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Economic Commission for Africa
Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development
Eleventh session
Kampala (hybrid), 9–11 April 2025

Item 3 (b) of the provisional agenda*
**Organizational matters: adoption of the agenda
and programme of work**

Draft programme of work

Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development

Wednesday, 9 April

8.30–9 a.m. Registration

9–10.30 a.m. **Opening of the session** (agenda item 1)

Venue: Rwenzori Hall A and B

Chair: Minister of the Economy and Finance,
Mauritania, and Chair of the outgoing Bureau,
Sid'Ahmed Ould Bouh

Master of ceremonies: Minister of Information,
Communications Technology and National Guidance,
Uganda, Chris Baryomunsi

Statements:

- Minister of the Economy and Finance,
Mauritania, and Chair of the outgoing Bureau,
Sid'Ahmed Ould Bouh
- President of the Economic and Social Council,
and Permanent Representative of Canada to the
United Nations, Robert Rae
- Commissioner for Agriculture, Rural
Development, Blue Economy and Sustainable
Environment, African Union Commission, Moses
Vilakati
- Executive Secretary of the Economic
Commission for Africa (ECA), Claver Gatete
- Deputy Secretary-General, Amina Mohammed
- Prime Minister, Uganda, Robinah Nabbanja

Opening keynote address: President of Uganda,
Yoweri Kaguta Museveni

* ECA/RFSD/2025/1.



10.30–11 a.m.	Coffee break
11 a.m.–1 p.m.	<p>Presidential dialogue (agenda item 2)</p> <p>Venue: Rwenzori Hall A and B</p> <p>Chair: President of Uganda, Yoweri Kaguta Museveni</p> <p>Moderator: Journalist and broadcaster, Lerato Mbele</p> <p>Presidential panel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • President of Zimbabwe and Chairperson, Southern African Development Community, Emmerson Mnangagwa • First Deputy Prime Minister, Equatorial Guinea, Gaudencio Mohaba Mesu • Cabinet Secretary, National Treasury and Economic Planning, Kenya, John Mbadi • Former President, United Republic of Tanzania, Jakaya Kikwete • President of the Economic and Social Council, and Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations, Robert Rae <p>Reflection on key messages: Journalist and broadcaster, Lerato Mbele</p>
1–1.30 p.m.	<p>Organizational matters (agenda item 3)</p> <p>Venue: Rwenzori Hall A and B</p> <p>(a) Election of the Bureau</p> <p>Chair: Minister of the Economy and Finance, Mauritania, and Chair of the outgoing Bureau, Sid’Ahmed Ould Bouh</p> <p>(b) Adoption of the agenda and programme of work</p> <p>Chair: Chair of the Bureau</p>
1.30–2.30 p.m.	Lunch break
2.30–4 p.m.	<p>High-level panel 1: Increasing ambition and finding innovative solutions for mobilizing sustainable finance, and channelling and using finance more efficiently and effectively to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want, of the African Union, with emphasis on the second 10-year implementation plan (2024–2033) (agenda item 4)</p> <p>Venue: Rwenzori Hall A and B</p> <p>Chair: Chair of the Bureau</p> <p>Moderator: Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, Claver Gatete</p> <p>Guest speaker: Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Zambia, and co-facilitator of the outcome document of the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development, Chola Milambo</p>

Presentation: Key messages from the preliminary event entitled “Meeting of regional ministers of finance, central bank governors and pension fund managers on financing for development” by Board Member, National Planning Authority, Uganda, Stephen Birahwa Mukitale Adyeeri

Panellists:

Dialogue group 1

- Former President, United Republic of Tanzania, Jakaya Kikwete
- President of the Economic and Social Council, and Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations, Robert Rae
- Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, Uganda, Matia Kasaija
- Minister of State responsible for the Budget, Ministry of the Economy, Budget and Finance, Mauritania, Codioro Moussa N’Guenor
- Under-Secretary-General and Special Adviser on Africa, Cristina Duarte
- Director General, East Africa Regional Development, Integration and Business Delivery Office, African Development Bank, Kennedy Mbekeani
- Governor, Bank of Uganda, Michael Atingi-Ego (to be confirmed)
- Commissioner for Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy and Sustainable Environment, African Union Commission, Moses Vilakati

