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**Economic Commission for Africa
Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development**

Ninth session

Niamey (hybrid), 28 February–2 March 2023

Item 3(b) of the provisional agenda*

**Organizational matters: adoption of the agenda and
programme of work****Provisional programme of work****Monday, 20 February to Monday, 27 February 2023****Pre- and side events**

- 8.30–9 a.m. **Registration**
- 9 a.m.–5.30 p.m. Science, technology and innovation bootcamp for young people (20–23 February 2023)
- Coding camp for African girls (1. 20–27 February 2023, École Supérieure Nationale des Télécommunications; 2. 28 February to 1 March 2023 at the Mahatma Gandhi International Conference Centre (CIMG))
- Hackathon on digital technology for climate change (25–27 February 2023)
- Youth workshop on voluntary national reviews (26 February 2023)
- Second session of the Fourth Africa climate talks (26 and 27 February 2023, Palais des Congrès, Salle de Commission 2)
- Fifth African Science, Technology and Innovation Forum (26 and 27 February 2023, Palais des Congrès, Plénière)
- Regional workshop on voluntary national reviews and voluntary subnational reviews (27 February 2023, Palais des Congrès, Salle de Commission 1)
- Preparatory and capacity-development workshop for major groups and other stakeholders in the African region for the ninth session of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development (27 February 2023, Palais des Congrès, Salle Huis Clos)
- Africa Regional Collaborative Platform (28 February 2023, CIMG, Salle Huis Clos)

* ECA/RFSD/2023/1.



For details of all pre- and side events, see www.uneca.org/eca-events/node/166

Tuesday, 28 February 2023

8.30–9 a.m.	Registration
9–10.30 a.m.	<p>Opening of the session (agenda item 1)</p> <p>Venue: Plenary Hall (CIMG plénière)</p> <p>Chair: State Secretary for Business Promotion, Cabo Verde, Adalgisa Barbosa Vaz</p> <p>Master of ceremonies: Commissioner for the Organization of Major Events, Niger, Imirane Maïga</p> <p>Welcoming remarks: Governor of Niamey, Oudou Ambouca</p> <p>Musical interlude: Song by the artistic troupe “SOGA” dedicated to the ninth session of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development</p> <p>Statements:</p> <p>State Secretary for Business Promotion, Cabo Verde, Adalgisa Barbosa Vaz;</p> <p>Acting Executive Secretary, Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Antonio Pedro;</p> <p>President, Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, and Permanent Representative of Bulgaria to the United Nations, Lachezara Stoeva;</p> <p>Youth representatives, Anita Hamidou and Moustapha Djafare;</p> <p>Representative of the African Development Bank;</p> <p>Deputy Chairperson, African Union Commission, Monique Nsanzabaganwa;</p> <p>Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations, Amina Mohammed.</p> <p>Keynote address: President of Niger, Mohamed Bazoum.</p>
10.30–11 a.m.	Press conference, group photo and coffee break
11 a.m.–1 p.m.	<p>High-level panel 1: From Africa to the 2023 high-level political forum on sustainable development and the Sustainable Development Goals Summit: priorities to address multiple crises and accelerate implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want, of the African Union (agenda item 2)</p> <p>Venue: Plenary Hall (CIMG plénière)</p> <p>Chair: Representative of the Government of Niger</p> <p>Moderator: Special Representative of the Secretary-General to the African Union and Head of the United Nations Office to the African Union, Parfait Onanga-Anyanga</p>

Presentation on the highlights of the *2023 Africa Sustainable Development Report* by the Director, Macroeconomic Policy Division, ECA, Adam Elhiraika

Panellists:

- Minister of Planning, Niger, Rabiou Abdou;
- United Nations Under-Secretary-General, Office of the Special Adviser on Africa, Cristina Duarte;
- Former Minister of National Reconciliation, Burkina Faso, and former Director, Africa and Middle East, AREVA Group, Zéphirin Diabré;
- Deputy Director-General, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Xing Qu;
- Assistant Administrator and Director, Regional Bureau for Africa, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Ahunna Eziakonwa;
- Convener, African Youth SDGs Summit, Emmanuel Ametepey.

General discussion

1–1.30 p.m.

Organizational matters (agenda item 3)

Election of the Bureau

Venue: Plenary Hall (CIMG plénière)

Chair: Chair of the outgoing Bureau of the eighth session of the Regional Forum

Adoption of the agenda and programme of work

Chair: Chair of the Bureau of the ninth session of the Regional Forum

1:30–2.30 p.m.

Lunch break

2.30–4 p.m.

