



AFRICA-EUROPE FOUNDATION

at the 77th Session of the United Nations General Assembly

FOUNDED BY:
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IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:
ONE THE AFRICAN CLIMATE FOUNDATION

AFRICA-EUROPE FOUNDATION (AEF) ENGAGEMENT AT UNGA77

At the upcoming 77th session of the UN General Assembly (UNGA77) global leaders will convene to reinvigorate multilateralism and work towards a common shared agenda for a prosperous world, amid growing global challenges and geopolitical shifts. Central to reinvigorating multilateralism is **the partnership between Africa Europe that must turn dialogue into action.**

Anchored by the UNGA high-level week, AEF will bring together leading global voices to raise ambition on cross-continental cooperation amidst global crises. The week will begin with an **in-person breakfast meeting of the Women Leaders Network (WLN) led by H.E. Mary Robinson on the topic of climate adaptation finance and loss and damage.**

AEF will translate the discussions from the high-level week into concrete action, through convening the experts and policymakers on the margins the **UN Science Summit**, for the first **Africa - Europe Foundation Day on 27th September**. The event will translate dialogue into action across a series of roundtables to profile new policy research, moon-shot ideas and catalyse action and cooperation on three impeding crises areas climate adaptation, food security, and digital economy. The AEF Day will close with a **Networking Reception** on forward thinking discussions on the future success of Africa-Europe relations.

PROGRAMME

19th September 7.30am to 9.30am EST @ Permanent Mission of Ireland to the UN

In-person **Breakfast Meeting of the AEF Women Leaders Network (WLN)**. The meeting will represent an important steppingstone from the first WLN in-person meeting (at the Sustainable Energy for All Forum in Kigali in May 2022) to COP27 hosted on the African continent (November 2022). It will be centred on the topic of adaptation finance and loss and damage, in the context of the Africa-Europe partnership. *(Closed door event by invitation only).*

AFRICA-EUROPE FOUNDATION DAY PROGRAMME

27th September, 10am to 6pm EST

Part I hosted at UN Headquarters (UN Headquarters, Conference Room 8, New York)

10h00 Agri-food Systems: Increasing resilience to shocks and crises

12h00 The Road to COP27: Scaling up climate adaptation financing

Part II hosted at French Consulate (Consulate General of France, New York)

15h00 Digital Economy: Responsible AI for Africa's development (Salon Rose)

16h30 Networking Reception and refreshments (Salon Chapelle)

AEF Day is Hosted in Collaboration with



Ministère des Affaires Etrangères et des
Sénégalais de l'Extérieur

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À NEW YORK
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ANNEX: AEF DAY SESSIONS

AGRI-FOOD SESSION

Theme Agri-food Systems: Increasing Resilience to Shocks and Crises

Date Tuesday, 27 September 2022, 10.00am to 11:45am EST

Venue UN Headquarters, Senegalese Mission, Room 8, New York

Context

The current Ukraine-Russia conflict has shed light on the vulnerability of the global food system to geopolitical dynamics and the need for revitalized trade partnerships to address global food insecurity. In light of the food crisis, both Africa and Europe share a clear opportunity to reduce their dependencies on cereal imports, diversify supplies, and speed-up sustainable agri-food production, trade, and consumption. Effective partnerships between the two continents are needed to catalyse action doubling resilience and adaptation measures, building up strategic reserves, and making countries more food secure. This session will focus on the opportunity for a partnership on food systems between Africa and Europe to accelerate progress towards food and nutrition security for all by 2030.

Agenda:

10h00 Welcome Remarks

Kandeh Yumkella, Ambassador of the Africa-Europe Foundation

10h05 Keynote Remarks

- **H.E. Olof Skoog**, Ambassador and Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations
- **H.E. Fatima Kyari Mohammed**, Ambassador and Permanent Observer of the African Union to the United Nations
- **Christina Duarte**, Under Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations and Special Adviser to the UN Secretary-General on Africa
- **H.E. Richard Randriamandrato**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Madagascar

10h35 High-level Panel Discussion

- **Ibrahim Mayaki**, Co-chair of the Africa-Europe Foundation Strategy Group on Agri-food and former CEO of AUDA-NEPAD
- **Wanjira Mathai**, Managing Director, Africa and Global Partnerships at the World Resources Institute (WRI)
- **Stefanos Fotiou**, Director, Office of Sustainable Development Goals at FAO and Director of the UN Food Systems Coordination Hub
- **H.E. Richard Randriamandrato**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Madagascar
- **H.E. Fatima Kyari Mohammed**, Ambassador and Permanent Observer of the African Union to the United Nations

