

# Great Lakes Investment and Trade Conference (GLITC)

Kigali, Rwanda  
Kigali Convention Centre  
18 – 20 March 2020

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## Concept and Draft Annotated Agenda

**Theme: “Cross-border investment and trade as catalysts for development and regional integration”**

The signatory member states of the ICGLR PACT and the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework (PSC-F) will convene the Great Lakes Investment and Trade Conference (GLITC) on 18-20 March 2020 under the auspices of the Government of Rwanda. The event is jointly organized by the Office of the Special Envoy of the United Nations Secretary-General for the Great Lakes region, the Secretariat of the International Conference on the Great Lakes region (ICGLR) and the Rwanda Development Board. It follows the first Great Lakes Private Sector Investment Conference held in 2016 in Kinshasa hosted by the Government of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

The mobilization of private sector investment into the region to harness the extensive natural resources endowments and other economic opportunities will offer mutual benefits to investors and the countries of the region that are on the path of economic transformation. By creating more economic opportunities and wealth for a growing number of people, increased private sector and institutional investments can add great value to the collective efforts towards sustainable peace, stability and the transformation of the Great Lakes region.

The GLITC will provide a platform for the promotion of cross-border projects, and investment opportunities in the African Great Lakes region in several sectors, such as energy, mining, agriculture, infrastructure, and services, including finance, information technology, communication, tourism, health and others.

The Conference will also provide the opportunity for useful public sector-private sector dialogue on investments and the prevailing business climate in the countries of the region as well as networking opportunities to over 700 participants from all over the world. Moreover, the GLITC will include a high-level political segment with the participation of Heads of State and Governments and high-profile investors. Plenary sessions with key-note speakers, industry sector specific sessions as well as exhibition stands for Member States to showcase country-specific projects and economic opportunities will be prominent features of the conference.

It is expected that at the end of the conference, valuable information would have been exchanged, useful networking contacts established, and trade and investment deals initiated to promote responsible business that would provide livelihood opportunities and inclusion of the teeming women and youth population, thereby contributing to the achievement of the sustainable development goals in the region.

## Key benefits

Participants will benefit from opportunities to:

- (i) Access critical networking pool with Government representatives, business executives, and international development partners active in the African Great Lakes region;
- (ii) Better understand the dynamics and prospects of cross-border investment and trade in the region;
- (iii) Gain knowledge of the economic opportunities of the countries in the region and the institutional and regulatory frameworks in place to facilitate cross-border investments, especially in view of the establishment of the Africa Continental Free Trade Area (AFCTA);
- (iv) Participate in high-level dialogue on the regional investment climate, promotion of responsible business conduct and the building of public-private partnerships in the region;
- (v) Identify emerging long-term investment opportunities and avail of cross-border projects that are bankable, ready for business and conform to inclusive and responsible investment requirements;
- (vi) Identify bottlenecks that constrain the development of private sector investment and trade within the GLR and learn of joint efforts and plans by Governments and relevant stakeholders to address them;
- (vii) Match potential investors to promoters of projects in the following priority areas: Agriculture; Infrastructure; Mining; Energy; Services (ICT, Finance) and take note of the concrete commitments that could result from these interactions.

**PS: Most of the Panelists/Moderators listed in this provisional Agenda are tentative and yet to be confirmed**

- 08.00 - 09.00**            **Arrival at the Venue for the Opening Ceremony**  
(Kigali Convention Centre)
- 09.00 - 09.07**            **Welcome remarks: Ms. Soraya Hakuziyaremye, Minister of Trade and Industry, Rwanda**
- 09.07 - 09.17**            **Opening remarks: H.E. Paul Kagame, President, Rwanda**
- 09.20-10.45**            **High-level Panel: Strengthening Public-Private partnership to improve the business climate and promote private sector development in the Great Lakes region**

The high-level Panel will provide the opportunity for the leaders of the region to share and engage with high-profile business leaders and representatives of international/regional Organizations on the evolving positive political dynamics and economic opportunities in the region and highlight measures being taken to improve the business and investment climate, to promote private sector investment, and develop cross-border economic opportunities in the region. The role of international development partners and the benefits of synergy with organized private sector to support regional economic growth will be explored in this interactive session.

