



DAN AFRIKE
AFRICA DAY
JOURNÉE DE L'AFRIQUE

11. mednarodna konferenca
11th International Conference
11e conférence internationale

Online Conference (via Zoom)
26 May 2022
9.00 – 13.30 CEST

AFRICA AND EUROPE:

COOPERATION ON DIGITAL TRANSITIONS AND NEW TECHNOLOGIES

The 11th Africa Day International Conference takes place under the auspices of the President of the Republic of Slovenia His Excellency Mr Borut Pahor and within the framework of the Bled Strategic Forum. This high-level annual event is co-hosted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia, the Chatham House Africa Programme and the European Commission.

Slovenia's high-level Africa event seeks to improve policy outcomes for citizens in Europe and Africa as a result of mutual understanding and strengthened cooperation between the two regions. Expert discussions at this year's edition will examine collaborative links between Africa and Europe in promoting responsible innovation and governance of emerging technologies, as well as the role of technology in shaping creative and cultural economies.

09.00 – 10.00 Welcome and opening keynote addresses

H.E. Mr Borut Pahor, President of the Republic of Slovenia

H.E. Dr Anže Logar, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Slovenia

H.E. Ms Audrey Azoulay, Director-General, UNESCO, TBC

H.E. Ms Shirley Ayorkor Botchwey, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration, Ghana, TBC

H.E. Ms Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, Namibia, TBC

H.E. Ms Eva-Maria Liimets, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Estonia, TBC

H.E. Ms Suzi Carla Barbosa, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Communities, Guinea-Bissau, TBC

SHORT VIDEO MESSAGES BY:

H.E. Ms Jutta Urpilainen, Commissioner for International Partnerships, European Commission

H.E. Professor Mohammed Belhocine, Commissioner for Education, Science, Technology and Innovation, African Union Commission

Chair: **Ms Natalia Al Mansour**, Head of the Department for Africa and the Middle East, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Slovenia

10.00 – 10.05 Video break

10.05 – 11.25 Session 1 | Collaborations on citizen-centred technology governance

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Professor Isa Ali Ibrahim (Pantami), Honourable Minister of Communications and Digital Economy, Nigeria, TBC

Ambassador Mr Tadej Rupel, National Coordinator for External Aspects of Digitalization, Artificial Intelligence and Cyber Security, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Slovenia

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Professor John Shawe-Taylor, Director, International Research Centre on Artificial Intelligence (IRCAI); UNESCO Chair in Artificial Intelligence, Slovenia and United Kingdom

Dr Papa Gueye, Director-General, National School of Regional Cybersecurity, Senegal, TBC

Mr Ahsan Mahboob, Head, Sibanye-Stillwater Digital Mining Laboratory (DigiMine), Wits Mining Institute (WMI), South Africa, TBC

Ms Koliwe Majama, Senior Programme Officer, Mozilla Foundation, Zimbabwe

Mr Thierry Barbe, Head of Unit Science Technology Innovation and Digitalisation, Directorate-General for International Partnerships, European Commission, TBC

Chair: **Professor Carlos Lopes**, Associate Fellow, Africa Programme, Chatham House

11.25 – 11.30 Video break

11.30 – 12.45 Session 2 | Shaping sustainable digital societies and economies

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Ms Mercy Kimalat, Chief Executive Officer, Association of Startups and SME Enablers of Kenya (ASSEK)

Mr Fred Uduma, President, Slovenia – Nigeria Chamber of Commerce

Ms Vesna Virant, Commercial Director, Medex d.o.o.

Mr Ibrahim Nouhoum, Co-founder, International African Forum, Slovenia and Mali

Mr Boris Nicolas Erjavec, Executive Director, Pomurski sejem d.o.o.

Chair: **Mr Robert Rakar**, Director, Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Primorska

12.45 – 13.15 Session 3 | Language diversity and digital transition

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Dr Maina wa Mũtonya, Professor and Researcher, African and African Diaspora Studies, Escuela Nacional de Antropología e Historia, Kenya and Mexico

Ms Mama Adjetey-Nii Owoo, Founder and Lead Researcher, Afroliteracies

Mr Asmelash Teka Hadgu, Co-founder and Chief Technology Officer, Lesan, Ethiopia

Chair: **Ms Aleksandra Gačić**, Doctoral Student, Postgraduate School at the Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Slovenia

13.15 – 13.30 Closing remarks

Ms Tighisti Amare, Deputy Director, Africa Programme, Chatham House

Ms Marjeta Jager, Deputy Director-General, Directorate-General for International Partnerships, European Commission

Ambassador Dr Stanislav Raščan, State Secretary, Acting as Minister for Development Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Slovenia

Chair: **Ms Natalia Al Mansour**, Head of the Department for Africa and the Middle East, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Slovenia

