



National University of Lesotho

WTO Chairs Programme – 1st Annual Conference

Maseru, Kingdom of Lesotho; 27-28 October 2022

Virtual (Zoom) Link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89844916513?pwd=cmcvaVpkaHpUVi8xMmVPdFFsWIFPQT09>

(Meeting ID: 898 4491 6513; Passcode: 842514)

PROGRAMME

Conference Theme: The right to development and operationalisation of the African Continental Free Trade Area Agreement

Programme Coordinator: **Dr Denis N. Yuni**; Member NUL-WTO Chair Programme

DAY 1: THURSDAY, 27 OCTOBER 2022

08:30 – 09:00 Signing-onto the Zoom platform and informalities

09:00 – 09:30 Official opening and welcome statements

Prof Mtende Mhango; Dean of the Faculty of Law, National University of Lesotho

Prof Kanalelo Mosito; Pro-Vice Chancellor, National University of Lesotho

09:30 – 10:00 Keynote Address

Prof Maarten Smeets; Independent Consultant & Adviser to the NUL-WTO Chair

SESSION I: PRESENTATIONS

10:00 – 10:15 Inter-African trade and poverty eradication: Towards harnessing the gains of AfCFTA

Julius Onivehu Beida; Faculty of Law, Bingham University, Karu - Nigeria

10:15 – 10:30 Regional integration and economic growth and development in Africa: Implications for the African Continental Free Trade Area

Denis Y. Nfor & co-authors; Department of Economics, National University of Lesotho

10:30 – 10:45 Trade as an engine of growth: How can sub-Saharan countries reap the gains arising from membership of AfCFTA

Ukwueze, Ezebuilo R & co-authors; Department of Economics, University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Enugu State



10:45 – 11:00 Implementation, regulation and management of sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) measures within the African Continental Free Trade Area: Prospects for actualising Africa's commitment to realising the right to development?

Clydenia Stevens; *School of Law, University of KwaZulu-Natal*

11:00 – 11:30 **Questions & Answers; General Discussions**

SESSION II: PRESENTATIONS

11:30 – 11:45 The domestic politics and policies in Nigeria and South Africa: Catalyst or hindrance to the AfCFTA agenda

Udoh James Akpan; *University of KwaZulu-Natal*

11:45 – 12:00 The Role of AfCFTA in promoting foreign direct investment in Africa: Towards implementation and enforcement of relevant legal frameworks

King James Nkum; *Department of Private & Property Law, Taraba State University*

12:00 – 12:15 International trade and poverty reduction in Africa: Implications for the African Continental Free Trade Area

Denis Y. Nfor & co-authors; *Department of Economics, National University of Lesotho*

12:15 – 12:30 World Trade Organization and Nigeria's international trade development

Umar Abubakar Dubagari; *Department of Public and International Law, Nile University of Nigeria*

12:30 – 13:00 **Questions & Answers; General Discussions**

13:00 – 14:00 **Lunch Break – Lunch Break – Lunch Break – Lunch Break**

SESSION III: PRESENTATIONS

14:00 – 14:15 African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) innovation, trade policy and globalization: CGE model

Johnson Adelakun; *Department of Economics, National University of Lesotho*

14:15 – 14:30 The impact of Chinese outward FDI on employment and wages: Evidence from southern African countries

Leseko S. Makhetha; *National University of Lesotho*

14:30 – 14:45 The African Development Bank (ADB) and the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA): Towards realisation of the right to development in Africa

Mobolaji Precious Ezekiel & co-author; *Department of Jurisprudence & International Law, University of Benin*

