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## CONCEPT NOTE

# Africa Industrialization Day 2018

*“Promoting Regional Value Chains in Africa: A pathway for accelerating Africa’s structural transformation, industrialization and pharmaceutical production”*

**20 November 2018, 14:30 – 18:00**

Conference Room 3, C-Building, Vienna International Centre (VIC)  
Vienna, Austria



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## Africa Industrialization Day 2018

As a primary driver of economic growth, employment creation and poverty eradication, industrial development constitutes a unique engine for inclusive and sustainable development worldwide. Following that perspective, in support of the ongoing economic transformation efforts of the African continent towards industrialization, the African Industrialization Day (AID) aims at enhancing public awareness and fostering understanding of the challenges and opportunities associated with the industrialization drive in Africa.

2016 marked the beginning of the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA III), which included the pharmaceutical industry as a priority sector. This year's theme "*Promoting Regional Value Chains in Africa: A pathway for accelerating Africa's structural transformation, industrialization and pharmaceutical production*", makes reference to this.

Africa bears a disproportionate burden of disease with, for example, more than 70% of the world's HIV/AIDS cases and 90% of the deaths due to malaria. Next to a high prevalence of infectious diseases, non-communicable diseases are also becoming increasingly prominent across the continent. They are predicted to overtake infectious diseases as the leading causes of death in Africa by 2030.

However, Africa is hugely dependent on imported pharmaceutical products. It is estimated that more than 80% of antiretroviral medicines to treat HIV/AIDS are imported from outside Africa and 80%-90% of the pharmaceutical and medical products market is served by foreign imports. An international standard, commercially viable pharmaceutical industry in Africa can contribute to improved access to effective, safe and affordable essential medicines and economic development. Therefore, promoting the pharmaceutical industry in Africa presents the opportunity to connect SDG 9 on industry, innovation and infrastructure and SDG 3 on good health and well-being, contributing effectively to strengthen the health security of low- and middle-income countries and attaining SDG target 3.8 on 'access to safe, effective, quality and affordable medicines and vaccines for all'.

The African Union Commission had already identified the imperative of pharmaceutical industry development in their Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Plan for Africa (PMPA) in 2007 and developed the Business Plan for its accelerated implementation in collaboration with UNIDO in 2012.

Hence, the 2018 Africa Industrialization Day celebration is an opportunity to:

- Highlight the potential of local pharmaceutical production in Africa to increase the reliability of health systems and reduce risks inherent in the current medicines supply, which relies largely on imports. Building sustainable production capacity in Africa can help prepare the continent for an era beyond medicines donations as well as contribute to economic development by creating employment and benefitting from technological spill-over effects generated by this high-tech industry;



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- Achieve greater alignment between the vision that African leaders have already established for the sector at the continental, regional and national levels and the activities of the international community to realize the long-term objectives as well as reap the short-term benefits that can be achieved along the way;
- Raise awareness of UNIDO's services and contributions to the pharmaceutical manufacturing sector, and emphasize the desirability of a comprehensive UNIDO program to address the complex challenges and achieve transformational change by scaling up work in the field and boost the ability of Africa's pharmaceutical sector to improve the availability of high-quality medicines on the continent;
- Explore the role of regional cooperation on trade and regional harmonization especially with regard to regulation and registration of medicines in the development of the pharmaceutical industry in Africa;
- Underscore that improving access to medicines through increasing local manufacturing capacity can represent better value and deliver long term sustainability in terms of access to medicines across diseases compared to maintaining the status quo of high import dependence where quality assurance can be a major challenge. Therefore, dedicating resources to the agenda can be an efficient way to address SDGs 3 and 9 simultaneously;
- Emphasize that to promote local pharmaceutical production political support and financing is required. The implementation of a comprehensive program to boost local pharmaceutical production will require a far-sighted vision and leadership, supportive and coordinated national policies across ministries, the strengthening or establishment of robust national regulatory authorities and other relevant institutions, the availability of diverse technical expertise and access to viable markets. Some of these topics will be discussed in more depth during the panel sessions.