**Moderator:**            **Ms. Catherine Samba Panza**, former acting President, Central African Republic

**Key-note Speaker:** **Dr. Akinwunmi Adesina**, President, African Development Bank (AfDB)

**Panelists**                **Heads of States and Government of the PSC-F countries,**

**Chief Olusegun Obasanjo**, former President of Nigeria, Patron of the GLITC

**Mr. António Guterres**, United Nations Secretary-General (tbc)

**Mr. David Malpass**, World Bank President (tbc)

**Mr. Moussa Faki Mahamat**, African Union Commission Chairman (tbc)

**Ms. Louise Mushikiwabo**, Secretary-General Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (tbc)

**Dr. Sidi Ould Tah**, Director General Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA)

**Mr. Tony Elumelu**, President of Tony Elumelu Foundation, the largest African philanthropic initiative devoted to supporting entrepreneurs and entrepreneurship (tbc)

**Ms. Florie LISER**, CEO and President, US Corporate Council on Africa (CCA)

**Mr. Koen Doens**, DEVCO Director General, European Union

**Mr. Jack Ma**, Philanthropist, China (tbc)

**Mr. Aliko Dangote**, CEO Dangote Group (tbc)

**Dr. Liu Zhenya**, Chairman, Global Energy Interconnection Development and Cooperation Organization (GEIDCO)

#### 10.45 – 11.15      **Testimonies of three (3) successful flagship cross-border projects**

This short session will feature three (3) successful flagship projects showcased during the first PSIC in Kinshasa in February 2016 and will provide the beneficiary countries and the project sponsors as well as investors, the opportunity to present highlights of the projects and updates on their implementation, including the challenges faced and how they were overcome.

**Moderator: Hon. Claver Gatete**, Minister of Infrastructure, Rwanda (tbc)

The three (3) successful flagship projects are:

- **The Ruzizi III Regional Hydroelectric Project:** it has reached a critical stage with the Project Document signed in July 2019 in Kinshasa. It involves the construction of a 147 MW *hydro-electric dam and a distribution station between Rwanda and the DRC on the Ruzizi River*. It will supply electricity to Rwanda, Burundi and the DRC under a long-term Power Purchase Agreement. The Ruzizi III project will significantly transform the electricity sectors in the countries concerned and will contribute to: (i) optimal exploitation of the Ruzizi River's energy potential to improve security of supplies and access to electricity; (ii) the strengthening of regional economic integration by creating a regional market for electricity.

**Presenters:** Energie des Grands Lacs (EGL) and European Investment Bank (EIB)

- **The road-rail Bridge Kinshasa-Brazzaville:** The recently signed \$550m agreement between the DRC and the Republic of Congo, the African Development Bank and Africa50 Infrastructure Fund foresees the construction of a crossing to link the two closest capitals in the world. Kinshasa and Brazzaville are currently only connected by ferries. Once built, the bridge is likely to boost the existing traffic from an estimated 750,000 people and 340,000t of freight a year to over three million people and two million tons of freight by 2025.

**Presenter:**      **Mr. Alain Ebobissé**, CEO, Africa50 Infrastructure Fund, Rabat, Morocco or **ECCAS** (Project promoter) (tbc)

- **The Great Lakes Development Bank** which is now operational and ready, in a second phase of its development, to access additional resources through recapitalization and fund.

**Presenter: Mr. Emmanuel Ntaganda**, Director General, BDEGL (Project promoter)

**11.15 – 11.45 Break and Group picture, followed by the exhibition tour**

VIP and Participants will tour the exhibition space to learn about the range of investment opportunities in the Great Lakes region. Exhibition stalls will remain open throughout the Conference.

