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Side-event

Planning for tomorrow workforce: is Africa ready?

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In collaboration with

The Policy Center for the New South, a Moroccan policy-oriented think tank and the High Commission for Planning of Morocco

MODERATOR

1. DR. KARIMA BOUNEMRA BEN SOLTANE

Director, Institute for Economic Development and Planning

PANEL COMPOSITION

1. Dr. YONOV FREDERICK AGAH

Deputy Director-General, WTO

2. Dr. MOUBARACK LO

Chief economist to Prime Minister of Senegal

3. Dr. KARIM EL AYNAOUI

Executive Director, policy center for the new south

4. AYACHE KELLAF

Directeur des prévisions et des prospectives, HCP, Maroc

5. LILIA HACHEM NAAS

Director, ECA regional office for North Africa

6. VICTOR DJEMBA

Director, Africa department, UNIDO

7. Dr. FRANCOIS PAUL YATTA

Director of programme, United Cities and Local Governments



Yonov Frederick Agah

Deputy Director-General, WTO

Yonov Frederick Agah began his first term as Deputy Director-General of the WTO on 1 October 2013. He has been reappointed for a second four-year term, starting on 1 October 2017.

Yonov Frederick Agah was appointed as Nigeria's Ambassador to the WTO in 2005. In that capacity, he served as the Alternate Chief Negotiator for the Doha Round and Head of Nigeria's Trade Office to the WTO in the Permanent Mission of Nigeria to the United Nations Office in Geneva. The Trade Office is responsible for Nigeria's participation in Geneva-based trade-related international organizations, particularly the UN Conference on Trade and Development, the World Intellectual Property Organisation, the International Trade Centre and the WTO.

Mr Agah served as Chair of the WTO's General Council in 2011. He was responsible for organizing the Eighth WTO Ministerial Conference, which was acknowledged to be successful despite the prevailing stalemate in the Doha Round. He has also served as Chair of the following WTO bodies: Dispute Settlement Body in 2010, the Council for Trade in Services in 2009, the Trade Policy Review Body in 2008, the Council for Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights in 2007, and the Council for Trade in Goods in 2006. He was also the Chair of the Council for TRIPS, Special Session, in 2013.

Mr Agah has previously worked as a lecturer at Kaduna Polytechnic, Kaduna (1979-81), senior features writer/circulation manager, Benue Printing and Publishing Corporation (1982-84), Sales Manager, Benue Bottling Company Limited (1984-87), Field Manager, UTC Nigeria PLC (1990-91), Deputy Director (multilateral) (1991-2001) and Director (external trade) (2002-05).

Mr Agah holds a Bachelor of Science and Master of Science in Economics from Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Nigeria. He obtained a Master of Business Administration and Doctor of Philosophy in Economics (International Trade) from the University of Jos, Nigeria, in 1989 and 2007 respectively. His doctoral dissertation was on "Trade Policy Reform and Economic Growth in Nigeria Since 1986". Mr Agah also obtained a Bachelor of Laws from the University of Abuja, Nigeria, in 2009. He has contributed to various books and journals.



Moubarak Lo

Chief economist to Prime

Minister of Senegal

He is President of the Emergence Institute, specializing in economic and statistical studies and strategic planning, and a Senior Fellow at the Policy Center for the New South, previously known as OCP Policy Center, who focuses on Economic Growth & Development, and Applied Statistics. He is currently Special Adviser to the Prime Minister, Chief Economist of the Prime Minister and Coordinator of the Economic and Social Analysis Unit. Previously, he was deputy director in the Cabinet of Macky Sall, president of the Republic of Senegal. He also served as an economic advisor to Prime Ministers Habib Thiam, Moustapha Niassé, and Mamadou Lamine Loum, as well as the Office of the Minister of Economy and Finance. He is an expert for the UN, the African Development Bank, the World Bank, the African Union, and Economic Community of West African States. Mr. Lo has served as associate lecturer in economic policy at the National School of Administration of Senegal and the University Gaston Berger of St. Louis. He also designed the index of development Economic Emergence Composites.



Karim El Aynaoui

Executive Director, policy

center for the new south

He is Dean of the Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences of the Mohammed VI Polytechnic University. He is also the president of the Policy Center for the New South, previously known as OCP Policy Center, a think tank based in Rabat and serves as advisor to the CEO and Chairman of OCP Group, a global leader in the phosphate sector. From 2005 to 2012, he worked at Bank Al-Maghrib, the Central Bank of Morocco. He was the Director of Economics and International Relations, where he provided strategic leadership in defining and supporting monetary policy analysis and strategy. He was also in charge of the Statistical and International Relations Divisions of the Central Bank, led the research division and was a member of the Governor's Cabinet. Before joining Bank Al-Maghrib, Karim El Aynaoui worked for eight years

at the World Bank, both in its Middle Eastern and North Africa, and Africa regions as an economist. He has published papers, books and articles in scientific journals on macroeconomic issues in developing countries. Recently, he co-authored a book outlining a growth strategy for Morocco and was the guest editor of a special issue on food price volatility in Oxford Economic Papers.