14:45 – 15:15 **Questions & Answers; General Discussions**

SESSION IV: PRESENTATIONS



15:15 – 15:30	An assessment of youth employment programmes as a mechanism for poverty reduction and food security in Africa – Insight from Nigeria Ibukun Olorunisola Kolawole & co-author; <i>Department of Industrial Relations & Human Resources Management, Lagos State University</i>
15:30 – 15:45	Comparative analysis of food consumption expenditure between off-farm participants and non-participants in Lesotho Ernest Ngeh Tingum & co-authors; <i>University of Namibia</i>
15:45 – 16:00	Gender perspectives to intra-African trade: An analysis of the realities of Nigerian women traders on Nigeria-Republic of Benin trade routes and areas Adebimpe Elizabeth Alabi & co-authors; <i>Department of Adult and Development Education, Tai Solarin University of Education</i>
16:00 – 16:30	Questions & Answers; General Discussions

DAY 2: FRIDAY, 28 OCTOBER 2022

SESSION I: PRESENTATIONS

09:30 – 09:45	Impact of Zimbabwe Agriculture Income and Employment Development (Zim AIED) program on small scale banana farmers in Mutasa District, Zimbabwe Cephas Mandirahwe & co-author; <i>Midlands State University, Zimbabwe</i>
09:45 – 10:00	The AfCFTA IP Protocol and the commercialisation of traditional knowledge in Africa Patrick Ageh Agejoh ; <i>Department of Public Law, University of Johannesburg</i>
10:00 – 10:15	Econometric analysis of determinants of national saving in developing economies: empirical evidence from Rwanda Almas Heshmati & co-autors; <i>Jönköping International Business School (JIBS), Jönköping University</i>
10:15 – 10:30	Trade and inclusivity for sustainable development: Analysis of the AfCFTA and women in cross border trade in Africa Olayinka O. Adeniyi & co-author; <i>OpenAIR Network, University of Ottawa</i>
10:30 – 11:00	Questions & Answers; General Discussions

SESSION II: PRESENTATIONS

11:00 – 11:15	The role of support and knowledge in the implementation of Girinka program in Rwanda Silas Bahizi ; <i>College of Business and Economics, University of Rwanda</i>
11:15 – 11:30	Free trade impacts on export-import competitiveness in ESWACs: A panel causality test for achieving AfCFTA's objectives Uzomba, Peter Chika ; <i>Department of Economics, Federal University Lokoja</i>



11:30 – 11:45	Re-imagining the AfCFTA humanitarian project within the biblical Nehemiah's transformative orthodoxy: A quest for indigenized prophetic theology and ethics of doing poverty eradication in Africa Nkosinathi Muyambo ; <i>Tugwi Mukosi Multidisciplinary Research Institute, Midlands State University</i>
11:45 – 12:00	The role of value addition of macadamia nuts on sustainable livelihoods among small holder farmers in Chipinge district, Manicaland province of Zimbabwe Cephas Mandirahwe & co-author ; <i>Midlands State University, Zimbabwe</i>
12:00 – 12:30	Questions & Answers; General Discussions
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch Break – Lunch Break – Lunch Break – Lunch Break
SESSION III: PRESENTATIONS	
13:30 – 13:45	The African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA): A diagnostic imaging of the historically unfulfilled promises – a significant space for communicating transitional justice in Africa Nkosinathi Muyambo ; <i>Tugwi Mukosi Multidisciplinary Research Institute, Midlands State University</i>
13:45 – 14:00	Agro-biotechnology and Small Scale Banana Production in Rural Parts of Zimbabwe: Prospects and Challenges Cephas Mandirahwe ; <i>Midlands State University, Zimbabwe</i>
14:00 – 14:15	The right to development and Africa's trade economics of impoverishment Carol Chi Ngang ; <i>Department of Public Law, National University of Lesotho</i>
14:15 – 14:30	Food Security and Agricultural Value Chains in Zimbabwe – The Missing Link Winnie Ndebele ; <i>Makoholi Research Institute, Ministry of Agriculture, Zimbabwe</i>
14:30 – 15:00	Questions & Answers; General Discussions
15:00 – 15:10	Closing Remarks & Vote of Thanks Prof Motlamelle Kapa ; <i>WTO Chair, National University of Lesotho</i>