AfCoDD VI

From Fragmentation to Influence: Advancing the Common African Position on Debt

Africa Rule Maker

6th Edition of the

African Conference on Debt and Development

25th - 28th August 2026

Nairobi, Kenya

The Programme

AFRODAD — African Forum and Network on Debt and Developemnt — 30 Years of Impact

TISA

Transparency International Kenya

IPF — Institute of Public Finance

christian aid

OXFAM Kenya

Stop the Bleeding — Curbing Illicit Financial Flows from Africa

OKOA UCHUMI!

AfCoDD VI Pre-event

Tuesday, 25th August 2026 | Venue - Elgon 1 & 2

1430 – 1545 Opa Kapijimpanga Lecture -The African Public Debt Crisis from an Economic Sovereignty Perspective: Going Beyond the Symptoms

Speaker: Prof. Horman Chitonge, Professor, Centre for African Studies; Research Associate, PRISM, School of Economics, University of Cape Town; Visiting Professor, African Studies Centre, University of Tokyo, and Global Justice Programme, Yale University; Chief Editor, African Research Bulletin (Wiley)

AfCoDD VI Day 1

Tuesday, 25th August 2026 | Venue - Kilimanjaro

1600 – 1730 Official Opening Ceremony

Moderator:

Caroline Njenga,
News Anchor, Business and Financial Journalist, Kenya

Welcome Remarks:

Barbara Kalima-Phiri,
Chairperson, AFRODAD Board of Trustees

Diana Gichengo,
Executive Director, The Institute for Social Accountability (TISA), on behalf of all Co-conveners

Solidarity Messages:

Stop the Bleeding Campaign (STB)
African Parliamentary Budget Office Forum (AFROPAC)
African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF)

Remarks by State Officials:

Sansan Hien,
Director General of Economy, Ministry of Economy, Finance and Budget, Côte d'Ivoire

Vincent Simoukoura,
Director General, Autonomous Sinking Fund for Debt Management, Republic of Benin

Remarks by Guests of Honour:

H.E. Francisca Tatchouop Belobe,
African Union Commissioner for Economic Development, Trade, Tourism, Industry, and Minerals (ETTIM)

Amb. Dr. Lavina Ramkissoon,
African Union Ambassador and Co-Chair, Council on the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR)

Official AfCoDD VI Opening Address:

FCPA Dr. Margaret Nyakang'o,
CBS, Controller of Budget, Kenya

Vote of thanks, AFRODAD Secretariat:

Janet Zhou,
Executive Director, African Forum and Network on Debt and Development (AFRODAD)

Opening Session Closing Activities:

Group photograph with dignitaries
Cocktail for dignitaries

AfCoDD VI Day 2

Wednesday, 26th August 2026 | Venue - Kilimanjaro

0900 – 1030 Keynote Session

Moderator:

Caroline Njenga,
News Anchor, Business and Financial Journalist, Kenya

Keynote Speaker:

Prof. Jean-Emmanuel Pondi,
Professor of Political Science and International Relations; Former Director of the International Relations Institute of Cameroon (IRIC); Former Vice-Rector of the Universities of Yaoundé I, Former Secretary-General of the Universities of Yaoundé I

Respondents:

Prof. Abdul-Aziz Iddrisu, Professor and Academic Dean, Kumasi Technical University, Ghana

Hon. Dr. Khanyisile Litchfield-Tshabalala,
Member of the National Assembly, Republic of South Africa

Prof. Grieve Chelwa, Chair, Department of Social Sciences and Associate Professor of Political Economy, The Africa Institute, Global Studies University, Sharjah, UAE; Non-Resident Senior Fellow, Tricontinental: Institute for Social Research

1030 – 1200 Session 1 | From Declaration to Delivery: Building the Institutional Architecture and Mutual Accountability Mechanisms for the Common African Position on Debt

About

This session will examine what it will take to move the Common African Position (CAP) on Debt from a declaration of intent to a binding, implementable programme. It interrogates the institutional foundations required to anchor the CAP. This includes the African Monetary Institute, the African Financing Stability Mechanism, and the African Debt Monitoring Mechanism etc. It will explore concrete mechanisms that can hold member states and stakeholders to their commitments to CAP in the absence of its formal enforcement. Panellists will discuss how Africa can translate political consensus into institutional muscle capable of sustaining the CAP's implementation over time.

Moderator:

Caroline Njenga,
News Anchor, Business and Financial Journalist, Kenya

Panellists:

Dr. Patrick Ndzana Olomo,
Ag. Director, Economic Development, Integration and Trade, and Head of Economic Policy and Sustainable Development, African Union Commission

Douglas Bitonda Kigabo,
Economic Affairs Officer, Economic Governance and Public Finance Section, Macroeconomics and Governance Division, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)

Jane Nalunga,
Executive Director, Southern and Eastern Africa Trade Information and Negotiations Institute (SEATINI)

Masenate Molapo,
Programme Manager, Trade, Industry, Finance and Investment, SADC Parliamentary Forum

Chikondi Phiri,
Principal Economist, Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Decentralisation, Malawi

Sansan Hien,
Director General of Economy, Ministry of Economy, Finance and Budget, Côte d'Ivoire

1200 – 1330 Session 2 | Rule-Makers, Not Rule-Takers: Advancing Africa's Structural Reform Agenda in a Global Financial Architecture Resistant to Reforms

About

This session examines the persistent resistance within the global financial architecture to genuine structural reform that can enable the implementation of the CAP. It will explore how African countries can assert CAP's structural reform agenda, from ensuring a UN Framework Convention on Sovereign Debt, reform of credit rating systems and debt restructuring programs without being absorbed into incremental technical fixes that leave the root causes of indebtedness unaddressed. Panellists are expecte to examine the strategic leverage points available to Africa to shift from a rule-taking continent to a genuinely rule-making one in the global debt governance that can enhance the implementation of CAP.