High-level panel 2: From the twenty-seventh session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and beyond: financing to achieve inclusive recovery and just transitions and to accelerate implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want, of the African Union (agenda item 4)

Venue: Plenary Hall (CIMG plénière)

Chair: Chair of the Bureau of the ninth session of the Regional Forum

Moderator: Director, Technology, Climate Change and Natural Resources Management Division, ECA, Jean-Paul Adam

Panellists:

- Executive Secretary, Sahel Region Climate Commission, Issifi Boureim;
- State Minister of Planning and Development, Ethiopia, Nemera Gebeyehu;

- State Secretary for Business Promotion, Cabo Verde, Adalgisa Barbosa Vaz;
- Minister of Territorial Administration, Decentralization and Sustainable Development, Central African Republic, Bruno Yapande;
- Deputy Minister of Planning and Economic Development, Egypt, Ahmed Kamaly;
- State Secretary, Ministry of Economic Development and International Partnerships, Chad, Madelèrne Alingue;
- Assistant Secretary-General and Deputy Executive Director (Programme), United Nations Population Fund, Diene Keita.

General discussion

4.30–6 p.m.

Plenary round-table panels on national and subnational actions and reviews to speed up and scale up implementation in Africa (agenda item 5)

(a) Voluntary national reviews and peer learning to strengthen country-level interventions

Venue: Plenary Hall (CIMG plénière)

Chair: Chair of the Bureau of the ninth session of the Regional Forum

Moderator: Deputy Executive Secretary and Chief Economist, ECA, Hanan Morsy

Panellists:

- Minister of Gender Affairs and the Protection of Women, Families and Children, Central African Republic, Marguerite Ramadan;
- Deputy Minister of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare, Zimbabwe, Lovemore Matuke;
- Coordinator, Observatory for Sustainable Development, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Modeste Kakanda;
- Commissioner for National Planning, United Republic of Tanzania, Mursali Milanzi;
- Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children, Najat Maalla M’jid;
- Co-Chair, African Youth SDGs Summit, Kasapo Manda.

General discussion

Wednesday, 1 March 2023

9–10.30 a.m.

Plenary round-table panels on national and subnational actions and reviews to speed up and scale up implementation in Africa (agenda item 5 *(continued)*)

(b) Voluntary subnational reviews and peer learning to bolster local action

Venue: Plenary Hall (CIMG plénière)

Chair: Chair of the Bureau of the ninth session of the Regional Forum

Moderator: Regional Director for Africa, United Nations Human Settlements Programme, Oumar Sylla

Panellists:

- Mayor of Bassila, Benin, Tassou Zachari;
- First Vice-President, Niamey City Council, Habiboulaye Zanga;
- Founder, Gold Ribbon Initiative, and member, Local2030 Coalition, Esther Muiruri;
- Chief Executive Officer, Brikama Area Council, the Gambia, Modou Jonga;
- Founder, Black Girl's Dream Initiative, Karimot Odebode;
- Regional Representative, East Africa Regional Office, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Marcel Akpovo;
- Permanent Secretary for Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare, Zimbabwe, Simon Masanga.

General discussion

10.30–11 a.m.

Coffee break

11 a.m.–1 p.m.

Plenary round-table panel on rethinking data availability and data systems in Africa to address multiple shocks and accelerate implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want, of the African Union (agenda item 6)

Venue: Plenary Hall (CIMG plénière)

Chair: Chair of the Bureau of the ninth session of the Regional Forum

Moderator: Managing Consultant, Peaks Consulting, Samuel Bwalya

Keynote speaker: State Minister of Planning and Development, Ethiopia, Namera Gebeyehu

Panellists:

- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Representative in Cabo Verde, Ana Laura Touza;
- Regional Director, East and Southern Africa, United Nations Population Fund, Lydia Zigomo;
- Director General, National Institute for Statistics, Niger, Aminata Takoubakoye Boureima;
- Director General, National Planning Commission, Malawi, Thomas Chataghalala Munthali;
- Secretary to the President and Cabinet, Malawi, Colleen Zamba;

- Director, East Africa Hub Development Initiatives, Stephen Chacha;
- Executive Committee Chair, Takwimu Young African Statisticians Programme, Sassire Napo.

General discussion

1–2.30 p.m.

Lunch break

2.30–4.30 p.m.