**11.45 – 13.00 Plenary Session I: Operationalization of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA): what are the opportunities and expectations for the Great Lakes region?**

The AfCFTA entered into force on 30 May 2019. This historic agreement which is a landmark achievement in fostering regional integration, will lead to the creation of a single continental market. It is expected the transition phase to the AfCFTA alone could generate welfare gains of \$16.1 billion and boost intra-African trade by 33 per cent. Research has shown that countries do not benefit equally from regional trade integration. However, all African countries would be better off with AfCFTA than without. As a sub-region, the Great Lakes region has the right ingredients to be competitive, at the continental level, in many sectors. This session aims to discuss how to harness the opportunities and overcome the challenges, from the Great Lakes region perspectives. How to make it profitable for SMEs to accelerate growth and allow the countries of the region to be more competitive in global trade and value chains?

**Moderator:** H. E Amb. **Albert M. Muchanga**, Commissioner for Trade and Industry, AUC, Addis-Ababa (tbc)

**Panelists:** Mr. **Etienne Giros**, President, EBCAM, Paris, France

**Dr. Peter J. Pham**, US Special Envoy for the Great Lakes region, Department of State, Washington DC, USA

**Ms. Ahunna Eziakonwa**, Assistant Administrator UNDP and Regional Director for Africa, NY

**Mr. Faustin Mbundu Kananura**, Executive Chairman, MFK Group Rwanda (tbc)

**13.00 – 14.00 Lunchtime**

**14.00 – 15.00 Plenary Session 1: Promoting private sector investment for cross-border projects in the Great Lakes Region**

The Great Lakes countries are well endowed with natural resources and share an ecosystem that creates complex interdependencies. Yet, this huge potential is not fully exploited and has not yet translated into significant improvement of the well-being for the population. For this reason, Great Lakes countries are combining their efforts to develop joint projects to foster multi-sectorial cooperation for the benefit of border communities and to advance on a path of peace and shared prosperity. The role of the private sector is key to mobilize private investment crucial to support the implementation of cross-border projects.

This session will discuss the challenges faced by the private sector when investing in regional projects; the opportunities of creating regional frameworks to support such investments and how to best promote public-private partnerships for the sustainable management of the region's natural resources endowment towards shared prosperity.

**Moderator:** **Ms. Bestine Kazadi**, Special Adviser for regional integration and cooperation to the President, DRC,

**Panelists:** **Ms. Clare Akamanzi**, CEO Rwanda Development Board (RDB)

**Mr. Albert Yuma Mulimbi**, CEO, GECAMINES, President Fédération des Entreprises du Congo (FEC) (tbc)

**Mr. Toufiq S. Turkey**, East African Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (EACCIA), Board Chairman

**Ms. Claudia Voss**, Managing Director, Afrika-Verein der deutschen Virschaft (German-African Business Association), Germany

**Pr. Alphonse Ntumba Luaba**, former Executive Secretary, ICGLR

#### **15.00 – 15.45 Presentation of the cross-border projects**

The presentation will focus on four (4) flagship cross-border projects identified in the Great Lakes region and will involve stakeholders, including Government officials, project promoters, investors and development partners.

**Moderator :** **Mr. Laurent YOGO**, Fédération des Entreprises du Congo (FEC)

**Presenter:** **Mr. Joseph Lutitiyo**, Deputy Executive Secretary, CEPGL

#### **15.45 – 16.00 Tea/coffee break**

#### **16.00 - 17.00 Plenary Session 2 “Improving the Business climate through**

##### **effective regulatory reforms in the Great Lakes region”**

Many Great Lakes countries are among the fastest growing economies in Africa. Increasing investment inflows have been the main drivers of these countries' sustained growth. While the private sector is indeed the main driver of development, Governments still have the role to establish the conducive climate in which businesses can operate optimally. Countries of the Great Lakes region have dedicated significant efforts to improve the investment climate to attract foreign direct investment.

This session will aim to identify the major constraints in the respective sectors and seek out ways to: address constraints that hamper investments in the Great Lakes region; harness the opportunities to streamline business regulations and simplify regulatory requirements for businesses.