Dialogue group 2

- Resident Coordinator, United Republic of Tanzania, Susan Ngongi Namondo
- Managing Director, National Social Security Fund, Uganda, Patrick Ayota (to be confirmed)
- First Deputy Governor, Central Bank of the Gambia, Abdoulie Sireh Jallow
- Managing Director, Convergence Blended Global Finance, Christopher Clubb
- Government Statistician, Ghana Statistical Service and Co-Chair, High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for Statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Samuel Kobina Annim

General discussion

Reflection on key messages: Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, Claver Gatete

4–4.30 p.m.

Coffee break

4.30–6 p.m.

High-level panel 2: Scaling sustainable, inclusive, science-based, evidence-based and data-driven solutions to dramatically increase economic growth, boost job creation and accelerate implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 (agenda item 5)

Venue: Rwenzori Hall A and B

Chair: Chair of the Bureau

Moderator: Director, Regional Service Centre for Africa, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Matthias Naab

Opening statement (pre-recorded video): Assistant Administrator and Regional Director for Africa, UNDP, Ahunna Eziakonwa-Onochie

Presentation: Highlights of the *Africa Sustainable Development Report, 2025*,¹ with a focus on inclusive, science-based, evidence-based and data-driven solutions to dramatically increase economic growth, job creation and the pace and scale of implementation of the two agendas, by the Director of the Macroeconomic Policy, Finance and Governance Division, ECA, Zuzana Schwidrowski

Panellists:

Dialogue group 1

- Former Prime Minister, Ethiopia, Hailemariam Desalegn
- Minister of Local Government, Uganda, Raphael Magyezi
- Deputy Executive Secretary (Programme Support), ECA, Antonio Pedro
- Assistant Director General and Regional Representative for Africa, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Abebe Haile-Gabriel

Dialogue group 2

- Director General, African Union Commission, Fathallah Sijilmassi
- Chairperson of the Board, Zambia Statistics Agency, Oliver Chinganya
- Resident Coordinator, Mauritius and Seychelles, Lisa Singh
- Director, Africa Hub Leadership Centre, Future Earth, Daniel Nyanganyura

Discussants:

- Director for Population and Social Statistics, Uganda Bureau of Statistics, Helen Namirembe

¹ African Union and others, *Africa Sustainable Development Report, 2025* (forthcoming).

General discussion

Reflection on key messages: Director, Regional Service Centre for Africa, UNDP, Matthias Naab

- 6–6.30 p.m. **Inauguration of the knowledge fair of the eleventh session of the Forum**
- 6.30–8 p.m. Dinner hosted by the Prime Minister of Uganda, Robinah Nabbanja

Thursday, 10 April

- 9–10.30 a.m. **High-level panel 3: Follow-up on the outcome documents of the Summit of the Future in the context of advancing sustainable, inclusive, science-based and evidence-based solutions to increase the pace and scale of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063** (agenda item 6)

Venue: Rwenzori Hall A and B

Chair: Chair of the Bureau

Moderator: Director, Strategic Planning, Oversight and Results Division, ECA, Said Adejumobi

Opening statement (pre-recorded video): From commitment to action: leveraging the Summit of the Future outcomes to accelerate the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063, Under-Secretary-General for Policy, Guy Ryder

Presentation (pre-recorded video): Assistant Secretary-General for Youth Affairs and Head, United Nations Youth Office, Felipe Paullier

Panellists:

- Deputy Permanent Representative, Mission of Namibia to the African Union, Rodney Sikopo
- Senior Technical Adviser and Head, SDG secretariat, Office of the Prime Minister, Uganda, Albert Byamugisha
- Resident Coordinator, Burundi, Violet Kakyomya
- President, Pan African Youth Union, Dialla Moumouni
- Director for Advocacy and External Engagement, East African Regional Office, World Vision International, Ruth Koshal

