



# **ANNUAL MEETINGS ASSEMBLÉES ANNUELLES**

**23-25 JUNE | JUIN 2021 | VIRTUAL | VIRTUEL**  
AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP | GROUPE DE LA BANQUE  
AFICAINE DE DÉVELOPPEMENT

## **SESSION BRIEFING**

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### **HIGH LEVEL KNOWLEDGE EVENT**

## **FROM DEBT RESOLUTION TO GROWTH: THE ROAD AHEAD FOR AFRICA**

**23 JUNE 12:00-14:00 GMT**

# EVENT OVERVIEW

## A TWO-HOUR KNOWLEDGE EVENT

### From Debt Resolution to Growth: The Road Ahead for Africa

#### OBJECTIVES & EXPECTED OUTCOMES

Following the practice over the past years, the findings and policy recommendations of the 2021 African Economic Outlook (AEO) - *"From Debt Resolution to Growth: The Road Ahead for Africa"*, will be discussed at a High-Level event at the Bank's Annual Meetings. The 2021 AEO examined Africa's debt situation in the wake of the pandemic, and the current challenges in the international architecture for debt resolution and proposes policy options to make debt work for growth in Africa.

The proposed event will provide an opportunity for Bank Governors to share their views on the key findings and policy recommendations of the report focusing on debt, public financial management and economic governance. Specifically, the discussion will cover topics such as: domestic resource mobilization; fiscal policy planning and management; deepening capital and financial markets; mitigating leakages, corruption, and illicit financial flows; debt transparency; and policies to reignite growth in post COVID-19 Africa.

Specifically, **Dr. Akinwumi A. Adesina**, President, African Development Bank Group; **Dr. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala**, Director General, World Trade Organization and **Ms. Kristalina Georgieva**, Managing Director, International Monetary Fund, and Bank Group Governors from: Argentina, Burundi, Cameroun, Egypt, Ethiopia, France, Japan, Nigeria, and Zambia will examine key questions on **how to boost debt productivity in Africa**, and **International Coordination and Collaboration for Mitigating Debt Vulnerabilities in Africa**.

#### Panel 1: Boosting Debt Productivity in Africa

##### Questions to discuss:

- What are the governance reform priorities for African countries to manage their public debt productively and transparently?
- What additional actions would be needed to curb leakages, corruption, and illicit financial flows?
- How do we increase the level of low-cost/low-risk development financing available to RMCs?

#### Panel 2: International Coordination and Collaboration for Mitigating Debt Vulnerabilities in Africa

##### Questions to discuss:

- How can the international community help promote responsible lending and borrowing, whereby debtors and creditors are mutually responsible for preventing and resolving unsustainable debt situations?
- What international and credible reforms can be implemented to incentivize sustainable debt accumulation by African countries?
- How can we promote the uptake of legal and financial innovations (collective clause actions, state-contingent instruments) that can help mitigate debt vulnerabilities in Africa?

Master of Ceremony: **Anne-Marie Dias Borges**; Moderator: **Femi Oke**

# PROGRAM

Time (GMT)	Session
12:02-12:04	<b>Welcome</b> Master of Ceremony: <b>Anne-Marie Dias Borges</b> , Presenter
12:04-12:12	<b>Opening remarks</b> Speaker: <b>Dr. Akinwumi A. Adesina</b> , President, African Development Bank Group
12:13-12:23	Conversation Starter: <b>Boosting Debt Productivity in Africa</b> Speaker: <b>Dr. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala</b> , Director General, World Trade Organization
12:24-12:59	<b>Panel Discussion: Boosting Debt Productivity in Africa</b> Speakers: <b>Mr. Mukuli Chikuba</b> , Permanent Secretary - Ministry of Finance, Temporal Alternate Bank Governor for Zambia <b>Mr. Tarek Amer</b> , Governor of the Central Bank of Egypt and African Development Bank Governor for Egypt <b>Dr. Ndiwokubwayo Domitien</b> , Minister of Finance and Governor for Burundi <b>Mr. Alamine Ousmane Mey</b> , Ministry of Economic, Planning and Regional Development African Development Governor for Cameroon  Moderator; <b>Anne-Marie Dias Borges</b> , Presenter
13:00-13:10	Conversation Starter: <b>International Coordination and Collaboration for Mitigating Debt Vulnerabilities in Africa</b> Speaker: <b>Ms. Kristalina Georgieva</b> , Managing Director, International Monetary Fund
13:11-13:50	<b>Panel Discussion: Increasing Africa's Access to Finance for Sustainable Recovery</b> Speakers: <b>Mr. Christian Asinelli</b> , Undersecretary for International Financial Relations for Development, African Development Alternate Governor for Argentina <b>Mr. Ahmed Shide</b> , Minister of Finance, African Development Bank Governor for Ethiopia <b>Mr. William Roos</b> , Chef du service des affaires multilatérales et du développement de la Direction Générale du Trésor African Development Bank Alternate Governor for France <b>Mr. Atsushi Mimura</b> , Deputy Director-General, International Bureau, African Development Bank Alternate Governor for Japan <b>Ms. Zainab Shamsuna Ahmed</b> , Minister of Finance, African Development Bank Governor for Nigeria  Moderator: <b>Femi Oke</b>
13:50-13:57	<b>The President's Key Take-Aways</b> Speaker: <b>Dr. Akinwumi A. Adesina</b> , President, African Development Bank Group
13:57-14:00	<b>Closing Remarks</b>

Please note that session timings may change slightly.