**Moderator:** Ms. Rosa Malango, Resident Coordinator, United Nations, Uganda

**Panelists:** Ms. Sandra Uwera, CEO, COMESA Business Council, Zambia

Mr. Gunter Engling, Managing Director, MTN Rwanda (tbc)

Mr. Michael Joseph, CEO, Safaricom, Kenya (tbc)

Mr. Jean-Christophe Carret, Country Director, World Bank for DRC and Burundi

Mr. Anthony Kinzo, Director General ANAPI (Investment Promotion Agency), RDC (tbc)

## 15.35 – 16.45 Thematic Breakout Sessions

### Thematic Session 1                      Infrastructure: “Development corridors”: Where do we stand in the Great Lakes region?

“Development corridors” are the new generation of integrated transport and transit corridors, increasingly used as a vehicle to boost intra-regional trade, economic growth and structural transformation in Africa. They have the potential to amplify the mobility of persons and goods, develop connectivity between urban centers, connect landlocked countries to international gateways such as ports in neighboring countries, boost the agriculture, increase exports and improve regional economic integration.

This session aims to explore the state of existing corridors in the Great lakes and how to harness the opportunities to promote a “development corridors” approach in a region with an important number of landlocked countries and to contribute to durable peace and shared prosperity.

**Moderator:** Mr. Gerardus Gielen, Great Lakes Coordinator, EEAS, European Union

**Panelists:** Mr. Johnny Smith, Chair, African Corridors Management Alliance (ACMA), Namibia (tbc)

Ms. Chileshe Mpundu Kapwepwe, Secretary-General, Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) (tbc)

Mr. Dieudonné Kasembo, Vice-président, Fédération des Entreprises du Congo (FEC), Kinshasa

Ms. Olive Kikongo, Chair, Uganda Chamber of Commerce (tbc)

Mr. Frank Mutsaert, CEO, Trademark East Africa (tbc)

### Thematic Session 2: Energy: Investing in renewable energy in the Great Lakes region

Despite the rich endowments of energy resources, the Great Lakes region is seriously deficient in energy supply. The cost of energy is prohibitive and remains one of the main obstacles to the region’s industrialization aspirations. Given the important existing potential, diversification of electricity sources through renewable energy solutions – such as solar, wind, geothermal and hydro power – is seen now as a durable alternative to reach the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) of universal access to energy

by 2030. Indeed, several Great Lakes countries are already reaping benefits from investment in renewables. However, some bottlenecks remain and include lack of finance, lack of interest from investors and the desire by some to take on mega projects that could easily fail to attract private investors. This session will discuss how to harness the opportunities to generate significant amounts of clean energy, diversify the energy sources to meet the Great Lakes region fast-growing energy needs through optimal use of the region's abundant renewable energy resources.

**Moderator:** H.E. Ms. Amani Abou-Zeid, AUC Commissioner for Infrastructure & Energy (tbc)

**Panelists:** Mr. Rizwan Fazal, Executive Director, The Lake Turkana Wind Power Project, Kenya (tbc)

Dr. ....GEIDCO,

Mr. Ephrem Balole, CEO, Virunga Energie, DRC, Goma

Mr. Patrick Ngowi, CEO and Founder of Helvetic Group, providing Solar Energy to Africa, Tanzania (tbc)

Mr. Baraka Kassali, COO, Kivu Green Energy, DRC (tbc)

Mr. Frederik Van Den Bosch, Managing Director, EDFIMC-ElectriFI, an impact investment facility, Belgium (tbc)

**Thematic Session 3**                      **Agriculture: "Investing in Agricultural Value Chains in the Great Lakes region"**

The Great Lakes region has a great potential in agriculture, with almost half of Africa's arable land, waters and huge markets. Agriculture represents a significant part of the economy of the region and can effectively help fight food insecurity, eradicate poverty, boost intra-regional trade, develop value chains, create decent jobs and be the driver for industrialization, economic diversification and structural transformation. Yet, many Great Lakes countries are still net food importers. Other major risks in the region include agriculture's vulnerability to climate change and heavy reliance on primary commodity exports. For agriculture to be a main driver of sustainable economic growth in the region, there is a need to drive an agricultural revolution. It will require, amongst others, to increase significantly private sector investment in agri-food value chains, foster entrepreneurship and boost intra-regional trade. This session will discuss pragmatic approaches to the development of the agro-industry sector and to harness the opportunities for cross-border agricultural value chains in the region.

