



AfCFTA
Secretariat



DIRECTORATE OF INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION

Media Advisory

Date: 1st December, 2020

Venue: Ghana, Accra

WHAT: Virtual High-Level Launch of the Futures Report: Making the AfCFTA Work for Women and Youth

WHEN: Thursday, 3 December 2020,

Time 15.30 – 16.30 GMT

[Register here](#)

WHO: The African Union (AU) Commission, The African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Secretariat and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Keynote Speakers:

- H.E. Wamkele Mene - the Secretary General of the AfCFTA Secretariat;
- Ms. Ahunna Eziakonwa - Assistant Secretary General, Assistant Administrator and Director of the UNDP Regional Bureau for Africa;
- Dr. Edem Adzogenu - Co-Chair of the Afro-Champions Initiative; and
- Young women producers and exporters in dynamic sectors such as agriculture and the creative industries.

The launch event will offer a platform to engage on what the AfCFTA means to Africa's women and youth exporters and how they can be best supported to utilize opportunities in intra-African trade.

Background Information

'The Futures Report: Making the AfCFTA Work for Women and Youth'. The report is a narrative about the promise of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) as told through the voices of Africa's producers, traders, policy officials and regulators.

Under the AfCFTA Agreement, AU Member States, now also AfCFTA state parties, explicitly seek to achieve gender equality and enhance the export capacity of women and youth. Concrete policy measures and investments are needed to ensure that women and youth, who account for the majority of the population, business owners and workforce, can be better integrated into the value chains, jobs and opportunities stemming from the AfCFTA. The Futures Report demonstrates that, beyond the numbers and negotiations, realizing the promise of the AfCFTA will depend on the decisive actions and collective efforts of African exporters and governments to ensure that it is utilized.

For More information please contact

African Union

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UNDP

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