



**The EAST AFRICA**  
**INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION**  
**C O N F E R E N C E**

**WEBINAR SERIES**

# African Continental Free Trade Area Implementation and Dispute Resolution Roundtable

**EAIAC Special Report**

**April 2021**

**WEBINAR**

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# The AfCFTA: Implementation and Dispute Resolution

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## INTRODUCTION

The AfCFTA Journey can be said to have started in 2012, when African Union (AU) member countries agreed to work towards a continental free trade area. The AfCFTA Agreement entered into force on 30th May 2019, 30 days after 22 African countries deposited their instruments of ratification, as stipulated by Article 23 of the AfCFTA Agreement<sup>2</sup>. As at December 2020, there were 36 countries that had deposited their instruments of ratification.

Trading under the AfCFTA Agreement was officially launched on 1st January 2021<sup>3</sup>. The flagship deal that started the trading was the Ethiopian Airlines-DHL and African Electronic Trade Group partnership to transport historical parcels in the AfCFTA. The first batch of the goods arrived at Addis Ababa Bole International Airport on 1st January 2021.<sup>4</sup>

To contribute to the debate of Africa's trade integration and its development under AfCFTA, the East Africa International Arbitration Conference (EAIAC)<sup>5</sup> and partners GBS Africa provide a host of discussion panels dedicated to this topic, noting its importance for our region. One of our notable forums is the August 2018 forum working collaboratively with the African Union where we convened stakeholders to address the challenges and opportunities associated with the trade agreement seeking the role of Africa's Arbitration practice and the legal fraternity in supporting the development of Trade in the region. It is in this spirit that EAIAC's first webinar for 2021 focuses on the same

topic; Africa Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), its implementation, the opportunities for trade among Africans and the opportunities for professionals in trade dispute resolution in Africa.<sup>6</sup>

The implementation and dispute resolution topic is timely for discussion among lawyers, arbitrators, professional service providers in dispute resolution (such as trade experts, accountants and expert witnesses), governments, parastatals and the private sector, including financial institutions, trading companies and industry. EAIAC - AfCFTA webinar attracted great interest, with over 600 delegates from close to 40 countries globally, from diverse professional fields.

This was moderated by **Leyou Tameru**, EAIAC Organising Committee member, and the Speakers were:

- **Prof. David Luke**, incoming Strategic Director, Firoz Lalji Centre for Africa, London School of Economics, and outgoing Coordinator of the Africa Trade Policy Centre at the United Nations (UN) Economic Commission for Africa (ECA);
- **Ms. Beatrice Chaytor**, Senior Expert, Trade in Services, AfCFTA Support Unit;
- **Mr. Anthony Coleman PhD**, Principal Economist, Senior Manager, Research, Statistics & International Cooperation, Afrexim Bank; and
- **Ms. Luisa Cetina**, Director and Co-Head of the International Trade Practice Group, Anjarwalla & Khanna LLP

<sup>1</sup>Ms. Wairimu Karanja and Ms. Agnes Gitau are EAIAC Organising Committee Members. Webinar Rapporteur, Ms. Shahad Azim is a Sudanese Law Student and a Legal Practitioner based in South Africa.

<sup>2</sup>The consolidated text on the AfCFTA Agreement can be found here: [https://au.int/sites/default/files/treaties/36437-treaty-consolidated\\_text\\_on\\_cfta\\_-\\_en.pdf](https://au.int/sites/default/files/treaties/36437-treaty-consolidated_text_on_cfta_-_en.pdf).

<sup>3</sup><https://au.int/en/african-continental-free-trade-area> and <https://au.int/en/pressreleases/20210104/african-business-council-applauds-start-trading-basis-afcfta> and <https://www.un.org/africarenewal/magazine/january-2021/afcfta-africa-now-open-business>.

<sup>4</sup><https://corporate.ethiopianairlines.com/Press-release-open-page/ethiopian-dhl-aetrade-group-partner-to-transport-historical-parcels-under-afcfta>.

<sup>5</sup>The EAIAC Organising Committee consists of: **Ms. Agnes Gitau**, Managing Partner of GBS Africa, an Africa-focused investment and trade advisory; **Ms. Wairimu Karanja**, Director of Wairimu & Co., a Kenyan based boutique legal practice; **Ms. Leyou Tameru**, Director of I-Arb Africa, an Africa-focused arbitration directory and information platform; and **Ms. Elodie Dulac**, a Singapore based partner at King & Spalding, an international law firm.