Moderator:

Kenneth Okwaroh Ochieng,
Executive Director and Research Associate,
Africa Centre for People, Institutions and Society (ACEPIS)

Panellists:

Janet Zhou,
Executive Director, African Forum and Network on Debt and Development (AFRODAD)

Prof. Jean-Emmanuel Pondi,
Professor of Political Science and International Relations; Former Director of the International Relations Institute of Cameroon (IRIC); Former Vice-Rector of the Universities of Yaoundé I, Former Secretary-General of the Universities of Yaoundé I

Stefano Prato,
Coordinator, Civil Society Financing for Development Mechanism; Managing Director, Society for International Development (SID)

Aissata Bah Mwansa,
Senior Debt Management Officer – Reporting and Communications, Ministry of Finance and National Planning, Zambia

Vincent Simoukoura,
Director General, Autonomous Sinking Fund for Debt Management, Republic of Benin

1330 – 1430 Lunch Break

1430 – 1600 Session 3 | Deploying the Continent's Strategic Assets to Rewrite the Rules of International Debt Governance

About

This session will anchor on Stop the Bleeding Campaign's Black Paper. It shall examine Africa's collective leverage that can influence Africa's agenda for the reform of global debt architecture and its potential to enhance the implementation of CAP and Africa's structural transformation. The session shall examine Africa's strategic assets - from its natural resource wealth, its demographic weight, market size and other - and how they can be harnessed to reposition the continent as a rule-maker in international debt governance. It will also examine the economic hemorrhage plaguing Africa and how to overcome this. The main focus will be on how Africa's structural assets, can strengthen the continent's negotiating power and give real force to the demands and aspirations of the Common African Position on Debt.

Moderator:

Jason R. Braganza,
Founder & Incubator, The Fikra Collective;
Advisor, Stop The Bleeding Campaign (STBc)

Spoken Word:

Nyangari Macharia | Mukasiri Sibanda

Framing Remarks:

Donald Deya,
Chair, Stop The Bleeding Campaign;
CEO, the Pan-African Lawyers Union (PALU)

Presentation of the Black Paper:

Prof. Jean Marcelin Brou, Co-Author of the Black Paper

Panellists:

Chenai Mukumba,
Executive Director, Tax Justice Network Africa (TJNA)

Janet Zhou,
Executive Director, African Forum and Network on Debt and Development (AFRODAD)

Memory Kachambwa,
Executive Director, The African Women's Development and Communication Network (FEMNET)

Dr. Patrick Ndzana Olomo,
Ag. Director, Economic Development, Integration and Trade, and Head of Economic Policy and Sustainable Development, African Union Commission

Sen. Okoiti Andrew Omtatah,
Senator, Parliament of Kenya

1600 – 1730 Session 4 | From Debt Management to Debt Justice: Harnessing Artificial Intelligence to Advance the Common African Position on Debt

About

This session explores the emerging role of artificial intelligence as a tool for advancing debt justice and strengthening the implementation of the Common African Position on Debt. It examines how AI-driven tools — from debt data analytics and early-warning systems to public-facing platforms that expand access to information; can enhance transparency, sharpen civil society's monitoring capacity, and support more informed, evidence-based advocacy. Panellists will discuss both the opportunities AI presents for advancing Africa's debt justice agenda and the risks and limitations that must be navigated as these tools are adopted.

Moderator: Chenayi Mutambasere, Executive Director, Africa Center for Economic Justice

Panellists:

Amb. Dr. Lavina Ramkissoon,
African Union Ambassador and Co-Chair, Council on the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR)

Dr. Michael Mollel,
Co-Founder and CEO, Sartify Company Limited/PAWA-AI, Consultancy House

Dr. Grace Githaiga
CEO and Convenor, Kenya ICT Action Network (KICTANet)

Dr. Lyla Latif,
Faculty Member, University of Nairobi School of Law; Director, House of Fiscal Wisdom; Global Tax and Technology Governance Specialist

AfCoDD VI Day 3

Thursday, 27th August 2026 | Venue - Kilimanjaro 1, Kilimanjaro 2, Kilimanjaro 3, Chui

Snapshot of AfCoDD VI Research & Ideation Breakout sessions
More details and descriptions for each breakout session are in the pages that follow

