

**Expert Group Meeting on
Fostering African Private Sector in the Big Data Era
3 to 4 December 2019, Yaoundé, Cameroon
Provision Programme**

Day One : Tuesday 3 December 2019	
08.00 – 09.00	Delegates Registration
09.00 – 10.00	<p>Opening</p> <p>OPENING SESSION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome Remarks by the Director, ECA/SRO-CA, • Opening statement by Her Excellency Madame Libom LI Likeng Minette, Minister of Posts and Telecommunications • Presentation objectives of the meeting and programme of work\ <p>Group photo</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of the participants <p>Moderator : Dr Windfred Mfuh</p>
10.00-10.30	Coffee/Tea Break

10.30 – 11.15	<p>Plenary Session 1: Setting the scene:</p> <p><i>In this session, ECA will present for general discussion, the draft policy report on on Fostering African Private Sector in the Big Data Era. The document assesses the broad concept and characteristics of big data, trends in the development and challenges for Africa of potential impact of big data with particular focus on fostering the role of the private sector in realizing the potential of big data for socio-economic growth of the continent. The draft report provides material for the discussion in the various breakout sessions that follow the plenary.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Cameroon (Dr Windfred Mfuh)</p>
11.15-13.00	<p>Plenary Session II: Private sector role and data-driven transformation in Africa</p> <p><i>In Africa, the main sources of data are derived from social media and mobile phone operators. This session will focus on the role of the private sector in the data-driven transformation in Africa and how to address the issue related to research, digital economy, security, peace and development contexts and where data can play strategic roles in stimulating further digital development of Africa. Moreover, this session will address the expectations on how Africa data intersects with IoT, Big Data, AI, Blockchain and other emerging technologies and how they are going to contribute to solving complex security, economic, political problems and developmental challenges</i></p> <p>Moderator: Namibia Panelists :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Dereje Yohannes, Director for the Artificial Intelligence & Robotics CoE Addis Ababa Science & Technology University, Ethiopia • Prof. Olivier Nana Nzepa, Niabang Ranch, Cameroon • Mr. Koffi Fabrice Djossou , Benin • Mr. Jimson
13.00-14.00	Lunch/Break

14.00 – 15.00	Breakout session I: Big / Data, Data Analytics and The Big Data Ecosystem			
	<p>Session 1: Big Data and Data Revolution – Types of Big Data</p> <p><i>This session explores the concepts of big data and its characteristics represented by the 5Vs – volume, velocity, variety, veracity and value including others that may be relevant and the data revolution. Big data represents a complex structure of various datasets involving structured and unstructured forms. The session also reviews the two different classifications of big data - the UNECE’s classification by type and by size and explores and recommends how this classification can be adopted, expanded, etc .to the African context</i></p>	<p>Session 2: Big/Open Data & Data analytics</p> <p><i>New communication technologies are generating a massive amount of data. At the same time, new storage technologies are making it possible to store data in digital, re-usable forms. Access to these data could promote innovation and entrepreneurship. This session will examine the landscape for Big and Open Data (including Open government data) in Africa. It will examine country experiences and propose actions for African governments and their development partners to harness this new intangible resource</i></p>	<p>Session 3: The Big Data Ecosystem</p> <p><i>The big data ecosystem can be formed in different ways around organisations, communities, technology platforms, or within or across sectors. It can also be supported by other actors including data management platforms, data infrastructure and data services. The session will identify and map the stakeholders of a Big data ecosystem in Africa at the meso, micro and macro levels taking into account country experiences of such ecosystem and providing recommendations how governments can shape and foster the big data ecosystem in Africa.</i></p>	<p>Session 4 : The Big Data Value Chain</p> <p><i>The data value chain is made up of a series of subsystems each with inputs, transformation processes and outputs. The big data value chain describes the information flow within a big data system involving data acquisition, data analysis, data curation, data storage and data usage. This session explores the analysis of the big data technologies for each step within the value chain and recommends how this capability be built in the continent at national and regional level. What the role of private sector and government in this regard.</i></p>