<sup>6</sup>EAIAC is grateful for the institutional support of the **AfCFTA Secretariat** and the financial sponsorship of Anjarwalla & Khanna LLP, a Kenyan based leading law firm. **Anjarwalla & Khanna LLP** are the founding member of ALN (formerly Africa Legal Network) and recently established an international trade practice group. EAIAC also extends special thanks to our **Webinar supporting organisations**: Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CIArb) Kenya, the Nairobi Centre for International Arbitration (NCIA), the Lagos Chamber of Commerce International Arbitration Centre (LACIAC) and Tanzania Institute of Arbitrator (TIArb), the Tanganyika Law Society (TLS), the Zanzibar Law Society (ZLS), the Kigali International Arbitration Centre (KIAC), the Uganda Law Society (ULS) and the International Centre for Arbitration & Mediation in Kampala (ICAMEK).

# THE AfCFTA'S GREAT POTENTIAL

According to the World Bank, the market created under the AfCFTA agreement is estimated to be as large as 1.3 billion people across Africa, with a combined gross domestic product (GDP) of USD 3.4 trillion, and the trading market has a potential of lifting up to 30 million Africans out of extreme poverty.<sup>7</sup>

The AfCFTA is one of the 15 Flagship Programmes of the AU's Agenda 2063, a blueprint and master plan for transforming Africa into the global powerhouse of the future. According to the AU, Agenda 2063 is a strategic framework for delivering on Africa's goal for inclusive and sustainable development and is a concrete manifestation of the pan-African drive for unity, self-determination, freedom, progress and collective prosperity pursued under Pan-Africanism and African Renaissance.<sup>8</sup>

The other 14 Flagship Programmes of Agenda 2063 include: an integrated high speed train network across Africa; formulation of an African commodities strategy; the African passport and free movement of people; ending of wars, genocide, civil conflicts and gender based violence by 2020; implementing the 43,200 Megawatt (MW) Grand Inga Dam Power Project in the DRC; having a single African air transport market; having a pan-African space program; fostering cybersecurity; having a great African Museum, among others.<sup>9</sup>

## AfCFTA: state of play

- AfCFTA negotiations officially started in June 2015;
- AfCFTA Agreement entered into force on 30 May 2019;
- Trading under AfCFTA Agreement commenced on 1 January 2021

AfCFTA Signatories (as of 5 Feb. 2021)



<sup>7</sup><https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/trade/publication/the-african-continental-free-trade-area>.

<sup>8</sup><https://au.int/en/agenda2063/overview>.

<sup>9</sup><https://au.int/en/agenda2063/flagship-projects>.

# The Rationale Behind the AfCFTA

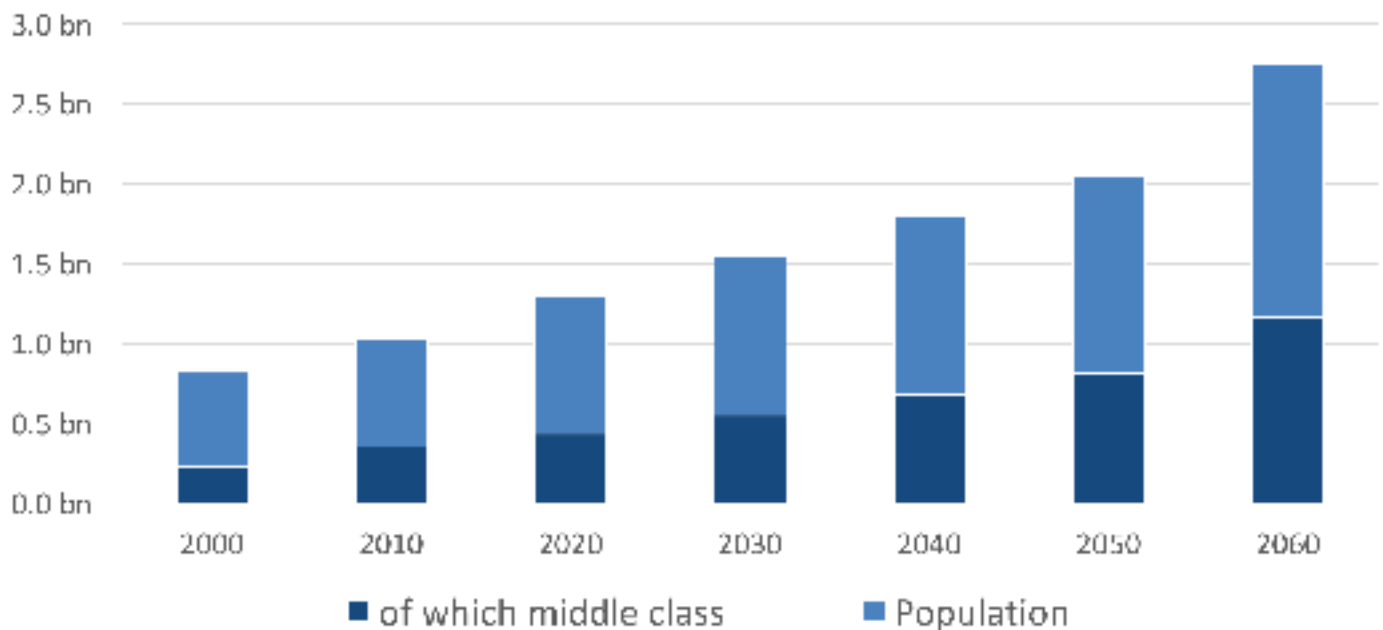
In his opening Keynote Address, at the EAIAC-AfCFTA webinar, **Professor David Luke**, who played a key role as part of the team that prepared the AfCFTA protocols whilst at the UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), outlined the vision behind the AfCFTA, the expected impacts, implementation and compliance, opportunities for legal practitioners.