Venue →	AfCoDD Room 1 Kilimanjaro 1 ↓	AfCoDD Room 2 Kilimanjaro 2 ↓	AfCoDD Room 3 Kilimanjaro 3 ↓	AfCoDD Room 4 Chui ↓
0900 – 1030	Session 5: From Position to Power: Making the CAP on Debt and Borrowers' Platform Work for People **Christian Aid, TISA, Okoa Uchumi**	Session 6: Testing the Common Framework: Africa's Experience and the Path to Reform via the UK's G20 Presidency **FES AU Cooperation Office & Debt Justice UK, AFRODAD**	Session 7: From Debt Servicing to Economic Transformation: Operationalising the CAP on Debt to Bridge Africa's Inequality Gap **OXFAM Kenya**	Session 8: Strengthening Domestic Debt Governance through Robust Local Currency Financing Frameworks and Resilient Financial Markets in Africa **SEATINI, AFRODAD**
1030 – 1100 | Coffee Break				
1100 – 1230	Session 9: Financing for Development: Post-Sevilla Strategies in Turbulent Geopolitics **CS FfD Mechanism**	Session 10: What exactly should African Borrower Coordination aim to achieve? **Development Reimagined, ACET**	Session 11: Understanding the Evolving Global Debt Landscape from Jubilee 2000 to the G20 Common Framework and actualising the Common African Position on Debt **AACC, EJN - FOCISSA, ZCC**	Session 12: From Commitment to Accountability: Citizen-Led Monitoring of Africa's Common Position on Debt **YTJN, TI-Kenya, Trust Africa**
1230 – 1400 | Lunch Break				
1400 – 1530	Session 13: Building the Foundation: Open Debt Governance as a Precondition for Sustainable Financing **IBP, ILP, AFROPAC, Social Watch Benin, Bajeti Hub**	Session 14: From Common Position to Power and Accountability: Mobilising Collective Strategy, African Special Mechanisms, and Workers' Power for Africa's Debt Justice **ITUC-Africa, PALU**	Session 15: Human rights under siege: Unpacking authoritarian practices in an era of economic pressure amid youth-led protests in Kenya **Amnesty International**	Session 16: Building African Solidarity for Fiscal Sovereignty: Lessons from Collective Action on the UN Tax Convention **AMwA, Agenda Afrique & Development Transformations**
1530 – 1600 | Coffee Break				
1600 – 1730	Session 17: Critical Minerals, Debt and Tax Justice in Africa's Common Position **TJNA, ZIMCODD, GREENPEACE, AFRODAD**	Session 18: Red Flags in Government Contracts **House of Fiscal Wisdom, Committee on Fiscal Studies, UoN**	Session 19: Strengthening the Harare Declaration: Reaffirming our commitment to the new debt movement that establishes Africa as a Rule Maker, not a Rule Taker **AFRODAD**	Session 20: Podcast Miniseries Launch: Decolonising Africa's Debt and Reclaiming Her Future - A Reparative Approach **AFRODAD, AfaLab**

Session 5: From Position to Power: Making the CAP on Debt and Borrowers' Platform Work for People

This session will explore how the Borrowers' Platform and civil society accountability mechanisms can work together to advance and operationalise the CAP. Drawing on experiences such as Okoa Uchumi's People's Audit and debt accountability work in Kenya, Zambia and Ghana, participants will consider practical mechanisms including national accountability hubs, citizen-led debt observatories, CAP implementation scorecards and coordinated Pan-African civil society monitoring. Central to the discussion will be whether the CAP and Borrowers' Platform adequately reflect the lived experiences of people most affected by debt distress and austerity, particularly women, young people, persons with disabilities and marginalised communities.

Follow on zoom: https://o2o.to/i/rkhfCP

Venue: AfCoDD Room 1 - Kilimanjaro 1

Moderator: Angela Wangechi, Public Accountability Officer, TISA & Okoa Uchumi Lead

Panellists:

Penelope Hawkins, Officer-in-Charge, Debt and Development Finance Branch UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

Bob Gikuyu, Senior Theology Advisor, Christian Aid

Organiser:

Christian Aid, The Institute for Social Accountability (TISA), Okoa Uchumi

Session 6: Testing the Common Framework: Africa's Experience and the Path to Reform via the UK's G20 Presidency

The persistent failure of the global financial architecture to deliver sustainable debt solutions has left African economies trapped in prolonged fiscal uncertainty. Historical initiatives like HIPC and MDRI, alongside today's G20 Common Framework, have repeatedly acted as reactive, temporary fixes rather than permanent remedies. However, the Common Framework still holds potential for meaningful evolution if key countries exert the political will required to reform its mechanisms in favour of developing nations. When the G20 Common Framework (G20 CF) launched in 2020, it was hailed as a historic breakthrough - bringing Paris Club and major non-Paris Club creditors, including China, India, and Saudi Arabia, to a single negotiating table for the first time. But over five years on, evidence from the pioneer African countries that applied tells a different story. Systemic bottlenecks, political stalemates over burden-sharing, and the absence of binding mechanisms to ensure private creditor participation have left the Framework struggling to deliver timely, predictable, or comprehensive debt relief while private creditors have been able to hold out on negotiations.

