

Programme

4–5 November 2026
Dakar, Djibouti, Geneva, Lusaka, Moroni

Wednesday, 4 November – Shared Challenges and Proven Practices

10:00 –10:30 a.m. **Welcome and Opening Remarks**

Item 1 Opening address

Habiba Ben Barka, O-I-C, PARB, Division for Africa, Least Developed Countries and Special Programmes, UNCTAD

Item 2 Brief introduction of participating countries

10:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	**High-Level Panel: Navigating the New Industrial Era**
Item 1	Expert presentations on global industrial policy trends
Speakers	**Fiona Tregenna**, Director, UNU-MERIT **Alejandro Lavopa**, Research and Industrial Policy Officer, UNIDO
Item 2	Panel discussion: Potential contribution of regional cooperation and coordination to the design and implementation of national industrial policies: the ASEAN case
Speakers	**Cuong Ba Tran**, Head, Trade Facilitation, ASEAN Secretariat **Ganeshan Wignaraja**, Visiting Senior Fellow/Research Associate ODI Global **Deepali Fernandes**, Independent Consultant, Trade and Finance Specialist (lessons for the AfCFTA)
Interactive discussion	Q&A
12:30-14 p.m.	**LUNCH BREAK**
14-16:30 p.m.	**Peer Clinic: Evaluating Comparative Strengths and Vulnerabilities**
Item 1	Presentations Exploring how investment and regulatory conditions can support productive transformation **Kirtimay Pendse**, UNCTAD
Item 2	Mapping each LDC's industrial policy profile **Mafini Doso**, Independent Consultant **Matfobhi Riba**, Economic Affairs Officer, UNCTAD
Item 3	Tactical shifts in industrial frameworks taken by graduating LDCs Presentations by **Cambodia** and **Senegal**

Thursday, 5 November

10:00–12 a.m.	**Case Study Showcases: Successful Transitions** Presentations
Presentation 1	Intersections between law and industrial policy TAN Xiaowen, Associate Professor and researcher at the WTO Chair Institute, Shanghai University of International Business and Economics (SUIBE)
Presentation 2	Workforce retraining for green industries Małgorzata Kuczera, Project Manager and Analyst/Economist at OECD
Presentation 3	Accelerating tech-transfer from universities (Technology Innovation Agency (TIA), South Africa) – (TBC)
12:00-2:00 p.m.	**LUNCH BREAK**
2:00 -3:00 p.m	**Case Study Showcases: Successful Transitions contd.** Presentations
Presentation 4	Public-private partnerships boosting local tech adoption Erika Kraemer-Mbula, Professor of Economics, University of Johannesburg. Current Chair holder of the DSI/NRF Trilateral Research Chair in Transformative Innovation)

3:00-4:15 p.m.	**Building Productive Ecosystems Through Industrial Policy**
Item 1	Panel session
Speakers	**Carlo Pietrobelli,** Professor and policy advisor on innovation and industrial development and policy, UNU-MERIT **Mafini Dosso,** Policy Analyst and Innovation Economist **Chema Triki,** Co-Founder, Growth Teams
	Q&A
Item 2	Online distribution of evaluation questionnaire
4:15-4:30 p.m.	**WELLNESS BREAK**
4:30-4:45 p.m.	**Wrap-up and closing**