



High Level Thematic Policy Engagement: Positioning Services as a Pathway to Structural Transformation in LDCs

3rd Floor Conference room, UNDP Regional
Service Centre for Africa, Addis Ababa

Monday 15 June 2026 | 14:00 – 16:30 EAT

Programme

2026, Monday 15 June

Master of Ceremonies: Ms. Milzat Salime, AYWLF UNDP RSCA

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| 14:00 – 14:15 | <p>Welcome Coffee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• UNDP RSCA |
| 14:15 – 14:35 | <p>Opening Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Junior Davis, OiC, Division for Africa, LDCs & Special Programmes - UNCTAD• Mr. Matthias Naab, Director – UNDP Regional Service Centre for Africa |
| 14:35 – 14:55 | <p>Thematic Presentation: UNCTAD's Least Developed Countries' Report 2025 – Are Services the new pathway to structural transformation?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Benjamin Mattondo Banda, Economic Affairs Officer, Division for Africa, LDCs & Special Programmes - UNCTAD |
| 14:55 – 15:10 | <p>Discussant on the thematic presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Komi Tsowou, Regional Adviser on AfCFTA – UNDP RSCA• Mr. Stephen Karingi, Director, MGD - ECA |
| 15:10 – 15:45 | <p>Panel Discussion on the theme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• H.E. Ms. Ntsiuoa Castalia Sekete, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Lesotho in Addis Ababa• H.E. Mr. Juan Ignacio Roccatagliata, Ambassador, Embassy of Argentina in Ethiopia• Ms. Trudi Hartzenberg, Executive Director, TRALAC• Ms. Samiya Abulkadir, President, Ethiopian Young Entrepreneurs Association |

- Mr. Cheick Camara, Vice President and Managing Director, ServiceNow Africa

15:45 – 16:15

Question and Answer Session

- Facilitated by Moderator/MC

16:15 – 16:30

Closing Remarks

- Ms. Diane Sayinzoga, Chief, Regional Office for Africa - UNCTAD
- Mr. Isiyaka Sabo, Regional Team Leader, Inclusive Growth and Extractives Team (IGET), UNDP RSCA

Moderator: Ms. Judith Ameso, Economic Affairs Officer, Regional Office for Africa - UNCTAD