Parallel meetings for an in-depth review of progress made and peer learning on the sub-themes of the Regional Forum (agenda item 7)

(a) Clean water and sanitation

Venue: Palais des Congrès, Salle de Commission 1

Chair: Chair of the Bureau of the ninth session of the Regional Forum

Moderator: Senior Policy Officer, African Union Commission, Leah Wanambwa Naess

Panellists:

- Minister of Hydraulics and Sanitation, Niger, Adamou Mahaman;
- Programme Coordinator, International Union for Conservation of Nature, Aboubacar Awaiss;
- Director, Regional Office for Africa, United Nations Environment Programme, Frank Turyatunga;
- Statistics and Monitoring Specialist, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for All (WASH), United Nations Children’s Fund, Tom Slaymaker;
- Regional Director for Eastern Africa, UNESCO, Hubert Gijzen;
- Gender Lead, SDGs Kenya Forum, Hellen Apila;
- Youth Accountability Advocate, African Youth SDGs Summit, Racheal Ekanem Peter;
- Director General, National Groundwater Agency, Niger, Yahaya Nazoumou.

General discussion

(b) Affordable and clean energy

Venue: Palais des Congrès, Salle Huis Clos

Chair: Member of the Bureau of the ninth session of the Regional Forum

Moderator: Senior Environmental Affairs Officer (Energy, Infrastructure, and Climate Change), African Climate Policy Centre, ECA, Linus Mofor

Presenter: Senior Programme Management Officer, Africa, United Nations Environment Programme, Meseret Teklemariam Zemedkun

Panellists:

- Manager, Presidential Climate Commission Secretariat, South Africa, Dumisani Nxumalo;
- Representative of the National Directorate of Electric Energy, Ministry of Energy and Water, Angola, Antonio Almeida;
- Representative of the Ministry of Petroleum, Energy and Renewable Energies, Niger, Daouda Mohamadou Moctar;
- Chief Executive Officer, Nam Energy, Burkina Faso, Konate Nafissatou;
- Vice-Chancellor, Abdou Moumouni University, Amadou Rabani;
- Cluster Lead, Energy and Climate, Office of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Africa, Bitsat Yohannes-Kassahun;
- Executive Director, African Energy Commission, Rashid Ali Abdallah;
- Chief Commercial Officer, Mixta Africa, Rolake Akinkugbe-Filani.

General discussion**(c) Industry, innovation and infrastructure**

Venue: Palais des Congrès, Plénière

Chair: Member of the Bureau of the ninth session of the Regional Forum

Moderator: *[to be decided]*

Presenter: Acting Director, Private Sector Development and Finance Division, ECA, Robert Lisinge (who will lead the discussion on the basis of a background paper on Sustainable Development Goal 9)

Panellists:

- Minister of Industry, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Julien Paluku Kahongya;
- Minister of Energy, Industry and Natural Resources, Guinea-Bissau, Augusto Poqueno;
- General Secretary, Ministry of Higher Education and Research, Niger, Moussa Ayra;
- Director, Division of Capacity Development, Industrial Policy Advice and Statistics, United Nations Industrial Development Organization, Cristiano Pasini;
- Senior Economic Affairs Officer, Office of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Africa, Kavazeua Katjomuise;
- Director General, Compagnie Générale du Génie Ferroviaire du Niger (COGEFER), Nouroundine Traoré.

General discussion

(d) Sustainable cities and communities

Venue: Palais des Congrès, Salle de Commission 2

Chair: Member of the Bureau of the ninth session of the Regional Forum

Moderator: Director, Regional Office for Africa, United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, Amjad Abbashar

Panellists:

- Regional Director for Africa, United Nations Human Settlements Programme, Oumar Sylla;
- Deputy Regional Representative, East Africa Regional Office, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Maymuchka Lauriston;
- Minister of Human Settlements, South Africa, Mmamoloko Kubayi;
- Head, ECA Liaison and African Union Special Projects Unit, Special Liaison Office in Addis Ababa, International Organization for Migration, Kachi Madubuko;
- Director General, Agency for the Modernization of Cities, Niger, Moctar Mamoudou;
- Mayor, Tessaoua Municipality, Niger, Laoulali Inoussa;
- Representative, Federation of the Niger of Persons with Disabilities, Sido Nouhou.

General discussion

(e) Partnerships for the goals

Venue: Plenary Hall (CIMG plénière)

Chair: Member of the Bureau of the ninth session of the Regional Forum

Moderator: Head, Economic Integration and Regional Cooperation, Economic Affairs Department, African Union Commission, Jean-Dénis Gabikini

Panellists:

- United Nations Regional Coordinator, Ghana, Charles Abani;
- Senior Programme Officer, Office of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Africa, Talla Kebe;
- Chair, Working Group of the Network of African National Human Rights Institutions on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063, Joseph Whittal;
- Civic and digital rights campaigner and youth representative, Emmanuel Ganse;
- Regional Policy Specialist, UNDP Regional Service Centre for Africa, Jean de Dieu Sibomana;

- Executive Director, African Science, Technology and Policy Institute, South Africa, Daniel Nyanganyura;
- Director, Special Liaison Office to the African Union and ECA, International Organization for Migration, Mariama Cisse;
- General Director, Nigerien Agency for the Promotion of Private Investments and Strategic Projects (ANPIPS), Noufou Insa Abary.

