HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE ON

THE PROMOTION OF GOOD GOVERNANCE AND FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION

JUNE 13-14,2022



African Union













DAY 1, MONDAY June 13, 2022		
10: 30 – 10: 50	Keynote Address II Delivered on behalf of H.E. Dr. Monique Nsanzabaganwa, <i>Deputy Chairperson (DCP) African</i> <i>Union Commission (AUC)</i> by Mr. Djamel Ghrib, Director Economic Development, Integration and Trade	
	Winning the fight against corruption: A sustainable path to Africa's transformation.	
	The speech will discuss the AU's support to its members to recover from the significant economic losses inflicted by the COVID-19 pandemic and boost resilience through better governance. It will highlight governance good practices during the pandemic and the importance of strong institutions for the continent as the world is buffeted by ever larger and more frequent shocks (including the fallouts of the security crises in the Sahel region and in Europe). It will cover how digitalization and big data can promote transparency and ethical behavior, reduce fragility, and chart a path toward a sustainable transformation for Africa. It will discuss the common characteristics of grand corruption—including the drivers of supply side corruption—in Africa and why addressing corruption is important for the SDGs and for addressing SSA's fiscal trilemma (high debt, weak revenue mobilization and high spending needs).	
10:50 – 11:15	GROUP PHOTO AND COFFEE / TEA BREAK	
11:15 – 12:45	 SESSION II: Reaping the Governance Dividend in Africa Chairperson: Speaker: H.E. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, Former President of Liberia (virtual) Discussants: Prof. Eddy Maloka, CEO, African Peer Review Mechanism Dr. Frannie Leautier, CEO, SouthBridge Group (virtual) [Dr. Mlambo Kupukile, Deputy Governor Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe] This session will explore the benefits that accrue to better governance based on positive providence discussion for the providence of the	
	experience with implementing change. It will offer observations from practitioners on leading, designing and managing the implementation of governance reforms that deliver results to the people. It will offer perspectives from the public sector, the private sector, and civil society on incentives for investing and engaging in reform, and the mechanics of building and sustaining coalitions for change. The session will examine the importance of dealing with opposition and building resilience into reform efforts to sustain momentum under hostile conditions.	
12:45 - 13:00	SESSION III: Presentation of the IMF Book on Good Governance	
	Speaker: Mr. Abdoul Aziz Wane, Director, Africa Training Institute and AFRITAC South This session will present the recently published IMF book on "Good Governance in Sub- Saharan Africa: Opportunities and Lessons". The speaker will focus on the contributions of the book to the literature on governance and corruption.	
13:00 – 14:00	LUNCH	

DAY 1, MONDAY June 13, 2022		
14:00 – 16:00	SESSION IV: Good Governance for/during Bad Times	
	Chairperson: Mr. Mohammed Nyaoga, <i>Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Central Bank of Kenya</i>	
	Speaker: Mr. Abdoulaye Coulibaly <i>, Director, Governance and Economic Reforms Department, African</i> Development Bank (virtual)	
	 Discussants: Mr. Einar Gørrissen, Director General INTOSAI Development Initiative (virtual) H.E. Ambassador William Awinador-Kanyirige, Senior Advisor on Governance and Peace Building Office of the Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace and Security (AUC) (virtual) Prof. John Mukum Mbaku, Weber State University 	
	This section will focus on lessons learned in the management of the COVID-19 crisis. It will highlight how improvements in governance systems prepared countries to build resilience to health and other shocks and discuss how e-government and big data helped formulate a policy response to the crisis. The panel will also show how the emergency highlighted and emphasized many of the governance weaknesses that remain, including extensive exposure to corruption, which in turn prevented the sound functioning of transparency and accountability mechanisms or reforms to set them up. The section will discuss real-time audits and the challenges and successes met by supreme audit institutions in supporting the government to implement large spending programs to save lives and social capital. The session will dissect the interrelations between economic fragility and governance, including in the context of the security crisis in the Sahel region. The session will discuss which governance mechanisms could support African countries' response to the impacts of the increase in food and fuel prices in the wake of the rise in global inflation and the security crisis in Europe.	
16:00 – 16:15	COFFEE / TEA BREAK	
16:15 - 17:45	SESSION V: Views Outside the Public Sector Chairperson:	
	Mr. Rueben Lifuka, Vice-Chair of the Board, Transparency International	
	Speaker: Mr. Abdourahmane Sano, <i>President PCUD, Guinea</i>	
	Discussants: Mrs. Matlhogonolo Mponang, <i>De Beers Global Sightholder Sales</i> Mr. Neil Cole, <i>Exec. Sec. Collaborative Africa Budget Reform Initiative (CABRI) (virtual)</i> Mr. Emeka Jude Phillipe Obegolu, <i>President of the Executive Committee of the Pan African</i>	

