

African Union 2023 Open Forum

Panel - Auditorium - 90 Min

Description

The African Union plans to organize the 2023 AU Open Forum as a hybrid. The thematic focus will be Connecting All People and Safeguarding Human Rights. Just like in 2022, The AU Open Forum aims at discussing digital inclusion especially in relation to Capacity Building; Digital Transformation; Data Policy, Cybersecurity and Digital Cooperation. The Forum will also discuss the Internet Governance Capacity Building activities of PRIDA at the national, regional and continental level done between 2018-2023 and the way forward post PRIDA. During the session, African views with regard to the Global Digital Compact shall be sought. Through the host country chair (Nigeria) of the Africa IGF 2023, an overview of the Africa School of IG, Africa Youth IGF, African IGF and the Africa IGF Parliamentary session will also be given and comments from the participants received. The 2023 Forum will be linked to the SDGs, especially Goals 5, 8, 9, 10 and 17. Like in the previous editions, the African Union Open Forum is expected to be attended by a broad stakeholders' representation across government, private sector, academia, technical communities, civil society, ministers, parliamentarians, media, regional and international organizations.

This year's global IGF 2023, will be held in Tokyo, Japan. With possible funding challenges, it is expected that most participants will connect online. Therefore the forum will be fully Hybrid to accommodate those who will not be able to attend in person. The event will be widely publicized at the national and regional events including during the Africa IGF to be held in September in Nigeria.

Organizers

African Union Commission

Dr. Margaret Nyambura Ndung'u, AUC - PRIDA, Intergovernment, Mr. Adil Sulieman, African Union Commission, Intergovernmental Dr. Kamugisha Kazaura, African Union Commission, Intergovernmental, Dr. Mactar Seck, UN Economic Commission for Africa, Ms. Lillian Nalwoga, Chair Africa MAG NRI, Joshua Joshua, NRI

Speakers

1. Mr. Adil Sulieman, African Union Commission, (Moderator)
2. Ms. Lillian Nalwoga, Chair Africa MAG
3. Dr. Kamugisha Kazaura, African Union Commission, Intergovernmental,
4. Minister from Nigeria, Africa IGF 2023 host
5. Chair of the Host of 2023 Continental IGF to be held in Nigeria

6. Dr. Margaret Nyambura Ndung'u, AUC - PRIDA

7 Dr. Mactar Seck, UN Economic Commission for Africa

SDGs

4-. Quality Education 5. Gender Equality, 8. Decent work and Economic Growth, 9. Industry, innovation and industry, 10. Reduced inequalities, 16. Peace, Justice and strong institutions and 17. Partnerships for the goals

Targets: 4.3 By 2030, ensure equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university 4.4 By 2030, substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship 5.1 - End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere 5.5 - Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life 5.b - Enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology, to promote the empowerment of women 5.c - Adopt and strengthen sound policies and enforceable legislation for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all levels 8.2 - Achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation, including through a focus on high-value added and labour-intensive sectors 8.3 - Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services 8.5 - By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value 9.1 - Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and transborder infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all 9.b - Support domestic technology development, research and innovation in developing countries, including by ensuring a conducive policy environment for, inter alia, industrial diversification and value addition to commodities 10.2 - By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status 10.3 - Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard 16.7 - Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels 16.b - Promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development 17.6 - Enhance North-South, South-South and triangular regional and international cooperation on and access to science, technology and innovation and enhance knowledge sharing on mutually agreed terms, including through improved coordination among existing mechanisms, in particular at the United Nations level, and through a global technology facilitation mechanism 17.9 - Enhance international support for implementing effective and

targeted capacity-building in developing countries to support national plans to implement all the sustainable development goals, including through North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation 17.14 - Enhance policy coherence for sustainable development

Our proposal will show the capacity building activities across the continent by the various presenters through partnerships and innovative solutions with gender sensitivities which would address SDGs 4, 5, 9 and 10. The presentations will also address discussions of the norms and CBMs of the UNOEWG and GGE and how countries/region should consider contextualise it to create a safe digital space for social economic development. This would address SDG 8 and 16.