# TEAM & SOCIAL MEDIA

## YOUR SUBJECT-MATTER EXPERT



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## YOUR PROGRAM DIRECTOR



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## SOCIAL MEDIA AND PRESS



We invite you to join the conversations on social media using the hashtag **#AfDAM2021**. We will be active on Twitter, LinkedIn and Facebook, and look forward to engaging with you on those platforms. Don't forget to tag @AfDB\_Group.

We also invite you to visit our [microsite](#) for additional event information:

## CONTACT FOR SOCIAL MEDIA

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## CONTACT FOR MEDIA RELATIONS AND EDITORIAL

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# MASTER OF CEREMONY



**Anne-Marie Dias Borges**  
Presenter

Anne-Marie Dias Borges is a Franco-Cape-Verdean journalist who is fluent in French, English, Portuguese and Spanish and has worked extensively in TV and radio over the past 19 years. She currently works as a Senior Broadcast Journalist and TV Anchor for the BBC in London.

Her experience in front, but also behind the camera, has enabled her to develop charisma and a keen sense of impartiality which she has been able to showcase during the numerous international conferences and high-level panels she has hosted over the years. Among which are The World Bank's Spring Meetings and the European Investment Bank's Africa Day.

Anne-Marie began her career in 2002 at BBC Afrique radio, in London. During her 9 years at this network, she was voted "most popular presenter" on numerous occasions. In Paris, she worked as Chief Information Officer and TV Anchor for Africa24 TV - "The African CNN"! There, she hosted a weekly political TV debate called "Polittia". The show was watched by millions of viewers each week and as a result, Anne-Marie became a household name in various francophone countries.

When she is not on air, she likes to contribute to non-governmental and charitable activities, notably in Cabo-Verde where she has organised two successful anti-drugs campaigns, in partnership with the United Nations.

# MODERATOR



**Femi Oke**

Journalist and Co-Founder  
Moderate the Panel

Femi Oke is an award-winning international journalist, broadcaster, professional moderator and the co-founder of the diverse moderator bureau "Moderate The Panel".

Femi's reporting has been recognised by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the African Communications Agency and InterAction. Since the 1980s she has worked for BBC television and radio, Sky TV, all the U.K. terrestrial television networks, CNN, and U.S. public radio. As a professional moderator Femi has presided over world class events in-person for international institutions including the European Union, United Nations and African Development Bank. Since the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Femi Oke drastically reduced her carbon footprint by hosting events online, welcoming viewers from around the world into her virtual home studio in Washington DC.

# APPENDIX

## CONCEPT NOTE

This High-Level event will use the 2021 African Economic Outlook (AEO), the African Development Bank's flagship economic publication, as background report. The thematic focus of this 2021 AEO is: "From Debt Resolution to Growth: The Road Ahead for Africa".

With this 2021 AEO theme, the Bank has made a strategic and forward-looking choice to discuss a topic that could become a key policy concern on the continent: debt sustainability and growth. The pandemic shock together with large and increasing sovereign debt burdens could indeed pave the way for disorderly defaults and lengthy resolutions, which can hinder economic progress in many African countries.

The 2021 AEO report calls on African countries to innovate or keep abreast of innovations in financing instruments, both legal (such as collective action and aggregation clauses) and financial (such as value recovery and equity-like debt instruments). To reduce debt vulnerabilities, increased use of state-contingent debt instruments that link debt service payments to a country's ability to pay can be considered.

It also recognizes that, ultimately, only bold governance reforms will help re-ignite growth and keep Africa's debt on a sustainable path. The continent needs to put in place policies to re-ignite growth such as those related to digitalization and enhanced competition; as well as policies to reduce leakages in public resources and, critically, to enhance debt transparency.

The proposed event will provide an opportunity for Bank Governors to share their views on the key findings and policy recommendations of the report, focusing on debt, public financial management and economic governance. Specifically, the discussion will cover topics such as: domestic resource mobilization; fiscal policy planning and management; deepening capital and financial markets; leakages, corruption, and illicit financial flows; debt data transparency; and policies to reignite growth.

The session will consist of a short presentation (15 minutes) of the macroeconomic outlook for the continent, key findings, and policy recommendations from the AEO 2021. After short comments from a renowned scholar and senior African policymaker (5 minutes each), Bank Governors will share their thoughts before a Q&A session.

# THANK YOU

Register your interest in attending this Knowledge Event:

[https://afdb.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_oG92CawNR0G\\_CpFBHgbwLPg](https://afdb.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_oG92CawNR0G_CpFBHgbwLPg)

Website:

<https://am.afdb.org/>



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