Lawyers' Union

This section will provide a non-state perspective on the governance challenges facing the region and reflect on the public sector approaches to addressing corruption that have been presented throughout the first day. Panelists will discuss opportunities to build upon promising governance reforms in Africa and harness engagement and innovation from across society. Panelists will explore what reforms worked well to improve the governance of COVID-19 emergency financing and how these reforms can create the foundation going forward to address the global rise in food and fuel prices in the short term and issues relating to climate change in the medium to long-term. Panelists will talk to the challenge of establishing standards and expectations for public institutions and the role of private corporations and public organizations in embodying ethical expectations.

DAY 2, TUESDA	DAY 2, TUESDAY, June 14, 2022		
09:00 - 10:30	Plenary: Transmission Mechanisms of the Impacts of Corruption on the Economy		
09:00 – 10:30	SESSION VI: Understanding Governance and Corruption / Illicit Financial Flows and Transnational Corruption		
	Moderator: Kwabena Akuamoah-Boateng, Communications Officer (IMF)		
	Panelists: Prof. Elizabeth David-Barrett, <i>University of Sussex</i> Prof. John Mukum Mbaku, <i>Weber State University</i> Ms. Ragnheiður Elín Árnadóttir, <i>Director Development Centre, OECD</i> (virtual)		
	The panel will explore how corruption impacts development with a particular focus on the consequences of transnational corruption on inclusive economic growth. The speakers will share insights on how corruption hampers financial intermediation, physical and human capital, productivity, government effectiveness and public trust in government. It will shed light on the political economy of governance reforms and the structure of reform incentives and indicate why many countries in Africa find it difficult to make sustained progress in confronting corruption. The speakers will discuss recent policy advances in addressing transnational aspects of corruption and elaborate on the importance of strengthening transnational anticorruption efforts to fight international networks that enable corruption and crime. The panel will consider what are realistic objectives for international efforts to combat transnational corruption and what will be needed for those objectives to be achieved.		
10:30 - 10:45	SESSION VII: Housekeeping		
	This intervention by ATI's Diksha Ramdawa and AUC's Rumbidzai Manhando will share practical information on the organization of breakout rooms (virtual and physical).		
10:45 – 11:00	COFFEE / TEA BREAK		
11:00 – 12:30	Break-out Sessions – Key Policy Areas on Governance and Corruption Issues Facing the Continent		
11:00 - 12:30	SESSION VIII: Fiscal Governance and Vulnerabilities to Corruption		
	Chairperson: Ms. Vera Songwe, Executive Secretary, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (virtual)		
	Speaker: Mr. Abdelhak Senhadji, <i>Deputy Director, IMF Fiscal Affairs Department (virtual)</i>		
	Discussants: Ms. Charity H. Nchimunya, <i>Executive Secretary, AU Advisory Board on Corruption</i> Hon. Ms. Irene Ovonji-Odida, <i>Mbeki High Level Panel on IFFs from Africa (virtual)</i> Mr. Logan Wort, <i>Executive Secretary of the African Tax Administration Forum</i>		
	This session will discuss the benefits of strengthening fiscal governance. Following an overview of the elements of fiscal governance, reform experiences within or outside the region will be discussed. The experiences will cover the areas of public financial management, revenue administration, fiscal transparency, and SOE oversight. The discussion will highlight the benefits of reforms in these areas and challenges in implementing such reforms, while distilling lessons learned from the experiences.		

