One Planet
Global challenges need global solutions.

Ongoing Pandemic
The path to a COVID-19 free world lies through Africa.

Emerging Climate Crisis
Global efforts to reduce emissions cannot succeed without Africa, home to the world’s second largest forest and with unmatched renewable energy potential.

Two Worlds
The region’s rebound is most welcome but remains modest by global standards.

The region is set to grow by 3.7 percent in 2021, which is lower than the rest of the world.

The region’s slow recovery reflects differences in policy space and slower vaccine rollout.

Three Stories
Looking at the anatomy of the crisis, three stories emerge for policymakers.

1. Widening divergence across the region
   Inequality worsened in 39 out of 45 countries.
   Women, young people, and the poor have been disproportionately affected by the crisis.

2. Policymakers are constrained by:
   Higher spending requirement
   Contain public debt
   Difficulty raising taxes
   Difficulty raising taxes

3. International support is critical
   Urgently needed vaccines
   $425 billion additional external funding to respond to COVID-19, rebuild external buffers, and accelerate convergence to advanced economies, including enhancing climate resilience and promoting digitalization.

This points to the urgent need for spending prioritization, revenue mobilization, enhanced credibility (governance and macro-frameworks), an improved business climate, and external financing.