According to Prof. David Luke, the greatest promise of the AfCFTA is that the nature of the trade is composed of value added goods. Africa has not been

able to meet its trade potential because of historical legacies, wars and conflicts and lack of infrastructure. One of the main rationales for the AfCFTA is taking advantage of Africa's market growth. For instance, 6 of top-10 fastest growing economies are African, 2019; the population is expected to grow from 1.3 Billion in 2020 to 2.75 Billion by 2060; the continent's gross domestic product (GDP) is forecast to grow from USD 3 Trillion in 2020 to USD 16 trillion by 2060.

## AfCFTA: rationale

- **Taking advantage of Africa's market growth:**
  1. 6 of top-10 fastest growing economies are African, 2019;
  2. Population expanding from 1.3bn in 2020 to 2.75bn by 2060;
  3. GDP forecast to grow from \$3tr in 2020 to \$16tr by 2060.





According to Prof. David Luke, another rationale behind the AfCFTA is driving Africa's industrialisation through trade. Based on 2016-2018 averages, 65% of exports outside the continent are extractives, while less than 35% within are extractives. The AfCFTA will be an opportunity for intra-Africa exports and growth, this is a win to the least developed countries in Africa.

The AfCFTA Agreement goes beyond traditional free trade agreements (FTAs). It incorporates: a Protocol

on Trade in Goods; a Protocol on Trade in Services; a Protocol on Dispute Settlement; Phase II Negotiations on intellectual property rights, investment and competition policies; and Phase III negotiations on E-Commerce. Both Phase II and Phase III negotiation issues are expected to be concluded by 31st December 2021. Prof. David Luke also spoke about the AfCFTA Dispute Settlement Mechanism (DSM) which was further discussed by Beatrice Chaytor.

## The AfCFTA Protocols and the Phase II and Phase III Negotiations

**Beatrice Chaytor** gave a background of the AfCFTA, the negotiations process and also summarised the AfCFTA Protocols and Phase II and Phase III Negotiations.

### Protocol on Trade in Goods

Under the Protocol on Trade in Goods, the 36 State Parties who have ratified the AfCFTA Agreement should start liberalizing 90% of tariff lines. Those that are developing countries will do so over a 5 year period and those that are LDCs will liberalise over a 10 year period. The remaining 10% of the tariff lines are to be liberalized in the following manner:

- 7% of tariff lines are designated as so called "sensitive products". Which products fall into this category will all be decided through negotiation. There are different periods of liberalization for developing countries: they will liberalise sensitive products within 10 years and LDCs within 13 years.
- The remaining 3% of tariff lines will be in an exclusion list - with an intra - African import value limit of not more than 10%. These are subject to negotiation and review after every 5 years.