Discussant:

- Director for Pact of the Future Implementation, Executive Office of the Secretary-General, Themba Kalua

General discussion

Reflection on key messages: Regional Representative for East Africa and to the African Union, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), Marcel Akpovo

10.30–11 a.m.	Coffee break
11 a.m.–1 p.m.	<p>High-level panel 4: Capitalizing on the Second World Summit for Social Development to advance the achievement of African priorities (poverty eradication; full employment and decent work for all; inclusivity and social integration, leaving no one behind; and full achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and the goals of Agenda 2063) (agenda item 7)</p> <p>Venue: Rwenzori Hall A and B</p> <p>Chair: Chair of the Bureau</p> <p>Moderator: Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive Secretary and acting Director, Gender, Poverty and Social Policy Division, ECA, Aboubakri Diaw</p> <p>Opening statement (pre-recorded video): Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, Li Junhua</p> <p>Guest speaker (pre-recorded video): Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Morocco, Omar Hilale</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minister of Employment and Social Protection, Côte d'Ivoire, Adama Kamara • Minister of Gender, Labour and Social Development, Uganda, Betty Amongi • President, Pan-African Parliament, Fortune Charumbira • Social Protection Specialist, International Labour Organization (ILO), Dramane Batchabi • Regional Director and Representative, Regional Office for Africa, United Nations Environment Programme, Rose Mwebaza • Resident Coordinator, Egypt, Elena Panova • Representative, African Union Commission [to be determined] <p>Discussants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive Director, National Planning Authority, Uganda, Joseph Muvawala <p>General discussion</p> <p>Reflection on key messages: Regional Director, West and Central Africa, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Sennen Hounton</p>
1–2.30 p.m.	Lunch break
2.30–4.15 p.m.	<p>Parallel meetings for an in-depth review of progress made, peer-to-peer learning and acceleration measures regarding the sub-themes of the Forum (agenda item 8)</p> <p>(a) Good health and well-being</p>

Venue: Sheena Room

Chair: Chair of the Bureau

Moderator: Director and Head, World Health Organization Liaison Office to the African Union and ECA, Dr. Francis Chisaka Kasolo

Presentation: Highlights of the background report on the sub-theme of good health and well-being, Director and Head, World Health Organization Liaison Office to the African Union and ECA, Dr. Francis Chisaka Kasolo

Panellists:

- Minister of Health, Uganda, Dr. Jane Aceng
- Minister of Health and Sanitation, Sierra Leone
Dr. Austin Demby
- Deputy Regional Director for Eastern and Southern Africa, United Nations Children's Fund,
Alison Parker
- Team Lead for Human Development, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland,
Philip Elks
- Director and Dean of the School of Pharmacy, Manica University, Zambia, Lloyd Matowe
- Factory Director and Responsible Pharmacist, Cinpharm, Cameroon, Issa Hamadjoda
- Resident Coordinator, Malawi, Rebecca Adda-Dontoh

General discussion

Reflection on key messages: Director and Head, World Health Organization Liaison Office to the African Union and ECA, Dr. Francis Chisaka Kasolo

(b) Gender equality

Venue: Victoria Ballroom

Chair: Member of the Bureau

Moderator: Regional Director, East and Southern Africa, UNFPA, Lydia Zigomo

Presentation: Highlights of the background report on the sub-theme of gender equality by Economic Affairs Officer, ECA, Judith Oduol

Panellists:

- Minister of Gender, Children and Social Welfare, Gambia, Fatou Kinteh
- Minister of Women's Empowerment and the Family, Cameroon, Marie Thérèse Abena Ondo
- Director, Gender, Women and Youth Directorate, African Union Commission, Prudence Ngwenya
- Regional Director, East and Southern Africa, United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and

the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), Anna Mutavati

- Adjunct Senior Lecturer, Mandela School of Public Governance, University of Cape Town, South Africa, Rama Dieng
- Founder and Executive Director, Samburu Girls Foundation, Josephine Kulea
- Head of Sustainability, Stanbic Bank Uganda, Cathy Adengo

