



## DIRECTORATE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION

**MEDIA ADVISORY****INVITATION TO MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES**

- WHAT:** Africa Industrialization Week 2019 #AIW2019 themed, *“Positioning African Industry to supply the Africa Continental Free Trade Area (AFCTA) Market”*
- WHEN:** 18 -22 November 2019,
- WHERE:** African Union, Headquarters, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
- WHO:** The African Union, The Government of Ethiopia, International Trade Center (ITC), Africa Korea Foundation, Africa Free Zones Organisation & Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) office of the AU.

**Background Information**

The 25th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) 1989, declared **November 20** to be Africa Industrialization Day. It was first observed on November 20, 1990.

The Africa Industrialization Day (AID), represents a unique platform to enhance international cooperation and dialogue on the pan-African industrialization agenda, and to raise awareness of the opportunities and challenges associated with this innovation drive. Every year it gathers African leaders, policy makers, and representatives of the private sector, academia, international financial institutions (IFIs) and development partners to showcase the continued relevance of industry, including manufacturing production, as a powerful engine to build the Africa we want as underlined in Agenda 2063.

This year the African Union in collaboration and partners have planned a week long activities to mark Africa Industrialization Day (AID). Africa Industrialization Week 2019 is themed, “Positioning African Industry to supply the Africa Continental Free Trade Area (AFCTA) Market”

### **AIW 2019 Key Objectives are:**

- Mobilizing both African and leaders from the rest of the world, including international development organizations to advocate for the accelerated and sustainable as well as inclusive industrialization of Africa.
- Promotion of startups, small and medium sized enterprises/industries (SMEIs), as well as established middle and high-cap enterprises to strengthen the continent's capacity to integrate into the global production and trading system.
- Providing a platform for public-private engagement between industrial policy makers, the private sector, civil society, and development cooperating partners as they endeavor to share ideas on how to shape the continent's industrialization agenda. This will also provide an opportunity for African manufacturers to learn from their counterparts from the rest of the world.
- Promote the implementation of AU continental frameworks such as; the Accelerated Industrial Development of Africa (AIDA); the Africa Mining Vision (AMV), the SME Strategy; the Boosting Intra-African Trade strategy (BIAT); the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA); and the UN General Assembly's Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA III) in the context of Agenda 2063.
- Development a continental strategy on the automotive value chain to catalyze industrialization.

### **Six key outcomes are envisaged to emerge from the AIW2019.**

- Enhanced awareness on the process of Africa industrialization,
- Policy coherence on industrialization,
- Effective engagement with key stakeholders on industrialization and trade especially in the context of the AfCFTA.
- Enhanced synergies between the private and public sectors as they interface with global capital and technology,
- Agreement on new model of developing Africa's productive capacities in order to boost intra-African trade and enhance Africa's share of global trade.
- Enhanced collaboration among various stakeholders for industrialization on the continent and beyond

A number of side events will be organized around the Africa industrialization day, below you can find the list and description of all the official sides the African Union will organize with its partners. See below

Please note that each side event has its own registration.

	<i>Date</i>	<i>Events</i>	<i>Organization</i>
1	20th Nov	The Africa Industrialization Day Celebrations	African Union Commission (AUC)
2	18-22 NOV	The World Export Development Forum	International Trade Center (ITC)
3		The African Union Commission Symposium on Special Economic Zones and Green Industrialization	African Union Commission (AUC)
4		The 4th General Assembly and annual Meeting of the Africa Free Zones Organization	African Union Commission (AUC)& Africa Free Zones Organisation (AFZO)
5		The Automotive Value Chain Forum	African Union Commission (AUC)
6		The Fashion Value Chain Forum	African Union Commission (AUC) & Partners
7		The Africa-Korea Youth Forum	Africa Korea Foundation
8		The Africa-Korea Business Forum	Africa Korea Foundation
9		She Trades Global (Innovative solutions for women's empowerment)	International Trade Center (ITC)
10		The China – Ethiopia Investment Meetings	China & Ethiopia
11		The Pan African Manufacturer Association Workshop	African Union Commission (AUC)
12		A Media Awareness Training	African Union Commission (AUC) & Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) office of the AU
13	20 Nov	YES Forum	International Trade Center (ITC)
14		Industry Policy Making Training/ Agro-processing	African Union Commission (AUC) , The African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP) & The African Union Development Agency(AUDA/ NEPAD)
15		B2B Matching Meetings	International Trade Center (ITC)

