

PAN-AFRICAN CONFERENCE ON FIGHTING IFFs IN AFRICA

“From Words to Actions”

15-17 March 2023 (Tunis, Tunisia)

Draft Annotated Agenda

Wednesday, 15th March 2022

8 :30 – 09 :00

Registration of participants

09 :00 – 10 :30

Official Opening ceremony

Welcome Remarks

Minister of Foreign Affairs of Tunisia

Statements

- H.E Jutta Urpilainen, European Commissioner for International Partnerships, European Commission
- Representative from Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (Germany) BMZ (TBC)
- H.E Teemu Sepponen, Ambassador of the Finnish Embassy in Tunisia
- Representative of the Country Director of the GIZ Office in Tunisia
- H.E Dr. Sidi Ould TAH, Director General of the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA)
- H.E. Thabo Mbeki, Former President of the Republic of South Africa & Chair of the High-Level Panel on Illicit Financial Flows in Africa (TBC)
- H. E. Olusegun Obasanjo, Former President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria & Chair of the Coalition for Dialogue on Africa (CoDA) Executive Board (TBC)

Opening Statements

- H.E. Moussa Faki Mahamat, Chairperson of the African Union Commission (TBC)
- H.E Kais Saïed, President of the Republic of Tunisia (TBC)

Press Conference
Group Photo

10 :30-11 :30

High Level Panel Discussion on the theme “From Words to Action”

Keynote Speaker: Hon. Irene Ovonji-Odida, Member of the HLP on IFFs and FACTI Panel (TBC)

Moderator: Minister of Finance Tunisia (TBC)

Panelists:

- Hon. Ken Ofori-Atta, Minister for Finance and Economic Planning of Ghana (TBC)
- Prof Kevin Chika Urama, Vice President and Chief Economist Economic Governance and Knowledge Management (TBC)
- Hon. Ms. Oulimata Sarr, Minister of Economy, Planning and Cooperation, Senegal (TBC)
- Mr. Logan Wort, Executive Secretary, African Tax Administration Forum (TBC)

11 :30– 12 :30

Discussion Panel 1: Development and Current initiatives on IFFs

According to the Report of the High-Level Panel on Illicit Financial Flows (IFFs) from Africa,¹ indicates that, the value of total aggregated illicit outflows surged from approximately USD 4 billion in 1990 to USD 50 Billion in 2015. UNCTAD (2020)² estimates capital flight is valued at USD 88,6 billion per annum. In view of the negative consequences of this phenomenon on the economic growth of African countries and on the achievement of the objectives of the African Union Agenda 2063 and United Nations 2030 Agenda, it is important to recall the extent of this scourge before identifying some initiatives that have been taken to curb IFFs and achievements. Therefore, in addition to a brief presentation of the scale and impact of IFFs in Africa, this first panel will also take stock of current initiatives and progress in the fight against IFFs in Africa. The aim is to identify the bridges between actions in order to obtain better results in the fight against IFFs. Moreover, this panel will officially launch a European initiative whose objective is to support Africa in combating Illicit Financial Flows (IFFs) and Transnational Organized Crime (TOC), based on a holistic and coordinated approach.

Moderator: Mr. Maurice Ochieng, Programme Manager, GIZ GFG (TBC)

Panelists:

- H.E. Amb. Albert Muchanga, Commissioner for Economic Development, Trade, Tourism, Industry and Minerals (TBC)
- Mr. Antonio Pedro, Acting Executive Secretary, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) (TBC)
- Mr. Paul Williams, Director for Governance, open Societies and Human Rights, United Kingdom.
- Representative from European Union (TBC) TEI IFF and TOC
- Representative from France (TBC) TEI IFF and TOC
- Mrs. Ulla Andrén, Head of Regional Development Cooperation in Africa, Embassy of Sweden to Ethiopia
- H.E Teemu Sepponen, Ambassador of the Finnish Embassy in Tunisia
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12 :30 – 13 :30

Lunch

1 AU/ECA Conference of Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, 'Report on High-Level Panel on Illicit Financial Flows from Africa', 2015, p.2015. p.57

2 UNCTAD (2020). "Tackling Illicit Financial Flows for Sustainable Development in Africa", Economic Development In Africa Report 2020, PDF, https://unctad.org/system/files/official-document/aldcafrica2020_en.pdf, accessed 19 June 2021

13:30 – 14:30

Discussion Panel 2: IFFs Prevention- AFROSAI-E

In view of the complexity of the recovery of funds from IFFs, it is undeniably necessary to initiate actions upstream. These actions focus on prevention mechanisms through awareness raising and, above all, the establishment of mechanisms to monitor financial movements as well as the creation of strong and independent institutions in charge of the fight against corruption. However, one of the major challenges for African countries is the coordination and harmonization of responses to IFFs at national and regional levels. In some cases, there is overlap between the different agencies involved in the fight against corruption, money laundering, drug enforcement and other illicit economic and financial activities, while in other cases their roles are not clearly defined and delineated. The low level of collaboration within public institutions and with private institutions somewhat hinders the ability of countries to effectively prevent IFFs. Therefore, the exchanges and discussions organized around this panel discussion should allow on the one hand to have a regional perspective of the challenges that hinder the prevention of IFFs and on the other hand for countries to share their experiences on the appropriate mechanisms to curb these challenges.

Moderator: Edmond B Shoko (Esq.), Technical Manager, AFROSAI-E

Panelists

- Ms. Nancy Gathungu, Auditor General, Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) of Kenya
- Mr. Maxwell Ogentho, Director Technical Services, SAI Uganda
- Ms. Munira Ali, Ag. Secretary, East African Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities (EAAACA)

14:30 – 15:00

Health Break