

**Regional meeting on “Innovations for infrastructure development and sustainable industrialization”
26 March 2017, 9:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
King Fahd Palace Hotel (Conference Room B12-C12), Dakar, Senegal**

**Guidance for contributors: Plenary discussion on “The Infrastructure-Industrialization Nexus”, 9:10-10:30
a.m.**

1. Overview

The meeting is a one-day, regional event in preparation for the 2017 Special Meeting of ECOSOC on “Innovations for infrastructure development and sustainable industrialization” on 31 May 2017, in New York. The key background references – including concept note and technical issues paper – serve as essential reading for this meeting and are available online [here](#). Information about the larger initiative can also be found there.

It is critical that we maximize the potential of convening such high levels of expertise and experience on this topic in Dakar. Each moderated discussion should aim to bring out key lessons, experiences and potential solutions with respect to the challenges and opportunities identified by the various participants. This will also allow for fruitful knowledge exchange among the participants

Concrete recommendations and key messages emerging from this meeting will be presented by the President of ECOSOC to the AUC-ECA joint meeting of Ministers on Tuesday, 28 March, and carried forward to the New York meeting in May. ECOSOC intends to highlight, scale up or launch two to three new and emerging initiatives in support of infrastructure, industrialization and innovation at the New York meeting in May.

2. Format

The one-day meeting will consist of about 75 participants, including Government Ministers, policy-makers, representatives from the public and private sectors and academia, among others. It will take place in a large round-table conference setting to ensure an interactive discussion. It is open to all participants who have registered with the AUC-ECA joint meeting organizers.

The morning will be organised to put the focus in two plenary discussions on expert and technical perspectives with respect to the meeting theme. After lunch, the afternoon session kicks off with a formal welcoming session and will be followed by a ministerial roundtable discussion.

3. General guidelines

- The Moderator should make brief opening remarks to set the stage for the discussion, by providing some context (1-2 minutes) and briefly introducing the presenters and discussants.¹
- The two Presenters will begin, each giving substantive presentations of around 10-12 minutes.
- Following the presentations, the Moderator will give each of the three discussants the floor to make focused 8-10 minutes of remarks, guided by the presentations, theme, description and questions for their session. Discussants should draw on the unique perspective afforded by their respective work and experience in relation to the issues presented.
- The moderator will assist with time management and facilitate discussion following the presenters and discussants’ initial interventions. He should collect questions from the floor and ensure that

¹ Note to Moderator: Just before this session, in the context of the opening, a short keynote address will be delivered by Dr. Ibrahim Mayaki, who will be introduced by the Meeting Chair (the President of ECOSOC) in his opening remarks.

presenters and discussants have a chance to respond, while keeping focus on key issues and tangible messages/recommendations.

- The moderator will invite presenters and discussants to give brief closing reflections (1-2 minutes) at the end of each session.
- The moderator may also give brief wrap-up remarks, including initial identification of some of the key emerging messages and recommendations.
- The moderator may also choose to email presenters and discussants in advance to make introductions and facilitate a brief email exchange. Depending on schedules, the moderator could propose a brief meeting of the panel beforehand.

4. Plenary discussion on “The Infrastructure-Industrialization Nexus”, 9:10-10:30 a.m.

This session will examine the current status of infrastructure development and sustainable industrialisation in Africa and other developing countries, both of which are enablers for sustainable development in their own right, but whose current state of development could act as a serious drawback to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda. The session will examine how countries – through a synergistic consideration of the nexus – can develop policies and implement programmes that will mitigate the various constraints and fast-track the industrialisation process.

Possible discussion questions

- How can the synergies across infrastructure, industrialization and innovation be supported, and the infrastructure-industrialization nexus strengthened?
- What kind of institutions are required in countries to ensure necessary level of coordination across governments, the private sector, development finance institutions (DFIs) and other stakeholders to ensure the integrated and holistic implementation that this will require?
- How can African countries and other developing regions attract FDI for industrialisation and infrastructure development?
- What lessons can be replicated from existing good practice that have worked in other regions – such as improved regional integration, effective participation in value chains, use of spatial industrial policy and industrial agglomeration, public and private partnership – to foster infrastructure development for industrialization efforts in Africa?

5. Contributors

<u>Role</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Email address</u>
Moderator	Mr. David Mehdi Hamam	Director of the Office of the Special Advisor on Africa	hamamm@un.org
Presenter	Mr. Soteri Gatera	Chief, Industrialization and Infrastructure Section, UN Economic Commission for Africa	GSoteri@uneca.org
Presenter	Mr. Ciyong Zou	Director, Department of Partnership and Results Monitoring,	c.zou@unido.org

		UNIDO	
Discussant	Mr. Paul Jacobson	Engagement Manager, McKinsey Global Institute	Paul_Jacobson@McKinsey.com
Discussant	Dr. Robert Nantchouang	Senior Knowledge Management Expert, African Capacity Building Foundation	r.nantchouang@acbf-pact.org
Discussant	Ms. Rukia Shamte	RDS Consultancies and former Executive Secretary of Central Corridor Transport Facilitate Agency	rushamte@gmail.com
Logistical support	Mr. Gregory Barrett	Economic Affairs Officer, UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs	barrettg@un.org