

High Level Event
Demographic Dividend Roadmap for Africa: Moving from Commitment to Action
20 September 2017, 3:00PM – 6:00PM
Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Chamber
United Nations Headquarters, New York

Following the adoption of the African Union roadmap, in January 2017, on “*Harnessing the Demographic Dividend through Investments in Youth*”, African countries have begun to prepare national roadmaps for the investments in youth required to realize the Demographic Dividend. In order to support the implementation of the national roadmaps, it is proposed to bring together African leaders, development partners, the private sector and other stakeholders on the margins of the General Debate of the 72nd session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

In accordance with the Declaration on the theme of the year adopted during the 29th AU Summit, this event will be organized by the H.E. Professor Alpha Condé, President of the Republic of Guinea, current Chairperson of the Africa Union, with the support of the African Union Commission (AUC) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

Objectives:

To engage participants on the key policies, programmes, and investments required, including concrete actions to be undertaken by African governments, development partners, private sector and other stakeholders respectively to support implementation of the roadmaps. As part of the outcome, it is expected that the AUC working with the AU leadership and designated institutions will report to future summits on the actions taken in response to the commitments made at the event.

It is expected that the interaction will contribute to, among others, the efforts of countries to achieve quality universal health care and well-being, access to family planning, reforms in education and skills development, and decent employment, entrepreneurship and apprenticeships for young people, which are crucial for realizing the Demographic Dividend.

Format:

The high level event will take place on 20 September, 2017 from 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, ECOSOC Chamber.

This High Level Event will be chaired by the AU current Chairperson. The President of the Republic of Chad will make opening remarks in his capacity as Leader for the implementation of the AU theme of the year.

The Executive Director of UNFPA will moderate the discussions.

There will be brief presentations on 4 key issues for national roadmaps namely: institutional coordination; consultative frameworks for policy responses for demographic dividend; conducive environment for credit, business, entrepreneurship, apprenticeships and employment; and social investment package. The presentations will be followed by interactive discussions and summary of actions.

Participation:

Participation in the High Level event will be drawn from all African Heads of State and Government, leaders of OECD-DAC countries, as well as Japan, China, India, Brazil, and Russia and others countries, relevant ministers, private sector leaders and heads of UNICEF, AfDB, ECA, NEPAD, ILO, UNESCO, UNCTAD, UNIDO, UNDP, UN Women, WB, IMF, EU.

African youth, business leaders as well as African diaspora shall also be represented. The leadership of the international private sector organisations as well as African private sector will be invited to participate.

Outcomes:

Consolidation of the concrete actions to be undertaken in response to the commitments by the African Governments, as well as follow-up steps.

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