To start trading an AfCFTA Trade Regime must exist - comprising: tariff schedules, rules of origin, as well as Trade and Customs documents under which products can move across countries in the AfCFTA, "as either exports, imports or in transit". Trade and Customs

documents include the AfCFTA Certificate of Origin, the AfCFTA Customs Declaration Forms, and other documents for regulated products like plants, animals, chemicals, and foodstuffs. All of these are being prepared at the national level and must be ready before trade can take place under the AfCFTA.

### Protocol on Trade in Services

The Protocol takes a hybrid approach to services liberalization. This is through:

- schedules of specific commitments, detailing how each State Party will open up their services market; and
- development of regulatory cooperation frameworks in relevant service sectors.

The Protocol provides for progressive liberalization through successive rounds. The first round of services trade liberalization are focused on five priority sectors: Business; Communications; Finance; Tourism and Transport services. So far, 34 member states have submitted their initial services offers. The services negotiations are still ongoing so trade in services that is yet to start. The deadline for finalisation of the schedules and regulatory frameworks in the 5 Priority Sectors has been set for June 2021, while the deadline for finalising commitments in the remaining seven service sectors is set for December 2021.

## Protocol on Dispute Settlement

The Protocol establishes the Dispute Settlement Mechanism (DSM). The recommendations or rulings of the Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) are aimed at achieving a satisfactory settlement of the dispute in accordance with rights and obligations under the Agreement. Although the persons trading under the AfCFTA are juridical persons (companies) if a dispute arises between companies from different State Parties, the disputes are taken up by those State Parties and submitted to the DSM. So the companies' disputes will be played out at the State level.

With the Protocol on Dispute Settlement now being in force - panels and the Appellate Body can be established under the DSB to hear disputes. The AfCFTA Secretariat will keep a roster of eligible persons for the panels. Each state can nominate 2 people per year to the roster. The list is to be approved by the DSB.

Under the Protocol, the parties are free to settle any dispute through arbitration if they wish, so long as they notify such choice and eventual award to the DSB.

## Phase II and Phase III Negotiations

The Phase II negotiations include investment, competition policy and intellectual property rights. Negotiations will start during 2021 on these issues, which must be finalised by December 2021.

The AU Assembly had decided at its Summit in February 2020 that Phase III negotiations on e-commerce should commence as soon as possible after the conclusion of Phase II negotiations. The AU Extraordinary Summit in December 2020 decided that the negotiations on e-commerce should be included in Phase II, in light of the expansion and growth in e-commerce across the continent during the COVID-19 pandemic.

### ▪ AfCFTA Agreement goes beyond traditional FTAs

Agreement establishing the African Continental Free Trade Area	Protocol on Trade in Goods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Elimination of duties and quantitative restrictions on imports</li> <li>Imports shall be treated no less favourably than domestic products</li> <li>Elimination of non-tariff barriers</li> <li>Rules of Origin</li> <li>Cooperation of customs authorities</li> <li>Trade facilitation and transit</li> <li>Trade remedies, protections for infant industries and general exceptions</li> <li>Cooperation over product standards and regulations</li> <li>Technical assistance, capacity-building and cooperation</li> </ul>
	Protocol on Trade in Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Transparency of service regulations</li> <li>Mutual recognition of standards, licensing and certification of services suppliers</li> <li>Progressive liberalization of services sectors</li> <li>Service suppliers shall be treated no less favourably than domestic suppliers in liberalized sectors</li> <li>Provision for general and security exceptions</li> </ul>
	Protocol on Dispute Settlement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rules and Procedures for Settlement of Disputes within the African Continental Free Trade Area</li> </ul>
	Phase 2 negotiations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Intellectual property rights</li> <li>Investment</li> <li>Competition policies</li> </ul>

# The role of development finance institutions (DFIs) in AfCFTA implementation

**Anthony Coleman** of Afrexim Bank started off giving an analogy of the AfCFTA as a beautiful forest. Going into that forest, one realises that it has different and diverse components: short and tall trees, green and brown leaves, animals, crawling insects and flying birds. All these keep a forest alive. So too is the AfCFTA. The various players must play their role to implement the AfCFTA and Keep it alive.

In 2017, Afrexim Bank launched Impact 2021, a 5-year Strategic Plan that targeted disbursement of not less than USD 90 billion in support of African trade between 2017 and 2021.<sup>10</sup> Impact 2021 has 4 main pillars:

- Industrialisation and export development;
- Intra-Africa trade promotion;
- Trade and finance leadership; and
- Financial focus and performance soundness.