Karim El Aynaoui is a board member of the OCP Foundation, a member of the Strategic Advisory Board of the French Institute of International Relations (IFRI) and a member of the COP22 Scientific Committee. He also participates in the Malabo-Montpellier Panel. Karim El Aynaoui holds a PhD in economics from the University of Bordeaux, where he taught for three years courses in statistics and economics.



Lilia Hachem Naas

Director, ECA regional office
for North Africa

She has been appointed Director of the ECA Office for North Africa in Morocco since October 2017.

A Tunisian national, Lilia has been working for the United Nations for over 20 years. Before joining UNECA, Lilia was Chief Office for Arab States at the International Trade Centre (ITC) in Geneva, from 2013 to 2017. Lilia joined ITC in September 1998 where she held various managerial positions working in the Office for Africa, Office for Asia Pacific, Enterprise Competitiveness Section and Sector Competitiveness Section. In 2009-2010, Lilia held the position of Manager, Local Development Programme at the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) strengthening the capacity of local authorities to implement the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Prior to joining the UN, Lilia worked with Hewlett Packard Company in the USA and the Export Promotion Centre (CEPEX) in Tunisia. She holds an MBA in International Business Management and a Master of Science in Management Information Systems from University of Maryland College Park in the USA. She is fluent in English, French and Arabic.



François Paul Yatta

Director of programme, United
Cities and Local Governments

François Paul Yatta holds a MPhil in Urban and Regional Economics Paris, University of Paris XII – Val de Marne (France, 1994), a Master's Degree in Urban Engineering, Ecole Nationale des Ponts et Chaussées, ENPC, Paris, (France, 1995), and a PhD in urban and regional economics, University of Paris XII – Val de Marne (France, 1998)). He also holds an Accreditation to Lead Researches (Habilitation à Diriger les Recherches, HDR), University of Paris XII – Val de Marne (France, 2005). Researcher at the "Observatoire de l'Économie et des Institutions Locales, Paris, France" from 1993 to 1998, he participated, in several researches, which the most important are (1) the comparison of the major cities of the world with regard to their GDP (2) the development of a spatialized development model to test, identify and measure a certain number of relationships or assumptions, such as the influence of infrastructure, public policies, budgetary policy, etc. (3) the contribution to the "Base 90 regional aggregates" Working Group of the National Institute of statistics and economic studies, INSEE (Division of statistics and economic studies, Paris, France) which has for objective the redesign of regional accounts in France and (4) the participation in the process of the EU regional policy reform, particularly on the criteria for eligibility and allocation of structural funds. Dr Yatta thesis on Cities GDP in France were pioneering. Dr. Yatta's researches focuses on urban economy, macroeconomic implications of urbanization, local finance, and fiscal decentralization in France and Africa. He also provides training and teaching at the international level. Dr Yatta is author of two books : « Villes et développement économique en Afrique : une approche par les comptes économiques sociaux, éditions Economica, 315 pages, 2006 » and « La décentralisation fiscale en Afrique : enjeux et perspectives, éditions Khartala, 340 pages, 2009 » ; two « Think Pieces» of the 2015 and 2016 African Economic Outlook publish by OECD/AfDB ; and several scientific publications on local finances, fiscal decentralization and urban economics. He is also co-author of four books. Dr Yatta is Member of the International Institute of Public Finance (IIPF), the Development Finance Network (DEFINE) of OECD and the Association of francophone regional science (ASRDLF). Dr Yatta has been consultant for, among others, the European Commission, World Bank, United-Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), Sahel and West Africa Club Secretariat, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, United Nations Development Program (UNDP), Swiss Cooperation, German Cooperation and UK Department for International Development.



Mr. Victor DIWANDJA DJEMBA

Director, Africa department, UNIDO

He is the Head of the Regional Division for Africa in Vienna, Austria with the responsibility to lead the implementation of the United Nations General Assembly Resolution A/RES/70/293 on the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA III). Prior to this appointment, he served as UNIDO Representative in Senegal with coverage of Cabo-Verde, The Gambia, Guinea-Bissau and Mauritania from 2013-2018. As UNIDO Representative and Team Leader of Senegal's Programme for Country Partnership (PCP) through which UNIDO supports the Government of Senegal in the implementation of the industrial component of its national development strategy, the *Plan Senegal Emergent (PSE)*, Mr. DIWANDJA DJEMBA led UNIDO interventions including the mobilization of multi-stakeholder partnerships towards the development and operationalization of the Integrated Eco-Industrial Park of Diamniado, the implementation of the PSE's flagship reform on Special Economic Zones, the establishment of three Modern poles for agro industrial development and the setting up of a regional mining hub. Before joining UNIDO in 1996, Mr. DIWANDJA DJEMBA was active in the private sector in France where he worked for the re-engineering of manufacturing processes, the development of innovative products and the creation of new activities both in the small and medium industrial enterprises in the Lorraine region as well as within the multinational Rhône-Poulenc (currently Rhodia Group) in La Rochelle.



Ayache KHELLAF

Directeur des prévisions et des
perspectives, HCP, Maroc

Directeur de la Prévision et de la Prospective au HCP, ingénieur en statistiques de l'INSEA de Rabat, titulaire d'un doctorat en économie et d'un Master of Science in Policy Economics (MSPE), respectivement de l'Université Mohammed V de Rabat et de l'University of Illinois.