**Moderator:** Mr. Bill Kayonga, CEO of NAEB Rwanda (tbc)

**Panelists:** Mr. Venkata Ramani Srivathsan, Managing Director and CEO, OLAM Africa and Middle East (tbc)

Ms. Nicole Sulu Tshiyoyo, Founder Makutano, Congolese leading business network, DRC

**Mr. Hussain Al Nowais**, Chairman of Khalifa Fund for Enterprise Development (KFED), Abu Dhabi, UAE (tbc)

**Mr. Garry Conille**, UN Resident Coordinator, Burundi

#### **Thematic Session 4 Youth Entrepreneurship: Investing in youth in the Great Lakes region**

420 million youth represents Africa's greatest resource. Almost seventy-five per cent of the population in the Great Lakes Region is aged under thirty-five. Young people are a vast source of innovation, ideas and solutions. Yet many are not in employment, education or training. To fulfil the vision and aspirations of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, African Union Agenda 2063 and shared prosperity in the Region, we need young people to champion and place their economic empowerment to the front of our development strategies, through focuses on training, employment and empowerment, especially for girls. This session will not only showcase success stories and highlight challenges but also explore ways in which leaders and partners can use to support youth entrepreneurs and empower them as positive change agents to work towards sustainable development.

**Moderator: Mr. Ramah Nyang**, Business Anchor, CGTN

**Panelists: Ms. Jayathma Wickramanayake**, Secretary General's Envoy on Youth, United Nations

**Ms. Benedicte Mundele**, Founder of Surprise Tropical, the Democratic Republic of Congo

**Ms. Christelle Kwizera**, CEO, Water Access Rwanda, Top 20 of Africa Netpreneur Prize Initiative

**Ms. Shamim Nabuuma Kaliisa**, Founder of Chil Ai Lab Uganda, Top 20 of Africa Netpreneur Prize Initiative

**Mr. Jeremy Riro**, Managing Partner, Fie-Consult, Nairobi

**16.45 – 17.15 Tea Break and Press Conference**

**17.15 -19.00** Networking

**19.00 – 21.00** Banquet

**Keynote speaker:**

**08.00 – 09.00 Arrival**

**09.00 – 10.10 Promoting Women Entrepreneurs in the Great Lakes region**

Research shows that women-owned businesses in Africa tend to be smaller in size and grow more slowly than those run by men. Yet, women entrepreneurs are equally efficient and growth-oriented as men-owned businesses. Despite this discrepancy, many more women entrepreneurs are succeeding. However, due to specific challenges female entrepreneurs face, the Great Lakes region has a long way to go to reach equality of opportunity. Expanding the opportunities for women entrepreneurs through policies that foster gender equality would have a tremendous impact on economic growth in the region.

This session will seek out ways to overcome these challenges and build a more equitable economic ecosystem between genders. It will also discuss whether there are targeted policies Great Lakes countries can use to promote high-growth women entrepreneurs.

**Moderator:** **Ms. Olajobi Makinwa**, Chief, Intergovernmental Relations & Africa, United Nations Global Compact, New York