This session brings together empirical evidence from countries' direct experience of the Common Framework, including why some countries are avoiding seeking debt relief through it altogether, before turning to what comes next. The UK's 2027 presidency is a moment of opportunity to take forward the demands of the Common African Position for reforms to the Common Framework and to build momentum for a UN Framework Convention, despite the lack of legitimacy of the G20 to design the global debt architecture. Can campaigning for legislation in the key jurisdictions of the UK and New York strengthen African countries' negotiating positions with private creditors? How could the UK presidency achieve reforms that could be a steppingstone towards a just global debt architecture?

Follow on zoom: https://o2o.to/i/Vnk875

Venue: AfCoDD Room 2 - Kilimanjaro 2

Moderator: Diana Mochoge, Policy Officer, Domestic Resource Mobilisation, AFRODAD

Panellists:

Dr. Patrick Ndzana Olomo, Ag. Director, Economic Development, Integration and Trade, and Head of Economic Policy and Sustainable Development, African Union Commission

Jason Braganza, Independent Expert and consultant on Development Finance

Jerome Phelps, Head of Advocacy, Debt Justice UK

Aissata Bah Mwanza, Ministry of Finance and National Planning, Zambia

Prof. Jean Brou, Associate Professor in Economics, and Head of Department of Economics, University Félix Houphouet Boigny (UFHB), Côte d'Ivoire

Organiser:

FES AU Cooperation Office, Debt Justice UK, African Forum and Network on Debt and Development (AFRODAD)

Session 7: From Debt Servicing to Economic Transformation: Operationalising the CAP on Debt to Bridge Africa's Inequality Gap

Oxfam Kenya's 2025 report, "Kenya's Inequality Crisis: The Great Economic Divide," found that KES 68 of every KES 100 collected in taxes now goes to debt repayment, double the education budget and nearly fifteen times the health budget, while the richest 125 Kenyans hold more wealth than 42.6 million citizens combined. Kenya faces a dual challenge: strengthening its domestic debt management policies while also addressing the broader structural inequalities embedded within the international financial architecture. This session interrogates the direct link between unsustainable debt, shrinking fiscal space, and widening inequality, drawing on evidence from Kenya to illustrate wider structural trends affecting many African countries. It will explore how the CAP's Pillar 1 (crisis response and systemic debt reforms) and Pillar 2 (sustainable financing and institutional resilience) can be operationalised at national level to reverse austerity, protect social spending, and advance tax justice, while strengthening civil society's role in monitoring implementation and sustaining continental solidarity beyond AfCoDD VI.

Follow on zoom: https://o2o.to/i/iz2kuw

Venue: AfCoDD Room 3 - Kilimanjaro 3

Moderator: Annet Nerima,
Kenya Human Rights Commission

Panellists:

Beverly Musili, OXFAM Kenya

Veronicah Ndegwa, Institute of Public Finance

John Kafuko, Youth for Tax Justice Network

Organiser:

OXFAM Kenya

OXFAM Kenya

Session 8: Strengthening Domestic Debt Governance through Robust Local Currency Financing Frameworks and Resilient Financial Markets in Africa

African countries continue to face rising debt vulnerabilities driven by external borrowing, exchange rate volatility, high debt servicing costs and shallow domestic financial markets. Strengthening local currency financing frameworks is essential for reducing foreign exchange risks, improving debt sustainability and mobilising long-term domestic resources for development. This session will explore policy, regulatory and institutional reforms needed to strengthen domestic debt governance through robust local currency financing frameworks and deeper domestic financial markets. It will examine the roles of governments, central banks, regional financial institutions, development partners and the private sector in expanding sustainable local currency financing. The discussion will identify practical policy options to reduce reliance on external foreign currency borrowing while contributing to the implementation of the Common African Position on Debt through African-led financing solutions.

Follow on zoom: https://o2o.to/i/0MtHWi

Venue: AfCoDD Room 4 - Chui

Moderator: John P. Maketo,
Executive Director, Zimbabwe Coalition on Debt and Development (ZIMCODD)

Panellists:

Jane Nalunga, Executive Director, Southern and Eastern Africa Trade Information and Negotiations Institute (SEATINI)

Daniel Wanjohi Ndirangu, Chief Executive Officer, Institute of Public Finance (IPF), Kenya

Catherine Mithia, Sovereign Debt Management (SDM), AFRODAD

Dr. Ndongo Mané Kébé, LAREM

Organiser:

SEATINI, AFRODAD

SEATINI
Strengthening Africa in World Trade

AFRODAD
AFRICAN FORUM AND NETWORK ON DEBT AND DEVELOPEMNT

30 Years of impact

Session 9: Financing for Development: Post-Sevilla Strategies in Turbulent Geopolitics

The session aims to explore the Financing for Development (FfD) follow-up process in the aftermath of the Sevilla FfD4 Conference and in the context of the current turbulent re-shaping of global economic and political relations. Its primary focus will be discussing a coherent follow-up framework for Africa which is well-grounded in a theory and strategy for the structural transformation of the Continent and the re-framing of the terms of engagement of the region with the global economy. This would also lead to an engagement agenda with African institutions and Member States.