General discussion

4.30–5.30 p.m.

Parallel meetings for an in-depth review of progress made and peer learning on the sub-themes of the Regional Forum (agenda item 7 (*continued*))

(f) Reports on the parallel meetings

Venue: Plenary Hall (CIMG plénière)

Chair: Chair of the Bureau of the ninth session of the Regional Forum

Moderator: Director, Technology, Climate Change and Natural Resources Management Division, ECA, Jean-Paul Adam

Presenters:

- Representative of the member States from the breakout meeting on the sub-theme of clean water and sanitation
- Representative of the member States from the breakout meeting on the sub-theme of affordable and clean energy
- Representative of the member States from the breakout meeting on the sub-theme of industry, innovation and infrastructure
- Representative of the member States from the breakout meeting on the sub-theme of sustainable cities and communities
- Representative of the member States from the breakout meeting on the sub-theme of partnerships for the goals

General discussion

Thursday, 2 March 2023

9–10.30 a.m.

Plenary round-table panel on leveraging science, technology, innovation and digital transformation for accelerated recovery and implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want, of the African Union (agenda item 8)

Venue: Plenary Hall (CIMG plénière)

Chair: Chair of the Bureau of the ninth session of the Regional Forum

Moderator: Director, Technology, Climate Change and Natural Resources Management Division, ECA, Jean-Paul Adam

Panellists:

- Minister for Higher Education and Research, Niger, Mamoudou Djibo;
- Deputy Minister of Information and Communication Technologies, Namibia, Emma Theophilus;
- Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Tunisia, Moncef Noukthir;
- Vice-Chancellor, Dedan Kimathi University of Technology, Kenya, Ndirangu Kioni;
- Regional Director and Representative, UNESCO Regional Office for Southern Africa, Lidia Brito.

General discussion

10.30–11 a.m.

Coffee break

11 a.m–1 p.m.

Presentations and discussions on acceleration actions and partnerships for the inclusive and green recovery from multiple crises and the integrated and full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want, of the African Union (agenda item 9)

Venue: Plenary Hall (CIMG plénière)

Chair: Assistant Administrator and Regional Director for Africa, UNDP, Ahunna Eziakonwa

Moderator: Representative of the Joint Secretariat, Regional Collaborative Platform for Africa, Said Adejumobi

(a) United Nations development system support to tackle multiple crises and accelerate implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want, of the African Union

Presenter: Representative of the Joint Secretariat, Regional Collaborative Platform for Africa, Joy Kategekwa

(b) Presentation by major groups and other stakeholders on tackling multiple shocks and accelerating implementation

Presenter: Co-Chair, Steering Committee, Africa Regional Mechanism for Major Groups and other Stakeholders, Kofi Kankam

(c) Presentation of commitments and actions to accelerate delivery of sustainable development

Presenters:

- [to be decided]

General discussion

1–2.30 p.m.	Lunch break
2.30–3.30 p.m.	<p>Consideration and adoption of key messages and the Niamey declaration on accelerating the inclusive and green recovery from multiple crises and the integrated and full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want, of the African Union (agenda item 10)</p> <p>Venue: Plenary Hall (CIMG plénière)</p> <p>Chair: Chair of the Bureau of the ninth session of the Regional Forum</p> <p>Presenter: Rapporteur of the Bureau of the ninth session of the Regional Forum</p>
3.30–3.45 p.m.	<p>Theme, dates and venue of the tenth session of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development (agenda item 11)</p> <p>Venue: Plenary Hall (CIMG plénière)</p> <p>Chair: Chair of the Bureau of the ninth session of the Regional Forum</p>
3.45–4 p.m.	<p>Other matters (agenda item 12)</p> <p>Venue: Plenary Hall (CIMG plénière)</p> <p>Chair: Chair of the Bureau of the ninth session of the Regional Forum</p>
4–4.30 p.m.	<p>Closing of the session (agenda item 13)</p> <p>Venue: Plenary Hall (CIMG plénière)</p> <p>Chair: Chair of the Bureau of the ninth session of the Regional Forum</p> <p>Statements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deputy Executive Secretary and Chief Economist, ECA, Hanan Morsy; • Assistant Secretary-General for Development Coordination, Oscar Fernández-Taranco; • Resident Coordinator, Niger, Louise Aubin; • Chair of the Bureau of the ninth session of the Regional Forum.