**Panelists:** **Dr. Amany Asfour** World President, Federation of Business and Professional Women

**Hon. Amb. Amina Salum Ali**, Minister of Trade and Industry, Zanzibar, Tanzania

**Ms. Ginette Karirekinyana**, Vice-Chairperson Federal Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Burundi

**Ms. Patricia Nzolantima**, Founder, Women Economic Empowerment Centre, DRC

**Ms. Eugenie Mushimiyimana**, Vice Chairperson of PSF, Rwanda

**10.10 – 10.30 Tea Break**

**10.30 – 11.40 Thematic Breakout Session**

**Thematic Session 4 Mining: “Developing local content and regional value chains in minerals”**

The Great Lakes region has one of the greatest concentrations of precious minerals and metals on earth. Most of these minerals are used in the manufacture of a range of high-tech devices, such as mobile phones, batteries, laptops and spacecraft, with demands increasing exponentially. So far, the abundance of mineral resources has not yet been transformed into inclusive socio-economic well-being. The exploitation and trade of minerals in the region are challenged by effective governance. Consequently, the wealth and economic opportunities deriving from natural resources are very unequally distributed and often finance non-state armed groups which further destabilize the region. In response to this, diverse regional and international efforts to break the link between the illicit trade of natural resources and conflict in the Great Lakes region have been proposed, with limited results so far. However, optimal management of extractive resources can help develop local content, create many more jobs and diversify economies in the region through linkages to the broader economy.

The session will explore the opportunities to develop regional value chains in minerals, create demand for services and goods that will support economic growth and shared prosperity.

**Moderator:** Mr. Fodé Ndiaye, UN Resident Coordinator, Rwanda

**Panelists:** Mr. Francis Gatare, CEO of the Rwanda Mines, Petroleum & Gas Board (tbc)

Mr. Audace Ndayizeye, Chair, Chambre Fédérale de Commerce et d'Industrie (CFCIB), Burundi

Ms. Yvette Mwanza, President of the North Kivu Chamber of Businesses and Traders, DRC

Mr. Frank Giustra, Canadian Businessman, mining financier and philanthropist (tbc)

Brett A. Richards, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Banro Corporation Ltd., UK

#### **Thematic Session 5                      Promotion of a favorable Science, Technology and Innovations (STI) ecosystem in the Great Lakes region"**

The last two decades have witnessed important STI progress in the Great Lakes region. This includes agricultural technological innovations; "green" mobility technologies (e.g. electric and solar powered vehicles) and innovations in mobile money transfers such as M-pesa. STI is increasingly becoming a key enabler of jobs and wealth creation, sustainable development towards socio-economic transformation of countries of the region. This aligns well with the AU AGENDA 2063 Science, Technology Innovation Strategy for Africa (STISA-2024) that seeks to *"accelerate Africa's transition to an Innovation-led, Knowledge-based Economy...to promote creativity and innovation technologies to locally process the continent's abundant natural resources, and to create more wealth and jobs for the youth on the continent....This will create new opportunities for value-added employment by adapting and commercializing the outputs of national and regional innovation across Africa* (STISA-2024, AU Commission, page 23).

However, much more needs to be done for STI to become a game-changer and more effectively address the region's sustainable development challenges. This is critical in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Global Knowledge Economy where innovation is the watchword. Thus, STI will be a game-changer in strategic areas such as innovation, value addition and manufacturing especially in the agricultural value chain; and in industrialization through application of Science, Technology (including ICTs), Engineering and Innovations (STEI). Renewable energy research & development (R&D) and innovation in the region, too, need application of STI.

This session, therefore, will discuss the costs and benefits of an enabling STI ecosystem towards greater investment, business development and private sector growth for jobs, wealth creation and socio-economic transformation of Africa's Great Lakes region.

**Moderator:** Mr. George Piwang-Jalobo, Chairman, Amor Investments Co Ltd, Uganda

**Introduction by Dr. Benedict Oramah**, *President* and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the African Export-Import Bank (*Afreximbank*) (tbc)

**Panelists:** Ms. Nathalie Munyampenda, Managing Director, The next Einstein Forum, Rwanda (tbc)

**Dr. Sandrine Mulenga**, Professor University Toledo, USA and Chair, STEM, DRC (tbc)

**Ms. Juliana Rotich**, Technologist, Strategic Advisor and Entrepreneur, Kenya

**Mr. Daniel Yu**, Founder and CEO Sokowatch, an e-commerce platform for informal retail shops in urban Africa. (tbc)

#### **Thematic Session 6      Finance: “Improving access to finance for Entrepreneurs in the Great Lakes region”**

Access to finance is a main obstacle for African Entrepreneurs and SMEs. Alternative financing sources, such as the bond or stock market, are hardly relevant to MSMEs and still underdeveloped in most economies of the region. However, financial sector reforms have led to improvements in many countries of the region. Digital technologies, new financing partners and innovative financing instruments are making it easier for businesses to access finance. This session will explore those innovative financing models and instruments in support of Entrepreneurs and SMEs of the Great Lakes region to close the financial gap: private equity, public equity, angel investing, impact financing, climate finance.... etc.