General discussion

Reflection on key messages: Minister of State for Gender and Culture, Uganda, and Chairperson of the Specialized Technical Committee on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, African Union Commission, Peace Mutuuzo

(c) Decent work and economic growth

Venue: Albert Room

Chair: Member of the Bureau

Moderator: Director, Macroeconomic Policy, Finance and Governance Division, ECA, Zuzana Schwidrowski

Presentation: Highlights of the background report on the sub-theme of decent work and economic growth by a Senior Economist in the Regional Office for Africa, International Labour Organization, Andrew Allieu

Panellists:

- Minister of State for Trade, Uganda, Wilson Mbadi
- Director, Directorate of Development Planning, Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs, Gambia, Ibrahima Kinteh
- Director, Country Office for the United Republic of Tanzania, Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda and Uganda, ILO, Caroline Khamati Mugalla
- Country Representative and Chief of Office, Liberia, OHCHR, Christian Mukosa
- International Trade Consultant, Trade Reform and Development in Egypt project, United States Agency for International Development, Waleed El-Zomor
- Chairperson, Independent Continental Youth Advisory Council on the African Continental Free Trade Area, Emolot Allan David
- Representative, African Union Commission [to be determined]

General discussion

Reflection on key messages: Officer-in-Charge, Development Planning Section, Macroeconomic Policy, Finance and Governance Division, ECA, Oyebanke Abejirin

(d) Life below water**Venue:** Meera Room**Chair:** Member of the Bureau**Moderator:** Head, Sub-Commission for Africa and the Adjacent Island States, Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and Head, Regional Office for Eastern Africa, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Ibukun Adewumi**Presentation:** Highlights of the background report on the sub-theme of life below water, presented by the Chief of the Natural Resources and Green and Blue Economy Section, Climate Change, Food Security and Natural Resources Division, ECA, Nassim Oulmane**Panellists:**

- Commissioner for Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy and Sustainable Environment, African Union Commission, Moses Vilakati
- Minister of State for Water, Uganda, Aisha Sekindi
- Blue Economy Adviser and Special Envoy, Executive Office of the President, Kenya, Nancy Karigithu
- Minister of the Environment and Biodiversity, Guinea-Bissau, Viriato Luís Soares Cassamá
- Resident Coordinator, Cabo Verde, Patricia Portela de Souza
- Regional Director and Representative, Regional Office for Africa, United Nations Environment Programme, Rose Mwebaza
- Regional Director for Eastern and Southern Africa, International Union for Conservation of Nature, Luther Bois Anukur
- Founder, Black Mermaid Foundation, Zandile Ndhlovu

General discussion**Reflection on key messages:** Regional Technical Adviser for Water, Ocean Governance, Ecosystems and Biodiversity (Africa), UNDP, Madeleine Nyiratuza**(e) Partnerships for the goals of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063****Venue:** Rwenzori Hall A**Chair:** Member of the Bureau**Moderator:** Regional Representative for East Africa and to the African Union, OHCHR, Marcel Akpovo**Presentation:** Highlights of the background report on the sub-theme of partnerships for the goals of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 by the Head of the Training

and Research Division, African Institute for Economic Development and Planning, ECA, Bakary Dosso

Panellists:

- Minister of State for Planning, Uganda, Amos Lugoloobi
- Minister of Finance and Social Grants Management, Namibia, Erica Shafudah (to be confirmed)
- State Minister of Finance for Economic Cooperation, Ethiopia, Semereta Sewasew (to be confirmed)
- Chief Economist and Vice-President for Economic Governance and Knowledge Management, African Development Bank, Kevin Chika Urama (to be confirmed)
- Chief Executive Officer, African Union Development Agency-New Partnership for Africa's Development, Nardos Bekele-Thomas, (to be confirmed)
- Representative, African Union Commission [to be determined]
- Chairperson of the Board, Zambia Statistics Agency, Oliver Chinganya
- Manager, Italian Trade Agency Office, Addis Ababa, Claudio Pasqualucci
- Resident Coordinator, Nigeria, Mohamed Malick Fall
- Member, Pan African Youth Union and National Youth Council, Uganda, Mugyema David
- Representative, private sector [to be determined]
- Founder and President, African Women's Network for Community Management of Forests, Cameroon, Cécile Ndjebet
- Director, Centre for International Strategic Thinking (CEPEI), Colombia, Philipp Schönrock

General discussion

Reflection on key messages: Senior Lecturer, Department of Economics, Makerere University Business School, Uganda, Fred Muhumuza

4.15–4.30 p.m.

Coffee break

4.30–5.30 p.m.

Parallel meetings for an in-depth review of progress made, peer-to-peer learning and acceleration measures regarding the sub-themes of the Forum (agenda item 8) (*continued*)

(f) Reports on the parallel meetings

Venue: Rwenzori Hall A and B

Chair: Chair of the Bureau

Moderator: [to be determined]

Presentations:

- Rapporteur, parallel meeting on the sub-theme of good health and well-being
- Rapporteur, parallel meeting on the sub-theme of gender equality
- Rapporteur, parallel meeting on the sub-theme of decent work and economic growth
- Rapporteur, parallel meeting on the sub-theme of life below water
- Rapporteur, parallel meeting on the sub-theme of partnerships for the goals of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063

General discussion**Friday, 11 April**

9–10.30 a.m.

Plenary round-table panel on harnessing science, technology, innovation and digital transformation to underpin sustainable, inclusive, science-based and evidence-based solutions for economic growth, job creation and accelerated implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 (agenda item 9)

Venue: Rwenzori Hall A and B

Chair: Chair of the Bureau

Moderator: Vice-Chancellor, Makerere University, Uganda, Barnabas Nawangwe

Presentation: Director, Technology, Innovation, Connectivity and Infrastructure Development Division, ECA, Robert Lisinge

Panellists:**Dialogue group 1**

- Minister for Science Technology and Innovation, Uganda, Monica Musenero
- Deputy Minister of Technical and Higher Education, Sierra Leone, Sarjoh Aziz-Kamara
- Deputy Minister of Communication, Information Technology and Media, Burundi, Ferdinand Manirakiza
- Deputy Governor, Bank of Uganda, Augustus Nuwagaba

Dialogue group 2

- Director, Regional Service Centre for Africa UNDP, Matthias Naab
- Regional Director and Representative for Southern Africa, UNESCO, Nisha
- Special Adviser and Chief, Strategic Planning and Membership, International Telecommunication Union, Nur Sulyna Abdullah

Discussants:

- Head, Origin Research and Innovation Hub for East Africa, Kenya, Ndirangu Kioni
- President, African Academy of Sciences, Lise Korsten

General discussion

Reflection on key messages: Director, Technology, Innovation, Connectivity and Infrastructure Development Division, ECA, Robert Lisinge

10.30–11 a.m.

Coffee break

11 a.m.–1 p.m.

Plenary round-table panel on voluntary national and local reviews as a means of fostering sustainable, inclusive, science-based, evidence-based and data-driven solutions to dramatically increase economic growth, job creation and the pace and scale of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 (agenda item 10)

Venue: Rwenzori Hall A and B

Chair: Chair of the Bureau

Moderator: Director, Subregional Office for West Africa, ECA, Ngoné Diop

Panellists:

- Minister of Finance and Economic Affairs, Gambia, Seedy Keita
- Director General, Directorate General for the Coordination and Monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goals, Benin, Camille Sevoh
- Youth Leaders Fellow, UNFPA, Ghana, Bernadette Seyram Azah
- Senior Global Advocacy Adviser, East, Central and Southern Africa, Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind (Sightsavers), Monica Njoroge Ndoria
- Director of City Planning, Lusaka City Council, Biggie Chanda
- Senior Technical Adviser and Head, SDG secretariat, Office of the Prime Minister, Uganda, Albert Byamugisha

General discussion

Reflection on key messages: Deputy Executive Secretary (Programme Support), ECA, Antonio Pedro

1–2.30 p.m.