DAY 2, TUESDA	Y, June 14, 2022
11:00 – 12:30	SESSION IX: Key Governance Issues in the Financial Sector Oversight and Central Bank
	Chairperson: Dr. Masalila Kealeboga, Deputy Governor, Bank of Botswana
	Speaker: Mr. George Kabwe, Assistant Director IMF Finance Department Mr. Thapelo Tsheole, CEO of BSE and Vice President of the African Securities Exchanges Association (ASEA)
	Discussants: Mr. Henri Edmond Rabarijohn, <i>Governor, Banky Foiben'i Madagasikara (virtual)</i> Mr. Steven Lefentse Bogatsu, <i>CEO of First National Bank of Botswana</i> Ms. Fabiana Melo, Deputy Division Chief, <i>IMF Monetary and Capital Markets Department</i> <i>(virtual)</i>
	This session will explore key corruption vulnerabilities in central bank governance and oversight of the financial sector, and the underlying governance weaknesses that give rise to these vulnerabilities. The panel will discuss experience will implementing reforms to reduce potential exposure to corruption, and the challenges faced in establishing and growing a financial sector that operates with integrity and meets the needs of the public. The session will also consider emerging issues and integrity concerns that are likely to shape future risks and possibilities, and the role of financial sector insiders and outsiders in building trust in the integrity of the financial sector.
11:00 - 12:30	SESSION X: Challenges in Translating Anti-Corruption Policies and Frameworks into Reducing Corruption
	Chairperson: Mr. Rueben Lifuka, Vice-Chair of the Board, Transparency International
	Speaker: Ms. Seynabou Ndiaye Diakhaté, <i>Chairperson, National Office for the Fight against Corruption</i> (OFNAC) (virtual)
	Discussants: Mr. Abdourahmane Sano, <i>President PCUD, Guinea</i> Mrs. Mary Chirwa, <i>Head of Drug Enforcement Agency and Former Head of Financial</i> <i>Intelligence Unit, Zambia (virtual)</i> Mr. Emmanuel Mathias, <i>Advisor, IMF Legal Department</i>
	This session will examine lessons and experience in strengthening the contribution of anticorruption efforts in reducing corruption and building greater reliance on the rule of law. The panel will explore the challenges of establishing effective mechanisms for preventing and sanctioning corruption, and in developing anticorruption institutions with the necessary competencies and capabilities to fulfill their strategic function. The panel will consider an agenda for the future and how to best harness innovation and public and private resources to address corrupt forces. This discussion will include an examination of the potential to use entry points, such as anti-money laundering within broader anticorruption efforts.

DAY 2, TUESDA	DAY 2, TUESDAY, June 14, 2022	
11:00 – 12:30	SESSION XI: Audits and Accountability	
	Chairperson: Prof. Thulisile Madonsela, <i>Former Public Protector of South Africa (virtual)</i>	
	Speaker: Mr. Mamadou Faye, <i>President of AFROSAI (virtual)</i>	
	Discussants: Prof. Elizabeth David-Barrett, <i>University of Sussex</i> Mr. Emeka Jude Phillipe Obegolu, <i>President of the Executive Committee of the Pan African</i> <i>Lawyers' Union</i> Mr. Birahim Seck, <i>Head of Forum Civil (Transparency International Senegal)</i>	
	This session will discuss the role of supreme audit agencies in addressing corruption. The discussion will explore the relationship between auditing and accountability, and what is needed to strengthen the linkage between auditing and accountability. Special consideration will be given to the relationship between supreme audit agencies and the Executive, as well as the relationship between auditors and anticorruption institutions. The panel will explore recent experience with auditing emergency spending in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the implications of innovations like real-time audits for accountability systems. The panel will discuss the fallouts of the audit reports in Africa and what can be done to bolster their effectiveness in curbing corruption.	
11:00 – 12:30	SESSION XII: Addressing Corruption in Fragile Country Settings	
	Chairperson: Mr. Abdoul Aziz Wane, Director, Africa Training Institute and AFRITAC South	
	Speaker: Mr. Joel Turkewitz, Senior Counsel, IMF Legal Department	
	Discussants: Mr. Djamel Ghrib, <i>Director of Economic Development, Integration and Trade (AUC)</i> Mr. David Robinson, Special Anti-Corruption Advisor, Integrated Office of the UNRC/DSRSG to Somalia	
	This session will present a chapter of the IMF book on governance in Sub-Saharan Africa, which focuses on the role of corruption in the multidimensional sources and symptoms of fragility. The panel will focus on how international partners supporting fragile countries balance, on the one hand, assisting them to improve access to international markets by lifting their macroeconomic frameworks to international standards, with, on the other hand, a country-based approach emphasizing institutional resilience. Panelists will discuss the increasing prominence of governance and anticorruption measures in the engagement by the IMF and the AUC with their members, and the growing emphasis on country-tailored approaches.	
12:30 - 14:00	LUNCH	
14:00 - 15:30	Plenary: Take Stock and Press Forward	

