

Tuesday, 23 October 2018, 12:30-14:30, Room: XXVI (26)

United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)

Breakout Session

***“Promoting Transformative Investment in Africa through Regional Integration”***

Objective:

Regional integration efforts in Africa have gained a new impetus on the back of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). Phase II negotiations of the AfCFTA bound to commence by the end of the year will, among other issues, consider how the existing trade agreement should be best complemented with an investment dimension. The ECA will present at this session two forthcoming reports that explore some of the key and topical investment policy issues that are central to regional integration and what implications and opportunities may arise in the context of the AfCFTA. In particular, the session will look at policy options and challenges associated to investment and tax treaties, as well as the factors that drive intra-African investments, with a view to maximize investment from the continent and beyond.

Format:

The session will take the form of a moderated panel discussion. The session will commence with a presentation of the two reports developed at the ECA, followed by interventions from the panellists and an interactive debate.

**Mr. Stephen Karingi**, Director, Regional Integration and Trade Division, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa

**Mr. Mustaqeem de Gama**, Counsellor, South African Permanent Mission

**Ms. Yewande Sadiku**, Executive Secretary, Nigerian Investment Promotion Commission

**Mr. Astrit Sulstarova**, Chief, Investment Trends and Data Section, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

**Mr. Makane Moïse Mbengue**, Professor of International Law, University of Geneva

**Ms. Suzy H. Nikièma**, Regional Coordinator for Africa, International Institute for Sustainable Development