Follow on zoom: https://o2o.to/i/0gSkdq

CIVIL SOCIETY FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT Mechanism

Venue: AfCoDD Room 1 - Kilimanjaro 1

Moderator: Stefano Prato, Coordinator, Civil Society Financing for Development Mechanism; Managing Director, Society for International Development (SID)

Panellists:

Chenai Mukumba, Executive Director, Tax Justice Network Africa (TJNA)

Jason Braganza, Advisor, Stop the Bleeding Campaign (STBc)

Jane Nalunga, Executive Director, Southern and Eastern Africa Trade Information and Negotiations Institute (SEATINI)

Catherine Mithia, Policy, Research & Advocacy Officer, Sovereign Debt Management, African Forum and Network on Debt and Development

Organiser:

Civil Society FfD Mechanism

Session 10: What exactly should African Borrower Coordination aim to achieve?

Africa's debt landscape has undergone a profound transformation over the past two decades. African sovereign borrowers find themselves navigating negotiations in isolation. This division dilutes collective bargaining power and perpetuates a system where African nations remain 'ruletakers' rather than active 'rule-makers' in the global financial architecture. Borrowers need to start discussing these differences and determine a strategy to ensuring creditors match the needs of borrowers. This side event aims to help borrowers' forums complement one another by asking:

- What terms and conditions should they be aiming to build consensus around when it comes to a) debt reprofiling; b) debt restructuring and c) debt relief? What are the helpful precedents in this regard?
- What are the acceptable, benchmark terms around the tenor and interest rate (and other issues e.g. transparency) for new, fresh finance should they be aiming to build consensus around – when it comes to different creditors

Venue: AfCoDD Room 2 - Kilimanjaro 2

Moderator: Tumba Tshimanga, Advocacy Lead, Economic Management, African Center for Economic Transformation (ACET)

Opening Remarks:

Hannah Wanjie Ryder, Chief Executive Officer, Development Reimagined

Dr. Louis Kasekende, Executive Director, Macroeconomic and Financial Management Institute of Eastern and Southern Africa (MEFMI)

Panellists:

Frank Adu, Senior Economist and Consultant, African Center for Economic Transformation (ACET)

Organiser:

Development Reimagined, African Center for Economic Transformation (ACET), AfriCatalyst

Follow on zoom: https://o2o.to/i/QSJfxs

DEVELOPMENT REIMAGINED

ACET African Center for Economic Transformation

AFRICATALYST

Session 11: Understanding the Evolving Global Debt Landscape from Jubilee 2000 to the G20 Common Framework and actualising the Common African Position on Debt

The global sovereign debt landscape has transformed from a straightforward moral crusade into a fragmented, legally complex crisis. Over the past twenty-five years, the mechanisms, actors, and solutions surrounding international debt have fundamentally shifted. The debt architecture has changed quite dramatically from bilateral and multilateral debt resolution as seen during the faith-influenced Jubilee 2000 campaign, which brought some semblance of relief to countries in distress. Currently there has been an emergence of a multiplicity of private and commercial lenders whose interests tend to be more short-term and whose debt resolution or restructuring has been advanced via the G20 Common Framework. This session unpacks the evolving debt and climate landscape and its implications on African nations and how the faith movement can actualize the Common Africa Position on Debt towards transformational sustainable debt management.

Follow on zoom: https://o2o.to/i/n6wDIR

Venue: AfCoDD Room 3 - Kilimanjaro 3

Moderator: Africa Kiiza, Pan-Africa Advocacy & Policy Lead, Christian Aid

Panellists:

Rev. Dr. Wilfred Dimingu, General Secretary, Zimbabwe Council of Churches (ZCC)

Mandla Hadebe, Executive Director, Economic Justice Network of FOCCISA (EJN)

Dr. Tinashe Gumbo, Programme Executive, Economic and Ecological Justice, All Africa Conference of Churches (AACC)

Kelebogile Lekone, Botswana Council of Churches

Organiser:

All Africa Conference of Churches (AACC), Economic Justice Network - FOCISSA, Zimbabwe Council of Churches (ZCC)

Session 12: From Commitment to Accountability: Citizen-Led Monitoring of Africa's Common Position on Debt

The adoption of the Common African Position (CAP) on Debt provides Africa with an important continental framework for advancing debt justice, African agency and reform of the global financial architecture. The challenge now is to translate this commitment into implementation that citizens can monitor and influence. This joint side session brings together TI Kenya, YTJN and TrustAfrica to explore how debt integrity, youth-led monitoring, domestic resource mobilization and sustained civic action can strengthen accountability for CAP implementation. The session will examine transparency across the debt cycle, public debt audits, procurement, oversight, beneficial ownership, illicit financial flows, youth-led monitoring and civic mobilization. Through an interactive panel, audience engagement and a practical accountability exercise, participants will identify priority commitments, indicators, responsible actors and evidence needed to track progress. The session will culminate in a joint Citizen Accountability Agenda for the Common African Position on Debt.

