 09:30 – 11:00        | <p>Social and economic development in Africa and in the world in 2018 and the outlook in 2019 for West African economies (<i>Preliminary session</i>)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Presentation: Sub-regional economic profile of West Africa in 2018 (ECA)</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Discussant: - DGAE Benin (Benin)</i><br/>- Nigeria</p>   |
| <b>11:00 – 11:30</b> | <b>Coffee break</b>   |
| 11:30 – 12:30        | <p>Presentation of the report of the Experts' Group Meeting on "<i>the implications of the potential expansion of the ECOWAS and the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA)</i>" (ECA)</p>  |
| 12:30-13:00          | ECA services for Capacity Building in Africa: Supporting States to Build Resilience, Security and Development (ECA)   |
| <b>01:00 – 02:30</b> | <b>Lunch break</b>  |
| 02:30 – 03:00        | <p>Opening ceremony (Agenda item 1)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Address by the Director of the ECA Sub Regional Office for West Africa.</li> <li>• Address by the Resident Coordinator of the United Nations System in Benin.</li> <li>• Speech by the outgoing President of the 20<sup>th</sup> Session of the ICE.</li> <li>• Opening speech by the Minister of State, Minister of Planning of Benin.</li> </ul> |

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- 03:00 – 03:30  
(Agenda item 2) Election of the Bureau for the 21st Session of the ICE
- 03:30 – 03:45 Adoption of the Agenda and the Programme of Work  
(Agenda item 3)
- 03:45 – 05:00 Review of statutory reports (Agenda item 4)
- 03:45 – 04:15 Report on the implementation of the ECA SRO-WA Programme of Work for 2017 and the outlook for 2018
  - **04:15 – 04:30 Coffee break**
  - 04:30 – 05:00 Report on the implementation of the SDGs

#### Thursday, June 28, 2018

- 09:00 - 10:45 Round Table: "Regional Integration in West Africa: New Challenges and Prospects" (Agenda Item 5)
- 10:45 - 11:00 Coffee break**
- 11:00 - 12:30 Special session on regional integration (Agenda item 6)
- ECOWAS
  - WAEMU
  - MRU
  - Experiences of Member Countries
- 12:30 -13:00 Presentations on the continental initiatives of the ECA (Agenda item 7)
- 01:00 - 02:30 Lunch break**

- 02:30 - 04:00      Launching of the STEPS profile of Benin (Agenda item 8)
- 04:00 - 04:15      Coffee break**
- 04:15 - 06:00      Preparation of the final communiqué of the ICE by the Secretariat and administrative issues for the Delegates (continuation and conclusion)

**Friday, June 29, 2018**

- 09:00 - 10:00      Review and adoption of the recommendations of the Experts' Group Meeting by the Committee (Agenda item 9)
- 10:00-11:00      Review and adoption of the ICE Report and Recommendations (Agenda item 10)  
Date and place of the next ICE Meeting (Agenda item 11)  
Miscellaneous (Agenda item 12)
- 11:00 – 11:30      Closing ceremony (Agenda item 13)
- Address by the Director of the Bureau
  - Closing speech by the host country
- 01:00 - 02:30      Lunch break**
- 02:30 – 06:00      Free session (networking, tourist visit to be organised by the Benin hosts, etc.)**