11h45 Closing remarks and end of Session

Kandeh Yumkella, Ambassador of the Africa-Europe Foundation

11:45-12:00 Coffee break



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CLIMATE ADAPTATION SESSION

Theme The Road to COP27: Scaling up Climate Adaptation Financing

Date Tuesday, 27 September 2022, 12.00am to 13:00pm EST

Venue UN Headquarters, Senegalese Mission, Room 8, New York

Context

With only eight years left to halve global emissions, and already six years spent negotiating the Paris rulebook, COP27 must be the year that the international community makes the shift from mistrust and siloed commitment to unified action and implementation. Present global climate change patterns have shown that Africa continues to disproportionately suffer the most detrimental effects of the climate change, despite contributing the least, and therefore should receive the greatest support to mitigate and adapt. Accordingly, for COP27 to be a success and break these barriers of mistrust and move towards a unified global partnership, leaders from high emitting countries must meet their unmet commitments to deliver climate financing for adaptation, loss and to damage. This session will bring together key stakeholders ahead of COP27 to discuss these pertinent but often side-lined element of climate negotiations to unlock areas of cooperation, through aligned approaches and action orientated partnerships between Africa and Europe.

Agenda:

12h00 Welcome Remarks

Kandeh Yumkella, Ambassador of the Africa-Europe Foundation

12h05 High-level Panel Discussion:

- **Romy Andrianarisoa**, Chair of the Commission for Sustainable Development and Business Ethics – Groupement des Entreprises de Madagascar
- **Vhalinavho Khavhagali**, Senior Fellow for Adaptation at the Africa-Europe Foundation, and country representative for South Africa at the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
- **Nisreen Elsaim**, Chair of UN Secretary General's Youth Advisory Group on Climate Change
- **Marc van Heukelen***, Hors Classe Adviser and Ambassador at Large - Climate Diplomacy, European External Action Services (EEAS)

12h40 Q&A with panellists and audience

13h00 Closing remarks and end of session

Kandeh Yumkella, Ambassador of the Africa-Europe Foundation



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DIGITAL ECONOMY SESSION

Title Responsible AI for Africa's Development

Date Tuesday, 27 September, 15.00pm to 16.15pm EST

Venue Consulate General of France, New York - 934 5th Avenue, NY 10021 (Salon Rose)

Context

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is a key enabler to achieve Sustainable Development Goals notably through more efficient use of resources and the enhanced provision of health services. The development and dissemination of responsible innovative AI solutions needs to be supported by policy and regulatory frameworks, skills development for professions including engineers and researchers and the necessary data storage capacity. Despite its many development benefits, the uptake of AI in Africa remains very fragmented and unequal and the gap between African and European countries is becoming increasingly larger. While developments in AI have so far mainly been led by private actors, some countries such as South Africa already have an AI blueprint and based on it, local innovators are disseminating responsible and trustworthy AI based solutions to support households, SMEs, and public institutions. Other countries such as Senegal, Rwanda, Ghana are accelerating their investments in AI. Currently under development, the European Union AI act proposes a harmonized framework for AI policy which could provide an outlook on potential developments in Africa. This interactive brainstorming session will deep dive into the development of national AI policy, accompanying frameworks and use cases of AI based solutions to accelerate progress towards achieving the SDGs.

Speakers

- **Joris Cyizere**, Acting Managing Director Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution Rwanda
- **Tracey Li**, Senior Data Lead, D-tree International
- **Rebecca Distler**, Strategist for AI, Data, and Digital Health, The Patrick J. McGovern Foundation
- **Moderation:** by **Steve Rochlin**, Head of Global Enabling Sustainability Initiative (GeSI) America

Agenda

14h45 Registration

15h00 Welcome Remarks

15h05 Keynote Address

15h15 Panel Discussion

Intervention: Developing and implementing AI policy frameworks between Africa and Europe

Intervention: Opportunities and bottlenecks for the development of responsible and trustworthy AI solutions in Africa and in Europe

Intervention: AI solutions for development

15h30 Moderated dialogue with participants and speakers

16h10 Closing remarks

16h15 End of the debate



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AFRICA-EUROPE FOUNDATION DAY RECEPTION

Theme Unlocking inclusive and transformative partnerships between Africa and Europe

Date Tuesday, 27 September 2022, 16.30pm to 18.00pm EST

Venue Consulate General of France, New York - 934 5th Avenue, NY 10021 (Salon Chapelle)

Context

On the margins of the 77th session of the UN General Assembly and amid growing global challenges reinvigorating a shared partnership between Africa-Europe that is inclusive and fit for the 21st century multilateral stage is more important than ever. Accordingly, the Africa-Europe Foundation with Permanent Missions of partnering Member States will jointly co-host a Reception on the margins of UNGA 77 to introduce partners and the UN system to the work of the Africa-Europe Foundation and discuss the future success of Africa-Europe relations in the face of global challenges.

Agenda

16h30 Welcome Remarks by co-hosts:

Jérémie Robert, Consul General of France in New York

Ambassador Cheikh Niang, Permanent Representative of Senegal to the United Nations

16h40 Networking and Light Refreshments

18h00 End of reception