In promoting intra-Africa trade, Afrexim Bank has 4 objectives:

1. Create - build capacity to support African entities in production and processing;
2. Connect - link producers to buyers
3. Deliver - support development of trade carrying infrastructure and logistics; and
4. Measure - Be able to measure progress made in the above.

In promoting industrialisation and export development, Afrexim Bank is financing the establishment of industrial parks.

In trade and finance leadership, Afrexim Bank is working with the AfCFTA on the Pan-African Payment and Settlement System (the PAPSS). The PAPSS will enable intra-African trade and commerce payments to be made in African currencies in furtherance of the goals of the AfCFTA. According to Anthony, a Ghanaian can buy products from Kenya, pay in Ghanaian Cedi, and the Kenyan seller receives payment in Kenya in Kenya Shillings. The interim PAPSS Governing Council is comprised of Central Bank Governors of the six countries of the West African Monetary Zone

(WAMZ) where PAPSS will carry out its pilot phase, the AU Commissioner for Economic Affairs, the Secretary General of the AfCFTA and a representative each of African Development Bank and Afreximbank. The Council is charged with providing regulatory oversight to ensure the success of the payment system.

In July 2019, Afrexim Bank launched a USD 1 Billion AfCFTA Adjustment Facility, aimed at helping in cushioning AfCFTA member countries from revenue losses whilst adjusting to AfCFTA trading.<sup>11</sup> No country has taken up the facility yet, but many are expected to, with the onset of trading under the AfCFTA in January 2021.



<sup>10</sup><https://www.afreximbank.com/afreximbank-announces-new-strategic-plan-targeting-90-billion-disbursement-over-five-years/>.

<sup>11</sup><https://www.afreximbank.com/afreximbank-announces-1-billion-adjustment-facility-other-afcfta-support-measures-as-african-leaders-meet/>.



# Opportunities for African Legal Practitioners under the AfCFTA

According to **Luisa Cetina**, Director at Anjarwalla & Khanna LLP (A&K), the AfCFTA is the most exciting thing that has happened to Africa in a long time. The AfCFTA will shift legal practice in Africa to be more oriented to international trade law. Most legal practitioners will need to get more acquainted to the provisions and technical operation of the AfCFTA Agreement and trading framework. A&K established its international trade practice in November 2020.<sup>12</sup>

The opportunities for legal practitioners under the AfCFTA include:

- **Appointment to DSB Panels and State Party Representation in DSB Panels** - this will require legal practitioners who are acquainted with the AfCFTA Agreement, international law and geopolitical issues;
- **Membership/employment in organs of the AfCFTA;**
- **Trade Remedies Experts** - Trade remedies are provided for in Part 5 and Annex 9 of the AfCFTA

of the AfCFTA Agreement. These trade remedies include: Anti-dumping and Countervailing Measures; Global Safeguard Measures under the WTO; and Preferential Safeguards. This has huge potential when one looks at the thousands of times trade remedies have been used under the World Trade Organisation (WTO) framework.

- **Legal advisory and training to private parties and governments on the AfCFTA** - there will be scope for legal advisory, training and capacity building on what the AfCFTA means. For instance, A&K announced the launch of the international trade practice group in November 2020 and have already received overwhelming requests for training, including on the interaction with the AfCFTA on Kenya's bilateral FTA negotiations with the UK and the USA.
- **Cross-border legal practice** - through mutual recognition agreements (MRAs), legal practitioners in Africa can practice across borders, subject to legal sector laws and regulations in the various countries.

## Co-relation between the AfCFTA and FTAs between African and developed countries

One of the sensitive issues regarding the AfCFTA rationale is the co-relation between the AfCFTA negotiations and the bilateral trade treaties being negotiated between certain African countries and non-African countries. Of note is Kenya's FTAs being negotiated with the United Kingdom (UK) and the United States of America (USA). The USA also has an FTA with Morocco.<sup>13</sup>

According to Beatrice Chaytor, the AfCFTA Agreement does foresee this and requires that if a State

Party enters into a trade agreement with a 3rd party country (not a member of the AfCFTA), after entry into force of the AfCFTA, the concessions given by the AfCFTA State Party in the 3rd party agreement have to be afforded by that State Party to other AfCFTA State Parties under the AfCFTA Framework. This is covered under Article 18 of the AfCFTA Agreement. The Kenya FTA negotiations are therefore being closely observed in this regard.

