



Consultative and Experience Sharing Forum on Remittances Leverage for Development

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

7- 8 July, 2011
African Union Commission
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



Day 1 – Thursday, 7 July, 2011	
8:30 – 10:00	Registration
10:00 – 10:45	<p>Opening Session</p> <p>Moderator –Director, Social Affairs, African Union Commission Opening and Welcome Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [person], World Bank • [person], European Commission • [person], African Development Bank • [person], International Organization for Migration • Commissioner for Economic Affairs, African Union Commission • Commissioner for Social Affairs, African Union Commission
10:45 – 11:15	Group Photo / Coffee Break
11:15 – 12:00	<p>Session 1 – Remittance Trends in Africa – FACTS</p> <p>This session lays out the foundation of technical discussions for the entire workshop by casting the current landscape of remittances in the African continent based on facts and findings from recent research and data. Panelists present findings of their recent research and findings to look at remittance issues from migration and volume data, market structure, household surveys, and remittance prices.</p> <p>Moderator – [Director of CIDO], AUC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Africa Migration Report, <i>Dilip Ratha</i>, the World Bank • Donors’ Activities in Africa – [person], AfDB • IOM • ILO • Q&A
12:00 – 13:00	<p>Session 2 – Updates on the Activities of the Project</p> <p>This session is to report updates on the activities of the AIR Project</p> <p>Moderator – [person], WorldBank</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activities led by the Payment Systems Development Group – General Principles Assessments, the African Remittance Database, Technical Assistance for Postal Operators and the Universal Postal Union offices in six pilot countries (Benin, Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Senegal) in West Africa, Kai Schmitz, World Bank • Study of remittance flows within Africa - comprehensive report on Remittances in Africa, A catalogue of studies and technical assistance by the World Bank, Development Agencies and Governments in Africa, [person] • Report on online discussions of the MANGO Project - African Diaspora communities, [person], AUC / WB

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Q&A
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 15:00	<p>Session 3 – Regulating the Remittances Sector</p> <p>This session will highlight the regulatory framework of the remittance sector. Panelists will share their views and experiences from their recent experiences.</p> <p>Moderator – Director, Dept. of Economic Affairs, AUC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key Elements of Regulatory Framework for Remittances. Isaku Endo, Financial Sector Specialist, World Bank • The Case of [EU Country – Italy, UK, the Netherlands, or Spain], [person], [organization] • The case of Mexico, (<u>suggested for Mexican representative to do the presentation without any Video</u>) • Q&A
15:00 – 16:30	<p>Session 4 – Good practices and lessons from policy reforms</p> <p>This session shares good practices and lessons from recent policy reforms in the domain of remittances. Some countries have been developing payment systems infrastructure to increase efficiency and safety in transferring remittances. Other countries revised legal and regulatory frameworks to open remittance markets for competitive markets. Countries will share their experiences in the process and lessons from their experiences.</p> <p>Moderator – [person]. International Organization for Migration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The reform of the national payment systems, John Sebabi Bosco, Director of Payment Systems Department, National Bank of Rwanda • Regional approach to cost reduction, Dave Mitchell, Head, National Payment Systems Department, Reserve Bank of South Africa • African States (North or West Africa)- Morocco • Q&A
16:30 – 17:00	Coffee Break AND
16:30 – 17:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video Presentation by the Center for Latin American Monetary Studies (CEMLA) – In a video presentation, CEMLA will present their role and functions among member countries and experiences in delivering results in respective areas.
17:00 – 18:30	<p>Session 5 – Remittances for Financial Inclusion and Development: Private Sector Views</p> <p>Moderator – [person]. African Development Bank</p>

	<p>Financial Inclusion has become a key agenda for international development. Remittances provide a key window of opportunities for expanding access to financial services and financial inclusion. This session will have panelists who have experiences on turning remittances into opportunities for financial inclusion. In addition, what are the challenges in offering remittances in the context of Africa?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remittances and Microfinance - Microfinance institution that offers remittances, for example from Senegal • The Business Case for Banks? Linking remittances to other financial services. Commercial Bank of Ethiopia, UBA, ECOBANK or other large payer bank • Challenges in offering remittance services in Africa, <i>Money Express, Coinstar, WU or MG?</i> • Q&A
19:00-	Reception Programme at the AUC Congo Hall

Day 2 - Friday 8 July, 2011	
9:00 – 10:30	<p>Session 6 – Breakout Session</p> <p>During the session, participants from African states will break into discussion groups of topics of interests focusing on the structure, functions, roles, location, as well as the funding modalities of the AIR. There are four different discussion groups. At the end of the session, each group will prepare a set of recommendations for the institute.</p> <p>Overall Moderators – Don Terry and Isaku Endo, World Bank</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [Group Blue] – Facilitator – Kai Schmitz, World Bank • [Group Green] – Facilitator – [person], African Development Bank • [Group Red] – Facilitator – [person]. International Organization for Migration
10:30 – 10:45	Coffee Break
10:45 – 12:15	Session 6 – Breakout Session - Continued
12:15 – 13:15	Lunch
13:15 – 15:15	<p>Session 7 – Presentations and Considerations of Recommendations for the Institute leading to the Action Plan</p> <p>Moderator – <i>Don Terry</i>, World Bank</p> <p>Each breakout group will present recommendations on respective topics and the participants will propose and agree on next steps for establishing the Institute.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group Blue • Group Green • Group Red
15:15 – 15:30	Closing Session Director for Social Affairs, African Union Commission