

## African Continental Conference on the HARMONIZED SYSTEM

 23 – 24 NOVEMBER 2021

 Virtual Event | Brussels Time (GMT+1)



# AGENDA

## Day One, 23 November

|               |   |  |
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| 11h30 - 12h00 | Participants log-in and connection  |  |
| 12h00 - 12h10 | Keynote address   |  |
| 12h10 - 12h30 | Opening remarks   | <p><b>Kunio Mikuriya</b>, Secretary General, World Customs Organization</p> <p><b>Wamkele Mene</b>, Secretary General, AfCFTA Secretariat</p> <p><b>Yankuba Darboe</b>, Commissioner General, Gambia Revenue Authority</p> <p><b>Sandra Kramer</b>, Director Africa, Directorate General International Partnership - European Union</p> <p><b>Chair</b> <b>Konstantinos Kaiopoulos</b>, Director, Tariff and Trade Affairs Directorate, World Customs Organization</p>   |
| 12h30 - 13h15 | Panel Discussion:<br>Effective implementation of the HS as a key enabler of successful trade facilitation           | <p><b>Paulina Mbala Elago</b>, Executive Secretary, Southern African Customs Union</p> <p><b>Adrian P. Swarres</b>, Acting Commissioner Customs and Excise, Zimbabwe Revenue Authority, WCO ESA Vice-Chair</p> <p><b>Guérolé Mbongo Koumou</b>, Director General of Customs, Republic of Congo, WCO WCA Vice-Chair</p> <p><b>Antti Suortti</b>, Head of Unit Customs Tariff, DG TAXUD, European Union</p> <p><b>Chair</b> <b>Ebenezer Gebding Tafili</b>, Deputy Director, Capacity Building Directorate, World Customs Organization</p> |
| 13h15 - 14h00 | Panel Discussion:<br>The Private sector as an indispensable partner in the implementation and application of the HS | <p><b>Valérie Picard</b>, Deputy Director, Global Alliance for Trade Facilitation, International Chamber of Commerce</p> <p><b>Carol West</b>, Secretary, International Federation of Customs Brokers Associations</p> <p><b>Louise Wigget</b>, CEO, Global Trade Solution</p> <p><b>Juanita Maree</b>, Chief Executive Officer, South African Association of Freight Forwarders</p> <p><b>Chair</b> <b>Liza Helena Vaz</b>, Commissioner General, Cape Verde Customs Administration</p>   |
| 14h00 - 14h15 | Expert's Voice  | <b>Pablo Muñiz</b> , Partner, Van Bael & Bellis  |

 English, French and Portuguese interpretation.



## Day Two, 24 November

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| 12h00 – 12h30 | HS 2022 amendments as a landmark in making the HS more relevant for its users   | <b>Gael Grooby</b> , Deputy Director, Tariff and Trade Affairs Directorate, World Customs Organization<br><b>WCO Publications &amp; Data Solutions</b>  |
| 12h30 – 13h30 | Panel Discussion: Optimizing processes for effective and timely implementation of the HS<br><br><i>Chair</i>          | <b>Demitta Chinwude Gyang</b> , Senior Advisor, Head Customs, AfCFTA Secretariat<br><b>Felix Kwame Kwakye</b> , Principal Programme Officer - Tariff & Customs Procedures, Directorate of Customs Union & Taxation, Commission of the Economic Community of West African States<br><b>John David</b> , Information System Officer, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, ASYCUDA Programme<br><b>Randy Rotchin</b> , Director of Business Development for Global Trade, Avalara<br><b>Gasper Konneh Neba</b> , Director of Studies, Trade Facilitation and Risk Analysis, Cameroon Customs<br><b>Larry Liza</b> , Director, East and Southern Africa, Regional Office for Capacity Building, World Customs Organization |
| 13h30 – 14h30 | Panel Discussion: Administering Tariff Concessions under the AfCFTA; challenges and opportunities<br><br><i>Chair</i> | <b>Mohammed Ali</b> , Director for Trade in Goods, AfCFTA Secretariat<br><b>Roy Santana</b> , Senior Counsellor, Market Access Division, World Trade Organization<br><b>Trudi Hartzenberg</b> , Executive Director, Tralac – Trade Law Center<br><b>Donald Tindamanyire</b> , Principal Customs Officer (Tariffs & Valuation), East African Community<br><b>Maheswar Gaunpot</b> , Section Head Assessment, Mauritius Revenue Authority<br><b>Larry Liza</b> , Director, East and Southern Africa, Regional Office for Capacity Building, World Customs Organization  |
| 14h30 – 14h45 | Expert's voice  | <b>Edvinas Drevinskas</b> , Statistician in the Economic Research and Statistics Division, World Trade Organization   |
| 14h45 – 15h15 | Open discussion   | Open discussion   |
| 15h15 – 15h30 | Closing   | <b>Ricardo Treviño</b> , Deputy Secretary General, World Customs Organization   |

 English, French and Portuguese interpretation.