Follow on zoom: https://o2o.to/i/FPIbHg

Venue: AfCoDD Room 4 - Chui

Moderator: Jon Kafuko, Programmes Manager, Youth for Tax Justice Network (YTJN)

Opening Remarks:

Hon. Dumelang Saleshando, Member of Parliament, Botswana; Chairperson, SADC Parliamentary Forum Standing Committee on Trade, Industry, Finance and Investment (TIFI)

Peninnah Mbabazi, Program Associate (Climate Justice), Centre for Economic and Social Rights (CESR)

Gladys Madara, Program Officer, TrustAfrica

Sen. Okoiti Andrew Omtatah, Senator, Parliament of Kenya

Organiser:

Youth for Tax Justice Network (YTJN), Transparency International-Kenya, Trust Africa

Session 13: Building the Foundation: Open Debt Governance as a Precondition for Sustainable Financing

The Common African Position on Debt sets out an ambitious agenda under Pillar 2 for sustainable financing and institutional resilience, covering domestic resource mobilization, innovative financing instruments, and stronger African financial institutions. None of these priorities can succeed without the governance foundation that Pillar 2(b) describes: legal definitions of public debt and borrowing limits, parliamentary approval and reporting requirements, transparent debt sustainability monitoring, and standardised loan and bond provisions. This session argues that debt governance and accountability are preconditions of sustainable financing. The panel brings together legal practitioners, Ministry of Finance, civil society and parliamentary actors to examine where governance gaps currently undermine Africa's financing ambitions, and what a functioning accountability ecosystem, spanning law, executive practice, legislative oversight, and citizen monitoring, actually requires in practice.

Follow on zoom: https://o2o.to/i/D81hFj

Venue: AfCoDD Room 1 - Kilimanjaro 1

Moderator: Dr. Marième Gnagna Thiam, Senior Program Coordinator, Tax Equity, International Budget Partnership (IBP)

Panellists:

Mary Ongore, Senior Legal Manager, Sustainable Finance, International Lawyers Project (ILP)

Patience Oniha, Director-General, Debt Management Office, Nigeria

John Kinuthia, Bajeti Hub, Kenya

Jean-Pierre Degue, Executive Secretary, Social Watch Benin

Hon. Steven Baba Malondera Kamsiyamo, Secretary-General, African Organization of Public Accounts Committees (AFROPAC); Member of Parliament, Malawi

Organiser:

International Budget Partnership (IBP), International Lawyers Project, African Organization of Public Accounts Committees, Social Watch Benin, Bajeti Hub

Session 14: From Common Position to Power and Accountability: Mobilising Collective Strategy, African Special Mechanisms, and Workers' Power for Africa's Debt Justice

The adoption of the African Union's Common African Position (CAP) on Debt in February 2026 marks a significant step towards a continental approach to debt sustainability, restructuring and global financial reform. However, a common position must translate into a coordinated negotiating strategy with clear priorities, leadership, sequencing, tactics and accountability. This side session will explore how the CAP can be operationalised through shared priorities, coordinated creditor engagement, stronger evidence, national domestication and public accountability, while ensuring debt outcomes support decent work, social protection, health, education, gender equality, industrialisation and a just transition. It will also examine how the proposed African Commission Special Mechanism on Public Debt, Tax, Illicit Financial Flows and Mineral Resources Governance can provide an accountability framework for monitoring implementation and advancing debt justice. The session will identify participation channels for trade unions, civil society, parliaments and affected communities, while building a coalition to support the mechanism's establishment.

Follow on zoom: https://o2o.to/i/k1Vbyl

Venue: AfCoDD Room 2 - Kilimanjaro 2

Moderator: Vimbai Eva Mushongera, Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions (ZCTU)

Opening Remarks:

Dr. Hod Kwadzo Anyigba, Chief Economist and Executive Director, African Labour Research and Education Institute (ALREI), ITUC-Africa

Jason Braganza, Stop the Bleeding Campaign (STBc)

Rangarirai Chikova, Economic Governance Officer, Pan African Lawyers Union (PALU)

Organiser:

Africa Regional Organization of the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC-Africa) & Pan African Lawyers Union (PALU)

Session 15: Human rights under siege: Unpacking authoritarian practices in an era of economic pressure amid youth-led protests in Kenya

Amnesty International has developed a study to demonstrate how increased regressive taxes and rising cost of living make it difficult for people to access socio-economic rights; how authoritarian practices often make government ignore public dissent, opinions and submissions on fiscal affairs, including on budgets and tax plans; how these in turn cause public anger and protests; how governments use authoritarian methods and how these authoritarian methods in turn result into more resentment, protests and civil disobedience especially by the youth.The session will share and validate findings of the study which seeks to draw the interlinkages between economic and social rights violations and civic repression under the framework of authoritarian practices and mobilise various actors towards taming authoritarian regimes through increased exposure of authoritarian practices (economic and social, civil and political) and protection of victims of authoritarian practices, including the youth, media and civil society activism.