According to Prof. David Luke, AfCFTA State Par-

<sup>12</sup>[https://www.africalegalnetwork.com/kenya/practice\\_area/international-trade-law/](https://www.africalegalnetwork.com/kenya/practice_area/international-trade-law/).

<sup>13</sup><https://ustr.gov/sites/default/files/uploads/Countries%20Regions/africa/agreements/morocco/Morocco%20FTA%20Chapter%20Summaries.pdf>.

ties are indeed free to negotiate FTAs with 3rd party countries. However, it is advisable to wait for the full implementation of the AfCFTA (in 13-15 years) in order for the full benefits to accrue. Further, African countries should be careful in negotiating with developed countries who have a greater bargaining power.

If Africa can negotiate trade agreements as a block, it would have more leverage and avoid the “The New Scramble for Africa”. Indeed, in their Joint Statement in August 2019, the USA and the AU indicated, among others, that:

- They intend to jointly identify subject areas related to the ongoing negotiation and implementation of the AfCFTA as subjects for cooperation and for possible technical assistance and capacity building; and
- They share a mutual desire to pursue deeper trade and investment ties beyond the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA), which is scheduled to expire in 2025, eventually leading to a continental trade partnership between the United States and Africa that supports regional integration.<sup>14</sup>

## CONCLUSION

The general conclusion by the speakers at the webinar is that AfCFTA is good for Africa and will contribute to development in Africa. The AfCFTA also presents diverse opportunities for governments, private sector industry, legal practitioners and other service providers. If implemented to its optimum potential, the AfCFTA indeed has the potential of lifting up to 30 million Africans out of extreme poverty, as the World Bank projects.

There are still several issues to consider in AfCFTA implementation, such as:

1. The interplay between the AfCFTA and existing regional blocks (including ECOWAS, SADC, COMESA and EAC);
2. The interplay between the AfCFTA and FTAs negotiated between individual African countries who are members of the AfCFTA and third party

countries, especially in the West and China (an example being the Kenyan case of FTA negotiations with the UK and the USA);

3. The effectiveness of the DSM given Africa’s poor history of litigating cases;
4. DSB Access - The DSB only entertains State party disputes and this might lead to under- utilization of the forum by the private sector lacks the scale to lobby governments to litigate on its behalf; and
5. Capacity - AfCFTA State parties should consider setting up an Advisory Centre (similar to the centre by the WTO) which assists member States with advisory services and/or capacity building.

There were over 40 questions asked in the Webinar, which still leaves room for further discussion as the AfCFTA conversation continues. EAIAC is keen to see the full implementation of the AfCFTA and will keep the discussion alive.

## RESOURCE MATERIAL

The EAIAC-AfCFTA Webinar recorded footage can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A-Ja7aTfiWs>.

Prof. David Luke’s presentation slides can be found here: [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1aoyfrF0cnn-QNucQIHepzVPejt1dkj3tc/view?ml\\_subscriber=1637078991665890438&ml\\_subscriber\\_hash=y7z4](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1aoyfrF0cnn-QNucQIHepzVPejt1dkj3tc/view?ml_subscriber=1637078991665890438&ml_subscriber_hash=y7z4).

Beatrice Chaytor’s presentation notes can be found here: [https://drive.google.com/file/d/11Q9xU1cAiTf-2cHa-CX9Xbl-KJhF06yBF/view?ml\\_subscriber=1637078991665890438&ml\\_subscriber\\_hash=y7z4](https://drive.google.com/file/d/11Q9xU1cAiTf-2cHa-CX9Xbl-KJhF06yBF/view?ml_subscriber=1637078991665890438&ml_subscriber_hash=y7z4).

<sup>14</sup><https://agoa.info/news/article/15636-joint-statement-between-the-us-and-the-african-union-concerning-the-development-of-the-afcfta.html>.

# SPEAKERS & PARTNERS

## EAIAC and Partners are grateful to our esteemed speakers & Partners



**LUISA CETINA, Director, Anjarwalla & Khanna, Kenya**

Luisa is a Director in the firm's Dispute Resolution and Forensics & Investigations teams, focusing on complex investigations, international arbitration, antitrust and white-collar crime. She is also a key member of the firm's growing International Trade practice. She previously spent almost a decade as a corporate litigator at White & Case in New York where she represented clients in multi-jurisdictional civil and criminal antitrust matters, complex business disputes and international arbitration proceedings. In 2020, Legal 500 recommended Luisa as "an experienced international litigator." Luisa was also previously ALN's Head of Business Development, Marketing and Communications. Luisa is admitted to the New York State Bar as well as the U.S. District Courts for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York.



