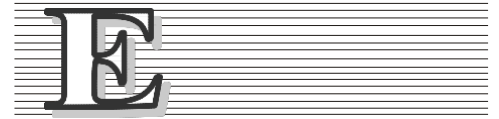




**UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL**



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September 2021

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA
SUB REGIONAL OFFICE FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA

The 27th Meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Senior Officials and Experts (ICSOE)
of Southern Africa

13 - 14 October 2021

Hybrid: Blantyre, Malawi and Virtual

Theme: *Building Back Better from COVID-19 in Southern Africa: Fostering
Commodity-based Industrialization, Manufacturing and Regional Value-chains*

Programme of Work

Time zone: CAT (GMT +2)

DAY ONE: WEDNESDAY, 13 OCTOBER 202108:00-09:00 **Registration and Opening Video by UNECA**09:00-10:15 **Agenda item 1: Opening Session**

- ECA Under-Secretary General and Executive Secretary, Dr. Vera Songwe
- UN Representative, Malawi (Acting). Mr. Shigeki Komatsubara
- Chair of 26th ICSOE Bureau, Hon Mr. Thabo Sofonea, Minister of Finance, Kingdom of Lesotho
- AU-SARO Permanent Representative, Ambassador David Claude Pierre
- COMESA Executive Secretary, Her Excellency, Ms. Chileshe Kapwepwe
- SADC Executive Secretary, His Excellency, Mr. Elias Mpedi Magosi
- Opening Statement by Minister of Finance, Republic of Malawi, Hon. Felix Mlusu

10:15-10:45 ***MEDIA BRIEFING/INTERVIEWS/PRESS CONFERENCE/GROUP PHOTO and TEA/COFFEE/HEALTH BREAK***

10:45-11:00 **Agenda item 2**

Election of the Bureau
Adoption of the Agenda/Programme of Work

11:00-11:40 **Agenda item 3(a)**
Report on Economic and Social Conditions in Southern Africa – ECA/SRO-SA.

11:40-12:40 **Agenda item 3(b)**
Report on Programme Performance of ECA in Southern Africa – ECA/SRO-SA

12:40-13:30 **Agenda item 3(c)**
Report on the Implementation of Regional and International Agendas and other Special Initiatives in the Sub region:
Progress and Status of the Implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) – ECA/SRO-SA

13:30-14:30 ***LUNCH BREAK***

14:30-15:15 **Agenda item 4**
Presentation of the Thematic Report on:
*Building back better from COVID-19 in Southern Africa:
Fostering commodity-based industrialization, manufacturing and regional value-chains*
– ECA/SRO-SA

15:15-17:30 **Agenda item 5**
High-level Panel Discussion on:
Building back better from COVID-19 in Southern Africa: Fostering commodity-based

industrialization, manufacturing and regional value-chains

19:00-20:30 **Cocktail reception**

DAY TWO: THURSDAY, 14 OCTOBER 2021

- 9:00-11.30 **Agenda item 6**
High Level Panel Discussion on:
“New sources of competitiveness in Southern Africa’s inclusive and sustainable industrialization strategies: Promoting Made in Southern Africa in the context of the African Continental Free Trade Area”
- 11.30-11.45 **TEA/COFFEE/HEALTH BREAK**
- 11.45-13.00 **Agenda item 7**
High-level Panel Discussion on
“New sources of competitiveness in Southern Africa’s inclusive and sustainable industrialization strategies: Blue, Green and Digital economies”
- 13.00- 14.00** **LUNCH BREAK**
- 14:00-14:15 **Agenda item 8**
Presentation of the recommendations of the AEGM on *“Agriculture value chains, linkages and transformation in Southern Africa: Opportunities from the African Continental Free Trade Area”*.
- 14:15-15:15 **Agenda item 9**
Drafting of the outcome statement.

Virtual Press Briefing
- 15:15-16:15 **TEA/COFFEE/HEALTH BREAK**
- 16:15-17:00 **Agenda item 10**
Presentation and Adoption of the Outcome Statement of the 27th ICSOE
- Agenda item 11**
Host and Venue of the 28th ICSOE Meeting (2022)
- 17:00-17:30 **Agenda item 12**
Closing Session
- Director, ECA/SRO-SA, Ms. Eunice Kamwendo
 - 27th ICSOE Chair and Representative of the Government of Malawi.