Follow on zoom: https://o2o.to/i/PVS9cz

Venue: AfCoDD Room 3 - Kilimanjaro 3

Moderator: **Riva Jalipa,** Researcher/ Advisor, Taxation and Human Rights, Amnesty International

Panellists:

Dr. David Ngira, ESCR Researcher, East and Southern Africa, Amnesty International

Zaina Kombo, Campaigns Manager, Amnesty International Kenya

Juliet Wanjiru, Social Justice Centre

Brian Omondi, Social Justice Centre

Annet Nerima, Kenya Human Rights Commission, Program Manager, Inclusion and Political Justice,

Organiser:

Amnesty International

Session 16: Building African Solidarity for Fiscal Sovereignty: Lessons from Collective Action on the UN Tax Convention

Despite growing development needs, African countries are grappling with unsustainable debt burdens, shrinking fiscal space, and an estimated annual SDG financing gap of US$1.3 trillion. At the same time, current international tax arrangements facilitate more than $480 billion in revenue losses annually through corporate profit shifting, wealth concealment by high-net-worth individuals, and illicit financial flows. Pillar 2 of the CAP recognizes that improving tax systems, tackling illicit financial flows, and strengthening institutions are central to reducing dependence on unsustainable borrowing. This session will examine how the UN Framework Convention on International Tax Cooperation and the proposed Sovereign Debt Convention can restructure global rules for this purpose.

Follow on zoom: https://o2o.to/i/6fAxKy

Venue: AfCoDD Room 4 - Chui

Moderator: **Mworozi Patricia,** Akina Mama wa Afrika (AMwA)

Opening Remarks:

Everlyn Muendo, Tax Justice Network Africa (TJNA)

Mame Diarra Ndiaye Sobel, Solidarite Active

Riska Koopman, AFRODAD

Joanna Favour Tom Kargbo, Christian Aid

Jane Nalunga, SEATINI

Organiser:

Akina Mama wa Afrika, Agenda Afrique & Development Transformations

Session 17: Critical Minerals, Debt and Tax Justice in Africa's Common Position

Africa is central to the global energy transition, possessing vast reserves of critical minerals such as copper, cobalt, lithium, graphite, and manganese. Yet many resource-rich countries remain burdened by debt, poverty, inequality, and limited industrialisation. As global demand for these minerals grows, resource backed loans (RBLs) secured against future commodity exports have become an important source of financing for cash-constrained governments. While RBLs can provide short-term liquidity and support infrastructure development, they also raise concerns around transparency, debt sustainability, fiscal sovereignty, commodity price volatility, and the pre-commitment of future national wealth. This session will examine the links between critical minerals governance, debt, tax justice, climate justice, inequality and resource-backed borrowing through the lens of the Common African Position on Debt. Participants will explore policy reforms that strengthen accountability, domestic resource mobilisation, and value addition, while ensuring Africa's mineral wealth supports inclusive economic development.

Follow on zoom: https://o2o.to/i/lLutmj

Venue: AfCoDD Room 1 - Kilimanjaro 1

Moderator: Diana Mochoge, AFRODAD

Panellists:

Koaile Monaheng, GreenPeace

John Maketo, ZIMCODD

Ishmael Zulu, TJNA

Organiser:

Tax Justice Network Africa (TJNA), Zimbabwe Coalition on Debt and Development (ZIMCODD), Greenpeace Africa, and African Forum and Network on Debt and Development (AFRODAD)

TAX JUSTICE NETWORK AFRICA

ZIMCODD

GREENPEACE

AFRODAD

AFRICAN FORUM AND NETWORK ON DEBT AND DEVELOPEMNT

Session 18: Red Flags in Government Contracts

This session is targeted towards spotting red flags in government contracts, especially investment, debt, technology, and trade contracts that governments sign with other sovereigns and private stakeholders. The red flags result in revenue losses and fiscal restrictions. Our session will take the format of a book launch (Title: Red Flags in Government Contracts) followed by a reaction session and then a panel discussion on the key contracts that have been subjected to fiscal repression and how to counter these provisions. The session will also have an animated screening running for 3 mins summarizing the key concerns around the contractual provisions that get governments to sign their fiscal sovereignty away.

Follow on zoom: https://o2o.to/i/vxt5QA

HOUSE OF FISCAL WISDOM

Committee on Fiscal Studies

Venue: AfCoDD Room 2 - Kilimanjaro 2

Moderator: James Maingi, Budget Ndio Story

Reaction Panellists:

Mary Kambo, Kenya Human Rights Commission

Millicent Makina, Parliamentary Budget Office

Prof. George Wajackoyah, Roots Party of Kenya

Mamka Anyona, ACAOM

Discussion Panellists:

Osman Siddiqi, CEO Acclimate, Kenya

Farheen Kassim, Managing Partner, Kassim & Associates, Kenya

William Nyamu, Researcher, House of Fiscal Wisdom

Parita Shah, Senior Lecturer, University of Nairobi, Committee on Fiscal Studies)

Organiser:

House of Fiscal Wisdom

Committee on Fiscal Studies, University of Nairobi

Session 19: Strengthening the Harare Declaration: Reaffirming our commitment to the new debt movement that establishes Africa as a Rule Maker, not a Rule Taker

AFRODAD's 2021 Harare Declaration urged Africa to transition from a 'Rule Taker' to a 'Rule Maker' to prevent recurring debt crises that prioritize creditor demands over public welfare. As of 2026, global geopolitical fragmentation, escalating conflicts, and rising protectionism among traditional creditor nations have reshaped sovereign debt into a geopolitical leverage tool. Aid and debt relief commitments have diminished as funds shift toward defense and security. Given this reality, traditional appeals for debt relief are insufficient. African civil society must adopt a bolder mandate: demanding a radical overhaul of the global financial architecture. To protect national sovereignty and long-term socio-economic stability, Africa must prioritize robust domestic resource management, assert collective leverage, and dismantle systemic structures that perpetuate debt dependency in an unstable global economy.