The first panel will focus on the current status of the pharmaceutical industry in Africa and the motivations why an increasing number of African countries is determined to take active steps in promoting local pharmaceutical production. The current landscape of medicines supply in Africa will be examined and reasons revisited, why a number of actors including African governments and international organizations have started to perceive the import dependence of many African countries for the supply with live-saving medicines as a threat to public health. The question what role local production can play to address these challenges and what the potential benefits and risks are will also be considered as well as the question what can be done to promote the industry and maximize health and economic benefits.

The second panel will consider ways to support African countries in the promotion of local pharmaceutical production. It will be discussed how building on existing and embarking on new partnerships and collaborations will be a key driver of development of the industry. Further preconditions for successful interventions will be examined and options for resource mobilization considered.



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## Agenda

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| 2:30 – 2:40 p.m. | <b>Welcome by</b> Mr. Victor Djemba, Chief, Regional Division – Africa, UNIDO  |
| 2:40 – 2:50 p.m. | <b>Opening remarks</b> by Mr. Hiroshi Kuniyoshi, Managing Director and Deputy to the Director General, UNIDO   |
| 2:50 – 3:00 p.m. | <b>Message from the UN Secretary-General</b> , delivered by Mr. Yury Fedotov, Director-General, United Nations Office in Vienna  |
| 3:00 – 3:10 p.m. | <b>Joint Statement by AUC, UNIDO and UNECA</b> , delivered by H.E. Ambassador Vivian Okeke (Nigeria), Chairperson of the African Group in Vienna   |
| 3:10 – 3:25 p.m. | <b>Introduction</b> by the moderator, Mr. Andrew Jack, Editor, Financial Times, UK<br><b>Presentation:</b> Boosting Pharmaceutical Production in Africa – UNIDO's Experience, Mr. Juergen Reinhardt, Senior Industrial Development Officer, Department of Trade, Investment and Innovation, UNIDO  |
| 3:25 – 4:15 p.m. | <p><u>Panel Discussion I</u></p> <p><b>Africa's pharmaceutical manufacturing industry – improving health, creating wealth</b></p> <p><i>Moderator:</i></p> <p>Mr. Andrew Jack, Editor, Financial Times, United Kingdom</p> <p><i>Panellists:</i></p> <p>Mr. Nazeem Mohamed, Chairman, Federation of East African Pharmaceutical Manufacturers, Tanzania</p> <p>Ms. Maureen Mackintosh, Professor of Economics, Open University, United Kingdom</p> <p>Mr. Akthem Fourati, Chief Medicines and Nutrition Center, UNICEF Supply Division, Denmark</p> <p>Ms. Corinna Heineke, Head of Sector Project Development-oriented EU Trade Policy, GIZ GmbH, Germany</p> |



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| 4:15 – 4:30 p.m. | <b>Coffee break</b> (coffee provided by UNIDO)   |
| 4:30 – 5:20 p.m. | <p><u>Panel Discussion II</u></p> <p><b>Turning rhetoric into action – what is really required?</b></p> <p><i>Moderator:</i><br/>Mr. Andrew Jack, Editor, Financial Times, United Kingdom</p> <p><i>Panellists:</i><br/>H.E. Mr. Ahmat Awad Sakine, African Union Permanent Representative to EU and ACP Group of States, Ethiopia</p> <p>Mr. Tim Martineau, Acting Deputy Executive Director, Programme Branch, and Director, Fast-Track Implementation, UNAIDS, Switzerland</p> <p>Ms. Mariatou Tala Jallow, Senior Manager Sourcing, The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, Switzerland</p> <p>Mr. Emmanuel Mujuru, Chairman, Federation of African Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Associations (FAPMA), South Africa</p> |
| 5:20 – 5:50 p.m. | <b>Interventions from the floor</b> moderated by Mr. Andrew Jack, Editor, Financial Times, United Kingdom  |
| 5:50 – 5:55 p.m. | <b>Wrap-up</b> by the moderator, Mr. Andrew Jack, Editor, Financial Times, United Kingdom  |
| 5:55 – 6:00 p.m. | <b>Closing by UNIDO</b> , Mr. Kai Bethke, Director, Department of External Relations, UNIDO  |
| 6:00 p.m.        | <b>Cocktail reception</b><br>Location: VIC, C-Building 7 <sup>th</sup> floor, designated area next to the Coffee Corner on the left side   |



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