**Moderator:**      **Mr. Richard Ngatia**, Chair Kenya Chamber of Commerce and Industry

**Key note Speaker:** **Mr. Adesse Admassu**, President and CEO, Trade and Development Bank, (tbc)

**Panelists:**      **Ms. Catherine Collin**, Head of Representation, East and Central Africa, European Investment Bank (tbc)

**Mr. Joshua Nyamweya OIGARA**, CEO, Kenya Commercial Bank Group

**Mrs. Nnenna Nwabufo**, Deputy Director General in East Africa, African Development Bank

**Mr. Yasser El Gammal**, Country Manager, World Bank, Rwanda

#### **Thematic Session 7                      Health: “Promoting private sector investment in the health sector in the Great Lakes region”**

Many Great Lakes countries have made impressive strides in strengthening health systems and expanding coverage. However, most of them are far off track for reaching by 2030 the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3 “ensure *healthy* lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages”. Serious efforts still have to be done to improve both public and private health care options in particularly for the poor, the equity and efficiency of the health financing systems through enhanced domestic resource mobilization. The private sector already delivers a good part of all health-related goods and services in the region. Yet, research has shown that greater investment in private health companies could have major health and economic benefits for low-income Africans.

This session will explore opportunities to better harness the private sector to help enhance the quality and quantity of health care and achieve the SGD goal of universal health coverage.

**Moderator:**      **Mr. Kiprono Kittony**, CEO, Capital Realtime Limited, Nairobi

**Panelists:** Prince Karim Aga Khan IV, Philanthropist, Geneva (tbc);  
Dr. Tadataka Yamada, President of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's Global Health Program (tbc);  
Mr. Paolo Rotelli, President, Gruppo San Donato Foundation, Italy (tbc)  
Mr. Eric Bureau, Bayer East Africa Managing Director and Head of Bayer CropScience, Nairobi (tbc)

**11.45 -12.45 Presentation of flagship cross-border projects**

**Moderator:** Mr. Charles Kahuthu, Chair and CEO, East African Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Nairobi

**Presenters:** Mr. Tomas Sales, Special adviser on private sector, UNDP

Mr. Michael Sudarkasa, CEO, Africa Business Group, South Africa

**12.45 - 14.00 Lunch**

**14.00 – 15.00 Report back Plenary Session :Reports from the various breakout sessions will be presented and discussed.**

**Rapporteurs:** Mr. Stephen Ruzibiza, CEO Private Sector Forum, Rwanda

Dr. Andrew Mold, Acting Director East Africa, UNECA

**15.00 – 16.00 Closing Plenary-Statements**

Chief Olusegun Obasanjo, former President of Nigeria, Patron of the GLITC

Ms. Vera Songwe, Executive Secretary, UNECA (tbc)

Dr. Sidi Ould Tah, Director General, Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA)

Amb. Basile Ikouebe, Special Representative African Union Liaison Office in Burundi,

Amb. Zachary Muburi Muita, Executive Secretary, International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR)

Amb. Huang Xia, Special Envoy of the Secretary General for the Great Lakes region, United Nations

**16.00 – 17.00 Press Conference**

**17.00 Cocktail**

Site visits may include:

**Rubavu and Goma:** *Cross-border projects such as the One-Stop Border post at “Grande Barrière” will be visited by participants to assess the impact of such projects on border communities.*

**Other manufacturing, tourism and relevant locations in Rwanda.**

**Detailed programme will be determined later.**

Organized jointly by the Governments of Rwanda and DRC with the support of the Office of the Special Envoy to the Secretary General for the Great Lakes region and MONUSCO.