Follow on zoom: https://o2o.to/i/kL9B6O

AFRICAN FORUM AND NETWORK ON DEBT AND DEVELOPEMNT

Venue: AfCoDD Room 3 - Kilimanjaro 3

Moderator: Dr. Yungong Theophilus Jong, Policy Research and Advocacy Manager, AFRODAD

Panellists:

Patrick Tumwebaze, Executive Director, Uganda Debt Network (UDN)

Bertha Phiri, Executive Director, Malawi Economic Justice Network (MEJN)

Angela Wangechi, The Institute for Social Accountability (TISA)

Hon. Vuyo Zungula, Chairperson, African Young Parliamentarians Network (AYPN)

Hon. Jean Galvanis, Chairperson, African Parliamentary Network on Illicit Financial Flows and Taxation (APNIFFT)

Africa Kiiza, Pan-Africa Advocacy & Policy Lead, Christian Aid

Organiser:

African Forum and Network on Debt and Development (AFRODAD)

Session 20: Podcast Miniseries Launch: Decolonising Africa's Debt and Reclaiming Her Future - A Reparative Approach

This side session introduces a podcast series jointly curated by AFRODAD and AFALAB, that advances a reparative justice framework for economic transformation. Informed by both the organisation's research, the series shapes a historical and contemporary understanding of Africa's debt challenges, examining how historical patterns of colonial extraction continue to shape contemporary debt vulnerabilities. The session launches the series with its first episode, "Understanding Historical Foundations of Systemic Extraction," ahead of a phased rollout, exploring the intersections of debt with climate justice and gender equality. While the Common African Position on Debt (CAP) does not explicitly employ the language of reparations, many of its core demands, including debt restructuring, international financial architecture reform, and enhanced economic sovereignty, directly address the enduring economic injustices that reparatory justice seeks to remedy. The side session will show how implementation of the CAP can contribute to Africa's reparative justice agenda by challenging the structural economic inequalities that originated in colonial extraction and continue to shape the global financial system today.

Follow on zoom: https://o2o.to/i/HJUAQP

Venue: AfCoDD Room 4 - Chui

Moderator: Afshin Nazir, Policy Officer, Legal Advocacy and Analysis on Debt (LAAD), AFRODAD

Panellists:

Lavender Namdiero, Programmes Coordinator, African Futures Lab (AfaLab)

Nada Trigui,
Advocacy Coordinator, Tunisian Economic Observatory (OTE)

Juliet Nangamba, Economic Justice and Climate Action Lead, Akina Mama wa Afrika (AMwA)

Organiser:

African Forum and Network on Debt and Development (AFRODAD), African Futures Lab (AfaLab)

AFRICAN FORUM AND NETWORK ON DEBT AND DEVELOPEMNT

AfCodd VI Day 4

Friday, 28th August 2026 | Venue - Kilimanjaro

0900 – 1100 Session 21 | Beyond the Conference Hall: Building a Pan-African Civil Society Movement for the Long-Term Implementation of CAP

About

This session examines the persistent resistance within the global financial architecture to genuine structural reform that can enable the implementation of the CAP. It will explore how African countries can assert CAP's structural reform agenda, from ensuring a UN Framework Convention on Sovereign Debt, reform of credit rating systems and debt restructuring programs without being absorbed into incremental technical fixes that leave the root causes of indebtedness unaddressed. Panellists are expecte to examine the strategic leverage points available to Africa to shift from a rule-taking continent to a genuinely rule-making one in the global debt governance that can enhance the implementation of CAP.

Moderator:

Caroline Njenga,
News Anchor, Business and Financial Journalist, Kenya

Panellists:

Diana Gichengo, Executive Director, The Institute for Social Accountability (TISA)
Leo Atakpu, Deputy Executive Director, Africa Network for Environment and Economic Justice (ANEEJ)
Bertha Phiri, Executive Director, Malawi Economic Justice Network (MEJN)
Isaac Mwaipopo, Executive Director, Centre for Trade Policy and Development (CTPD)
Dr. Marième Gnagna Thiam, Senior Program Coordinator, Tax Equity, International Budget Partnership (IBP)

1100 – 1320 Offical Closing Ceromony

11:00 -11:30

Reading of the CSO Commitment Document on the Common African Position on Debt

11:30-12:40

The CSO Commitment to the Common African Position on Debt Banner and Photo Session

- Signing of the Banner by Dignitaries
- Mass Signing of the Banner by Delegates

12:15-12:40

Official Closing remarks and vote of thanks from partners and co-conveners

- IPF Kenya
- Transparency International Kenya
- Oxfam
- Christian Aid
- The Institute for Social Accountability
- AFRODAD
- Guest of honour