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PROGRAMME

The Eighth COMESA Annual Research Forum

Theme:
Rethinking Trade and Doing Business
in the wake of **Covid-19 Pandemic**

13-16 September 2021

Please
stand
here

08:30-09:00: Participants Roll call

09.00 – 12.00: OPENING CEREMONY

09.00-10.00: Session 1: Opening Session

Moderator: Dr Christopher Onyango, Director, Trade and Customs, COMESA Secretariat

- Remarks by Amb. Kipyego Cheluget, PhD, Assistant Secretary General (Programmes), COMESA
- Remarks by Mr. Escipi3n J. OLIVEIRA G3MEZ Assistant Secretary General Structural Economic Transformation and Trade, Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS)
- Opening Speech by Madam Chileshe Mpundu Kapwepwe, Secretary General, COMESA
- Vote of Thanks (Republic of Uganda)

10.00- 11.00: Session 2: Keynote Address

Moderator: Dr Christopher Onyango, Director, Trade and Customs, COMESA Secretariat

- Keynote Speaker, Mr Paul Akiwumi, Director, Division for Africa, Least Developed Countries and Special Programmes, UNCTAD
- Remarks by Prof. Emmanuel Nnadozie, Executive Secretary of African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF)

11.10-11.30: Session 3: Election of the Bureau

Moderator: Dr Christopher Onyango, Director, Trade and Customs, COMESA Secretariat

- Election of the Bureau - Bureau will preside over the forum Assisted by Session Chair

11.30-12.00: Session 4: Research Forum Background

Moderator: Bureau Chair

- A brief on the COMESA Annual Research Forum and the COMESA Virtual University Programme - Benedict Musengele, Senior Research Fellow, COMESA Secretariat.

SUB THEME 1: INTRA-COMESA TRADE AND COVID-19

12.00-13.15: Session 1:

Moderator: Prof Nelson Wawire, Professor of Economics, Kenyatta University, School of Economics

Effect of Covid-19 Pandemic on Intra -COMESA Trade: Case of Kenya and Uganda Trade

- Presenter: Hellen Chemnyongoi
- Discussant: Associate Professor, Verena Tandrayen-Ragoobur, University of Mauritius, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities
- Plenary Discussion

13.15-14.15: Lunch Break

14.15-15.30: Session 2:

Moderator: Prof Nelson Wawire, Professor of Economics, Kenyatta University, School of Economics

Impact of Covid-19 on Intra-COMESA Trade

- Presenter: James Ochieng
- Discussant: Dr. Phineas Kadenge, Senior Lecturer, University of Zimbabwe
- Plenary Discussion

15.30-16.45: Session 3:

Moderator: Prof. Manenga Ndulo, Department of Economics, University of Zambia

Impact of Covid-19 on Madagascar Agricultural Goods Exports to COMESA

- Presenter: Douglas Chikabwi
- Discussant: Associate Professor Milu Muyanga, Michigan State University
- Plenary Discussion

End of Day One

DAY TWO: TUESDAY, 14 September 2021

09.00-10.15: Session 1:

Moderator: Dr. Phineas Kadenge, Senior Lecturer, University of Zimbabwe

The daily effect of COVID-19 on Kenya's trade under COMESA: A firm-level analysis

- Presenter: Majune Socrates
- Discussant: Dr. Susan Watundu, Head & Senior Lecturer, Department of Management Science Faculty of Economics, Energy and Management Science, Makerere University Business School
- Plenary Discussion

10.15-11.30: Session 2:

Moderator: Dr. Phineas Kadenge, Senior Lecturer, University of Zimbabwe

Covid-19 Pandemic and Intra-Regional Trade Flows: A Comparison of Regional Economic Communities in Africa

- Presenter: Dr. Abel Ezeoha
- Discussant: Prof. Manenga Ndulo, Department of Economics, University of Zambia
- Plenary Discussion:

SUB-THEME 2: COVID-19 AND TRADE IN SERVICES IN COMESA

11.30-12.45: Session 3:

Moderator: Associate Professor Milu Muyanga, Michigan State University

Tourism demand and the COVID-19 pandemic in selected COMESA countries

- Presenter: Professor Albert Makochehanwa
- Discussant: Prof Nelson Wawire, Professor of Economics, Kenyatta University, School of Economics
- Plenary Discussion

12.45-13.45: Lunch Break

SUB-THEME 3: AGRICULTURAL TRADE, FOOD SECURITY AND COVID-19

13.45-15.00: Session 4:

Moderator: Dr. Susan Watundu, Head & Senior Lecturer, Department of Management Science Faculty of Economics, Energy and Management Science, Makerere University Business School

Agri-Food Trade a Catalyst Toward Sustainable Food Security amid Covid 19 in COMESA

- Presenter: Evelyne N. Kihiu
- Discussant: Prof. Mutale M. Musonda, Executive Director/Vice, ZCAS University
- Plenary Discussion



SUB-THEME 4: DIGITALIZING TRADE, TRADE FACILITATION AND COVID-19 PANDEMIC

15.00-16.15: Session 5

Moderato: Dr. Susan Watundu, Head & Senior Lecturer, Department of Management Science Faculty of Economics, Energy and Management Science, Makerere University Business School

Digitalizing Trade in the wake of Covid-19 Pandemic in COMESA

- Presenter: Adam Willie
- Discussant: Dr. Exley Silumbu, University of Malawi
- Plenary Discussion:

End of Day Two

SHOWCASING OF INNOVATIONS

09.00-10.15: Session 1

Chair: Mr. Gabriel M. S. Masuku: Director, Legal and Corporate Affairs, COMESA Secretariat

Innovation: Crop Diseases and Pests Detection Device

- Presenter: Esther Kimani
- Plenary Discussion:

11.00-11.45: Session 3

Chair: Mr. Gabriel M. S. Masuku: Director, Legal and Corporate Affairs, COMESA Secretariat

Innovation: BRIISP Medicine Dispenser (BMD)

- Presenter: Billy P. Munyenembe
- Plenary Discussion:

11.45-12.30: Session 4

Chair: Mrs. Providence Mavubi: Director, Industry and Agriculture, COMESA Secretariat

Innovation: KANHYE MORINGA: Moringa infusion and Moringa powder

- Presenter: Vinay Kanhye
- Plenary Discussion:

12.30-13.00: Session 5: Way Forward

Moderator: Bureau Chair

- Member States to Discuss on the way forward and make recommendations to the Policy Organs

14.00-16.00: Report writing

End of Day Three

DAY FOUR: THURSDAY 16 September 2021

09.00-10.30: Report Adoption

10.30-11.00: Closing Remarks by Amb. Kipyego Cheluget, PhD, Assistant Secretary General (Programmes) COMESA

End of Forum



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