**ANTHONY COLEMAN, PHD, Principal Economist/Senior Manager, Afrexim Bank**

Anthony is an experienced research economist who joined the African Export-Import Bank in 2012 having previously worked with University of Ghana as an economics and applied economics professor, and in research capacities with Bank of Ghana and the IMF, among other organizations. He has published extensively in peer-reviewed refereed

journals which have enjoyed global citations and serves as an editor and a reviewer for a number of international journals. In his current role as a Senior Manager

and Principal Research Economist at Afreximbank, Anthony focuses on undertaking cutting edge trade and economic research that contributes to shaping the bank's strategic direction and operational focus.



**PROF. DAVID LUKE, Strategic Director, (Firoz Lalji Centre For Africa), London School Of Economics**

Formerly Coordinator of Africa Trade Policy Centre at the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)

David Luke is professor in practice and strategic director at the Firoz Lalji Centre for Africa. A position he took after serving at ECA's African Trade Policy Centre, Professor Luke and his team were instrumental in the preparation of the protocols that make up the African Continental Free Trade Area Agreement.

He Specialises in African trade policy and trade negotiations, Professor Luke has decades of experience in policy advisory services, managing and catalysing research, building partnerships, training and capacity development for the private sector and government.

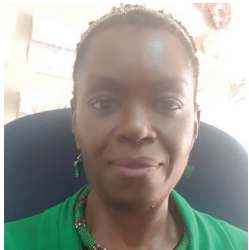
This experience stems from an extensive career spanning a tenured appointment at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Canada, and assignments at the African Union, the UN Development Programme and the UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) with postings in Harare, Pretoria, Geneva, and Addis Ababa. His PhD in African Political Economy is from the School of Oriental and African Studies and his MSc. and BSc. Are from the London School of Economics and Political Science. His research and teaching interests are in

# SPEAKERS & PARTNERS

the areas of: the role of trade in development; trade and inclusion; and trade and sustainability.

## Expertise Details

Trade in development; trade and inclusion; and trade and sustainability.



## **BEATRICE CHAYTOR, Senior Expert, Trade in Services, AfCFTA Support Unit**

Beatrice Chaytor is an international trade lawyer specialising in advising and supporting African governments in their engagement with regional and international trade policy processes. She is currently Senior Expert - Trade in Services in the Department of Trade and Industry at the African Union Commission. Prior to her position in the AUC, Ms Chaytor ran her own corporate law firm, Chariot Eight in Freetown, Sierra Leone, providing legal services to local, regional and international clients. Ms Chaytor has previously served as Director of Policy in the Ministry of Trade and Industry in Sierra Leone, and as Programme Director for the Foundation for International Environmental Law and Development in London.

al property, tax, and employment. A&K also recently launched an international trade practice. A&K operates Africa-wide, handling deals in several countries across Africa, both in its own capacity and in collaboration with ALN firms across the continent.

## **International Trade Law Practice - ALN Kenya | Anjarwalla & Khanna**

A&K's International Trade Law Practice was launched in the wake of Kenya's and, more widely, Africa's notable increase in participation within the international trade sphere. The practice leverages ALN's continental reach in conjunction with the other firms in the alliance, and focuses on questions revolving around taxes and tariffs, commerce and investment, dispute resolution, anti-corruption and transparency issues and the rule of law in the context of both regional and international trade, among other international trade law areas. Kindly contact the International Trade Law Team on: [InternationalTradeLawTeam@africalegal-network.com](mailto:InternationalTradeLawTeam@africalegal-network.com)



## **ALN Kenya | Anjarwalla & Khanna (A&K)**

A&K is generally considered the leading corporate law firm in Kenya and is the largest full-service corporate law firm in East Africa with over 100 lawyers. A&K has developed specialist expertise in several practice areas, including dispute resolution, forensics, investigations and compliance, corporate and commercial law, mergers and acquisitions, private equity, energy, infrastructure, project finance, real estate, competition, capital markets, banking and finance, intellectu-





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