# PROGRAMME

**Monday, 21 March 2022**

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<th>Time</th>
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| 11 a.m.–1 p.m. | Opening plenary meeting  
**Item 1** – Election of officers (done through silence procedure in advance of the meeting)  
*Chair: H.E. Ambassador Ahmed Ihab Abdelahad Gamaleldin (Egypt)*  
*Vice-Chair_cum_Rapporteur: H.E. Ambassador Michael Gaffey (Ireland)*  
**Opening remarks**  
- H.E. Ambassador Maimuna Kibenga Tarishi, President of the Trade and Development Board of UNCTAD  
- Ms. Rebeca Grynspan, Secretary-General of UNCTAD  
**Item 2** – Adoption of the agenda and organization of work  
**Item 3** – Mobilizing sustainable development finance beyond Covid-19  
**Keynote note addresses**  
- H.E. Mr Abdulla Shahid, President of the United Nations General Assembly  
- Ms. Vera Songwe, Executive Director, UNECA  
Presentation of the background note by the UNCTAD secretariat:  
- Mr. Richard Kozul-Wright, Director, Division on Globalization and Development Strategies  
Followed by statements by regional group and member States |
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<th>1–3 p.m.</th>
<th>Lunch break</th>
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<td>3–5 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Item 3 – Mobilizing sustainable development finance beyond Covid-19 (con’d)</strong></td>
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**Session 1**  
*Looking back to move forward: Lessons to be learnt from the Covid-19 pandemic for development financing*

The Covid-19 pandemic is a crisis of a kind not anticipated in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda. While the nature and global reach of the Covid-19 crisis is exceptional for now, combined health, environmental, economic and financial crises may soon become the rule rather than the exception. Such crises pose considerable challenges, not only to “fire-fighting” international liquidity shortages in developing countries at their height, but also to the stable and reliable provision of long-term development finance. What lessons can be learnt from multilateral responses to the economic fallout from the Covid-19 pandemic in developing countries?

**Moderator:** H.E. Mr. Michael Gaffey, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Ireland to the United Nations in Geneva and other international organizations in Switzerland

- Mr. Mahmoud Mohieldin, United Nations Special Envoy on Financing the 2030 Development Agenda and Executive Director at the IMF
- Mr. Guillaume Chabert, Deputy Director in the Strategy, Policy and Review Department, IMF
- Mr. Avinash Persaud, Economist, Special Envoy to the Prime Minister of Barbados on Investment and Financial Services
- Mr. Nelson Barbosa, former Brazilian Minister of Finance, Professor at FGV and University of Brazilia
- Ms. Hassatou Diop N’sele, Acting Vice-President for Finance and Chief Financial Officer, African Development Bank

Followed by an interactive discussion
## Item 3 – Mobilizing sustainable development finance beyond Covid-19 (con’d)

### Session 2:

**Building back better: Sustainable finance for green industrialisation and inclusive structural transformation**

The Bridgetown Covenant, agreed at UNCTAD’s 15th Ministerial Conference held in October 2021, highlights the importance of an integrated perspective on Covid-19 recovery strategies and the need to ensure that structural transformation in developing countries will be part and parcel of the delivery of core global public goods, such as environmental sustainability, human health and social inclusion. This session will look at the policy and related financing challenges posed by achieving an effective path towards sustainable growth in developing countries, including through targeted infrastructure investment.

**Moderator:** Mr. Raphaël Mahaim, National Councillor, Switzerland

- Ms. Daniela Gabor, Professor of Economics and Macro-Finance Department, University of the West of England
- Mr. Yin Shao Loong, Senior Research Associate, Khazanah Research Institute, Malaysia
- Ms Katie Gallogly-Swan, Policy Co-ordinator, Global Policy Centre, Boston University.
- Vicente Yu, Senior Legal Adviser, TWN and International Policy Adviser to G77 UNFCCC Chair 2021

Followed by an interactive discussion

### Lunch break

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Followed by an interactive discussion |
| 1–3 p.m.    | **Lunch break**                     |
### 3 – 5 p.m.

**Item 3 – Mobilizing sustainable development finance beyond Covid-19 (con’d)**

**Session 3**

*Scaling-up Development Finance beyond Covid-19: Is a paradigm change needed?*

Already prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, financing gaps to achieve the 2030 Agenda were substantial, and even optimistic scenarios, by the IMF and UNCTAD amongst others, see these widening further over the next few years unless decisive action is taken to reverse this trend. Current approaches to financing for development prioritize the use of public funds to de-risk private investment through innovative financing instruments. Has the time come to re-think this priority and the balance of private and public roles in development financing this entails? What can be done to boost “patient” private investment that is more reliably aligned with the sustainable development goals? And is there a case for scaling-up public financing and investment for development directly to ensure the delivery of required development finance on time? What challenges does this pose for public leadership in this area, at domestic and international levels?

**Moderator:** H.E Josefina Bunge, Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva

- Ms. Cecilia Nahon, Alternate Executive Director at the World Bank Group
- Ms. Judith Tyson, Research fellow, ODI
- Ms. Stefany Griffith-Jones, Emeritus Professorial Fellow at the Institute for Development Studies, Sussex University, and Financial Markets Program Director at the Initiative for Policy Dialogue at Columbia University

Followed by an interactive discussion
### Wednesday, 23 March 2022

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| 11 a.m.–1 p.m. | **Item 3 – Mobilizing sustainable development finance beyond Covid-19 (con’d)**  
**Session 4**  
*Moving forward: Multilateral policy priorities for paving the way toward strong and reliable development financing*  
Deeper reforms of the development finance architecture will not be effective unless existing obstacles to enhancing macro-financial stability and fiscal policy spaces in developing countries can be addressed, in the first place. These include recurrent international liquidity shortages and rising as well as, in many cases, unsustainable external debt burdens: Are more substantive international debt relief initiatives needed and, if so, how could these be put into practice? How could the Global Financial Safety Net be strengthened further in the near future? What role can there be for an innovative and more developmental use of Special Drawing Rights? What other measures and initiatives might help developing countries to lower the cost of external financing?  
**Moderator:** H.E. Mr. Michael Gaffey, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Ireland to the United Nations in Geneva and other international organizations in Switzerland  
- Mr Dhammika Nanayakkara, Deputy Governor, Central Bank of Sri Lanka  
- Ms. Barbara Fritz, Professor of Economics, Free University of Berlin and Latin America Institute  
- Ms. Yuefen Li, Senior Adviser on South–South Cooperation and Development Finance, South Centre  
- Mr Mark Plant, Chief Operating Officer of CGD-Europe, Co-Director of Development Finance and Senior Policy Fellow, Center for Global Development  
Followed by an interactive discussion |
| 1–3 p.m.     | **Lunch break**                                                         |
| 3–5 p.m.     | **Closing plenary meeting**  
**Item 3** – Mobilizing sustainable development finance beyond Covid-19  
- Draft agreed policy recommendations  
**Item 4** – Provisional agenda for the sixth session of the IGE on Financing for Development  
- Topics and guiding questions for the sixth session  
**Item 5** – Adoption of the report of the IGE on Financing for Development on its fifth session |