



# Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General  
25 February 2026

Original: English

**Economic Commission for Africa**  
**Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development**  
Twelfth session  
Addis Ababa (hybrid), 28–30 April 2026

Item 7 of the provisional agenda\*

**Plenary high-level round-table panel 2: Driving ambitious and integrated actions for the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063: leveraging the roles of the United Nations system, young people, the private sector, civil society and volunteers**

## Information and guidelines for high-level round-table panel 2

### I. Date, time and venue

1. The second plenary high-level round-table panel will be held on Wednesday, 29 April 2026, from 11 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. in the Plenary Hall.
2. The purpose of the panel is to explore the integrated and transformative actions that entities of the United Nations system, young people, the private sector, civil society and volunteers can undertake, and to identify the urgent interventions required to empower and enable these stakeholders to drive the ambitious, integrated and coordinated implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want, of the African Union.

### II. Introduction

3. The implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 requires an integrated, multi-stakeholder approach. Both agendas emphasize whole-of-society participation, multilevel partnerships and transformative action to deliver inclusive and sustainable development.
4. Africa remains off track on many Sustainable Development Goals, with widening financing gaps, rising debt burdens, persistently high inequality and youth unemployment, and escalating climate risks that disproportionately affect the most vulnerable people.
5. African countries recognize the urgency of accelerating the implementation of both the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063. The decade 2024–2033 has been designated as an acceleration decade that is anchored in the effective execution of the second 10-year implementation plan of Agenda 2063.<sup>1</sup>
6. More than ever before, the moment demands coherent, collective and transformative action in all sectors to generate the momentum required to meet the ambitions of the two development agendas.

\* ECA/RFSD/2026/1/Rev.1.

<sup>1</sup> African Union, *Decade of Accelerated Implementation: Second Ten-Year Implementation Plan, 2024–2033* (Addis Ababa, 2024).



7. The United Nations system, young people, the private sector, civil society, and volunteer networks can all play pivotal roles by implementing effective individual and collaborative actions. The focus of this panel is to clarify the assignment of roles, partnerships and collaborations, timelines and progress indicators for the transformative action.

### III. Objectives

8. The objectives of the panel discussion are:

(a) To articulate and champion bold, integrated and transformative actions that the United Nations system, young people, the private sector, civil society and volunteers must execute to accelerate the ambitious, integrated and coordinated implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063;

(b) To identify the enabling conditions required to empower these stakeholders to undertake sustained, inclusive and transformative action.

### IV. Guidelines

9. The Chair will outline the objectives of the round-table panel, as presented above; introduce the moderator, guest speaker or presenter, panellists and discussants, all of whom are listed in section V; hand over to the moderator to conduct the panel discussion; and conclude the proceedings at the end of the panel discussion.

10. The moderator will invite [position], [organization], [name] [to be determined] to make a scene-setting presentation on the review and advancement of sustainable development by 2030 and beyond. The moderator will then invite the panellists listed in section V to speak for no longer than three minutes each, in response to one or more of the questions listed in paragraph 11, before inviting questions and comments from selected discussants and from the floor on the topics that were raised by the panellists. At the end of the discussion, the moderator will share reflections on the main messages that arose and hand over to the Chair, who will conclude the proceedings.

11. During the discussion, the moderator will invite the panellists to address one or more of the following questions. In responding to the questions, panellists are encouraged to highlight some of the main messages regarding transformative and coordinated actions for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 that have emerged from the pre-forum events, including the annual meeting of the Regional Collaborative Platform for Africa, the preparatory and capacity-development workshop for major groups and other stakeholders in Africa, the private sector forum and the youth forum on the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063.

(a) To the African Union Commission and members of the Economic Commission for Africa on the panel: Where do you see the greatest needs and opportunities for the United Nations, young Africans, the private sector, civil society and volunteers to help accelerate progress on both agendas between now and 2030?

(b) Given the slow pace of implementation of the agendas, what do each of you – the United Nations, young Africans, the private sector, civil society and volunteers – believe to be the top three priority transformative actions to accelerate the integrated delivery of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 between now and 2030?

Follow-up question: What specific action can your constituency – be it the United Nations, young people, women, the private sector, civil society or volunteers – take to drive the transformative implementation we need?

(c) What are the most promising areas for investment in which the private sector can significantly accelerate progress on both agendas?

(d) What models of meaningful youth participation and implementation have delivered measurable impact, and should be scaled up across Africa? What reforms or innovations are needed or are under way within the United Nations system to better support African-led implementation of Agenda 2063 alongside the 2030 Agenda?

(e) What barriers still prevent young people, the private sector, civil society and volunteers from effectively participating in the implementation of the two agendas, and what specific actions are needed to remove such barriers?

(f) How can multi-stakeholder partnerships in Africa be strengthened among United Nations entities, regional and subregional organizations, young people, women, the private sector, civil society and volunteers to deliver integrated, results-driven implementation of both agendas?

## V. Chair, moderator and panellists

12. The Chair, moderator, guest speaker or presenter, panellists and discussants will be as follows:

**Chair:** Chair of the Bureau

**Moderator:** [position], [organization], [name] [to be determined]

**Guest speaker or presenter:** [position], [organization], [name] [to be determined]

**Panellists:**

- Minister from a member of the Economic Commission for Africa [position], [organization], [name] [to be determined]
- Representative of the African Union Commission [position], [organization], [name] [to be determined]
- Representative of the United Nations [position], [organization], [name] [to be determined]
- Representative of the private sector [position], [organization], [name] [to be determined]
- Representative of young people [position], [organization], [name] [to be determined]
- Representative of volunteers [position], [organization], [name] [to be determined]
- Representative of civil society partners [position], [organization], [name] [to be determined]

**General discussion**

**Reflection on key messages:** moderator or other selected speaker [position], [organization], [name] [to be determined]