Lunch break

2.30–3.30 p.m.

Consideration and adoption of key messages and the Kampala declaration on sustainable, inclusive, science-based and evidence-based solutions for driving job creation and economic growth and for implementing the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 (agenda item 11)

Venue: Rwenzori Hall A and B

Chair: Chair of the Bureau

Presentation: Rapporteur of the Bureau

3.30–3.45 p.m.

Theme, dates and venue of the twelfth session of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development (agenda item 12)

Venue: Rwenzori Hall A and B

Chair: Chair of the Bureau

3.45–4 p.m.

Other matters (agenda item 13)

Venue: Rwenzori Hall A and B

Chair: Chair of the Bureau

4–4.30 p.m.

Closing of the session (agenda item 14)

Venue: Rwenzori Hall A and B

Chair: Chair of the Bureau

Statements:

- Chair of the Bureau
- Deputy Executive Secretary (Programme Support), ECA, Antonio Pedro
- Resident Coordinator, Uganda, Leonard Zulu
- Prime Minister, Uganda, Robinah Nabbanja

Preliminary events, side events and other major meetings on the margins of the Forum

Sunday, 6 April

8.30–9 a.m.	Registration
9 a.m.–5.30 p.m.	Dialogue on advancing environmental sustainability, the outcomes of the twenty-ninth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, carbon markets and energy access (Albert Room)

Monday, 7 April

8.30–9 a.m.	Registration
9 a.m.–5.30 p.m.	<p>Sixth Africa climate talks (Commonwealth Banquet Hall)</p> <p>Parliamentary forum on the Sustainable Development Goals and the goals of Agenda 2063 (Commonwealth Banquet Hall)</p> <p>Seventh African Regional Science, Technology and Innovation Forum (Victoria Ballroom)</p> <p>Regional preparatory workshop for African voluntary national reviews and voluntary local reviews (Sheena Room)</p> <p>Leadership forum on attaining the Sustainable Development Goals in Africa: progress and way forward (former Heads of State and Government) (Kidepo Hall and Kabalega Hall)</p> <p>Accelerating transformation through fulfilment of the second 10-year implementation plan (2024–2033) of Agenda 2063 (Albert Room)</p> <p>Sustainable Development Goals Activation Day: private sector round table on the Sustainable Development Goals and Agenda 2063 (Meera Room)</p> <p>Symposium on gender (Bujagali Hall)</p> <p>Optimal blended finance solutions for mobilizing private investment at a scale commensurate with African priorities (Bwindi Hall)</p>

Tuesday, 8 April

8.30–9 a.m.	Registration
9 a.m.–5.30 p.m.	<p>Symposium on children and young people (Albert Room)</p> <p>Meeting of regional ministers of finance, central bank governors and pension fund managers on financing for development (Mburo Hall)</p> <p>Sixth Africa climate talks (<i>continued</i>) (Commonwealth Banquet Hall)</p>

Parliamentary forum on the Sustainable Development Goals and the goals of Agenda 2063 (*continued*) (Commonwealth Banquet Hall)

Seventh African Regional Science, Technology and Innovation Forum (*continued*) (Victoria Ballroom)

Regional preparatory workshop for African voluntary national reviews and voluntary local reviews (*continued*) (Sheena Room)

Preparatory and capacity-development workshop for major groups and other stakeholders in Africa (Kidepo Hall)

Meeting of representatives of faith-based organizations (Kabalega Hall)

Saturday, 12 April

8.30–9 a.m.	Registration
9 a.m.–5.30 p.m.	Retreat of opportunity and issues-based coalition 4 (Acacia Room)