15h.00-16.00	Breakout session II: The African Private sector and Big Data			
	<p>Session 5 : The African technology hubs and Big data</p> <p><i>African tech hubs have grown fast and there are now over 618 hubs across the continent. They play a key role in promotion and adaptation of new technologies including big data, How can tech hubs that are in various forms based on the support they offer to entrepreneurs, such as, incubators, accelerators, university based innovation hubs, maker spaces, technology parks and co-working spaces be fostered towards specialising in big data businesses. What support governments and other stakeholders should provide?</i></p>	<p>Session 6: Use of Big Data for Competitive Advantage of Companies – How are the African Private businesses embracing Big Data</p> <p><i>Describing the paradigmatic-shifting of big data for business, it is considered now that data now stands equally with people, technology and capital as core asset of corporations’. What strategies do African companies put in place to develop new business models, products and services or improve existing in the big data era? What recommendations can we forward to the private sector”</i></p>	<p>Session 7 : The Use of Big Data in Development – role of International, regional and national development actors in fostering the big data ecosystem</p> <p><i>The role of big data in development has been well recognised as viable source of data to inform policy decision. The public sector and development actors cannot fully capture the potential of big data without active participation from private sector though such as data philanthropy – sharing of data for public benefit. How can such collaboration be fostered among the different interests and needs?</i></p>	<p>Session 8 : Use of Big data in government – opportunities for business and innovation</p> <p><i>Governments have opportunities to harness big data solutions to improve productivity, performance and innovation in service delivery and policy making processes. In this regard, government may assume different roles as producer, consumer and facilitator. What would the role of the government be to promote private sector-led innovation and businesses using open data / open government data?</i></p>
16:00 – 16:30	<i>Coffee break</i>			

16.30 – 17.30	<p>Plenary Session III : Report back from the breakout session I</p> <p><i>During this Session, the participants will receive outcomes from the Chairs of the fourth the fourth breakout sessions</i></p> <p>Moderator: Senegal</p> <p>Open discussion</p>			
<p>Day Two: Wednesday, 4 December 2019</p>				
09.00 – 10.00	<p>Plenary Session IV : Report back from breakout session II</p> <p><i>During this Session, the participants will receive outcomes from the Chairs of the fourth breakout sessions</i></p> <p>Moderator: Malawi</p> <p>Open discussion</p>			
10.00 – 11.00	<p>Breakout session III: Opportunities and Challenges, and Enhancing Africa’s readiness for big data opportunities</p>			
	<p>Session 5 : Opportunities and Challenges for the African Big data ecosystem and market</p> <p><i>The session examines the opportunities and challenges of the African big data ecosystem from the perspectives of promoting the private sector in the big data market. The session identifies recommendations for big data ecosystem stakeholders</i></p>	<p>Session 6: Developing the technical and business skills requirements for African big data ecosystem/market</p> <p><i>One of the challenges of developing the big data ecosystem is the lack of skilled manpower in the area ranging from business analytics to professionals in data science, IY architecture specialists and data visualisation specialists, etc. What strategies and</i></p>	<p>Session 7 : Enhancing the Infrastructure and services – readiness for big data</p> <p><i>The big data value chain and the big data ecosystem involve the range of actors, institutions, infrastructure, technologies, etc. that make the entire ecosystem to be in good shape competitive edge. This session analyses the different stakeholders</i></p>	<p>Session 8 : Legal and regulatory frameworks – addressing issues of data protection, privacy and cybersecurity for the Big data business</p> <p><i>This session examines the legal and regulatory frameworks for a big data ecosystem to effectively function in the entire big data value chain from data acquisition to analysis, curation, storage and usage. The session identifies legal and regulatory issues and recommends how such frameworks can be put in place at national and regional levels to ensure confidentiality, security, ethical use and interoperability, harmonisation, etc.</i></p>

	<i>(government, development actors, CSOs, private sector) in Africa in addressing the challenges and putting to good use.</i>	<i>recommendations can be suggested to develop a critical mass of skills in big data and analytics for government and other stakeholders' actions?</i>	<i>and actors in the big data ecosystem and recommends the steps for achieving a well developed big data ecosystem in terms of data infrastructure, capacity and use to meet the demands of the dynamic global business environment.</i>	
11.00-11.30	<i>Coffee break</i>			
11:30 – 13:00	Plenary Session V: Report back from breakout session III <i>During this Session, the participants will receive outcomes from the Chairs of the fourth breakout sessions</i> Moderator: Gambia Open discussion			
13.00-14.00	Lunch break			
14:00 – 15:30	Plenary Session VI: Concluding Session Issues to be addressed include, among others: <i>This session will debate and discuss the challenges faced with investments, infrastructure, skills gap, cyber security and decentralized regulatory policies across the continent</i> Moderator: Cameroon (Dr Windfred MFUH) Panelists : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy and legal framework implications for Big Data Ecosystem: Dr. Eric Armel Ndoumba, Congo • Skills development and Human resource needs for the Big data market: Dr. Dereje Yohannes Ashenafi, Ethiopia • Fostering the African tech hubs, start-ups and the ICT sector for developing the big data market\ • Cyber security: Mr. Boukare Yougbare, Burkina Faso 			
15.30-16.00	Coffee/Tea Break			
16.00 – 17.30	Draft summary and conclusions of the meeting Closing and the way forward: ECA, Cameroon			