DAY 2, TUESDA	Y, June 14, 2022
14:00 – 15:30	SESSION XIII: Reporting Back from Breakout Sessions
	Chairperson: Mr. Abdoul Aziz Wane, Director Africa Training Institute and AFRITAC South
	Speakers: Ms. Vera Songwe, Executive Secretary, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (virtual)
	Fiscal governance and Vulnerabilities to Corruption
	Dr. Masalila Kealeboga, Deputy Governor, Bank of Botswana Key Issues in the Financial Sector
	Prof. Thulisile Madonsela, Former Public Protector of South Africa (<i>virtual participation</i>) Real-Time Audits and Rule of Law
	Mr. Rueben Lifuka, Vice-Chair of the Board, Transparency International
	Challenges in implementation of Anti-Corruption Policies and Frameworks
	The objective of the session is to take stock of discussions on the governance weaknesses following the structure of the IMF's Framework for Enhanced Fund Engagement on Governance, while ensuring all stakeholders' perspectives are reflected. After all speakers have reported back on discussions in their break-out session, the chairperson will moderate a
	conversation between these speakers with a view to reaching a holistic approach of the issue by connecting the dots from the breakout sessions and from the plenaries of the first day and finding consensus areas where stakeholders' perspectives converge.
15:30 - 17:00	SESSION XIV: The Way Forward – Raising Africa's Governance Standards
	Chairperson: Vera Songwe, Executive Secretary, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (virtual)
	Panelists: H.E. Ambassador William Awinador-Kanyirige, Senior Advisor on Governance and Peace Building Office of the Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace and Security (AUC) (virtual)
	Mr. Abebe Aemro Selassie, Director, IMF African Department (virtual)
	Ms. Ita M. Mannathoko, <i>IMF Executive Director, Africa Group 1 Constituency</i> Prof. Kevin Urama, <i>Acting Vice President, African Development Bank (virtual)</i>
	Prof. Thulisile Madonsela, Former Public Protector of South Africa (virtual)
	The panel will summarize discussions in a forward-looking manner to emerge from current shocks and to promote economic transformation by strengthening governance and reducing corruption. Panelists will touch upon options to enhance anti-corruption frameworks (including beneficial ownership and asset declarations systems), curb Illicit Financial Flows (IFFs) and boost Stolen Assets Recovery programs by leveraging digitalization and big data and data analytics. The speakers will identify areas where external support is needed, including capacity development. Panelists will discuss the role their organization could take. The chair will identify avenues for scaling up and coordinating international organizations' support in the fight for
	good governance and against corruption.
17:00 – 17:10	Closing Remarks by Hon. Mr. Moses Dinekere Pelaelo, Governor of the Central Bank of Botswana
17:10 – 17:20	Discussion of the joint press release
17:20 – 17:30	Concluding Statement
19:00	Dinner