



## **Concept Note**

### *Financial integrity to sustain development in Africa FACTI Panel meeting with African Media Representatives*

16 February 2021, 13:00 – 14:00 (UTC), via WebEx event, [registration is required](#) \*

#### **Background**

The High-Level Panel on International Financial Accountability, Transparency and Integrity for Achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (FACTI Panel) was launched by the 74th President of the United Nations General Assembly and the 75th President of ECOSOC in March 2020 to explore further actions that may be needed by the international community in the following areas: financial and beneficial ownership transparency, tax matters, bribery and corruption, money laundering, confiscation and disposal of the proceeds of crime and the recovery and return of stolen assets.

Although these challenges are reflected across the globe, they have more impact on developing countries as they exacerbate inequalities, including gender inequality, worsen poverty and deprive states from generating further resources for vital investments for sustainable development.

To find effective solutions to these problems, the FACTI Panel consulted with Member States, international organizations, experts, business and civil society. It commissioned background papers from subject matter experts and took inputs from all external stakeholders to inform its views. The FACTI Panel is ready to present its report to United Nations Member States and all other stakeholders.

The launch of the Report on 25 February will provide evidence-based recommendations, building on the successes and ongoing work of existing mechanisms, and priority actions for addressing the identified challenges for tax cooperation, anti-corruption, and anti-money laundering.

The Secretariat of the FACTI Panel has been working hard to prepare awareness raising activities to break the ground before the publication of the report. As part of these activities, the Panel will engage in a series of meetings and events with all stakeholders before and after the launch of the Panel's report. The main objective is to maximize the visibility of the Panel's

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<sup>1</sup>\* Please register to the event by filling the form at: [https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=2zWeD09UYE-9zF6kFubccDKpoBnEHh5PrRK\\_ANEK-s1UNEZWNFUOT1IPNIIxMTVBU1oyM1RESkROVS4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=2zWeD09UYE-9zF6kFubccDKpoBnEHh5PrRK_ANEK-s1UNEZWNFUOT1IPNIIxMTVBU1oyM1RESkROVS4u)

work in capitals around the world and increase the buy-in of Member States and other stakeholders to the Panel's process and recommendations.

At this meeting, the Panel would like to engage with media representatives from Africa to introduce them to the work of the Panel and discuss concrete actions to bring awareness and promote the endorsement of the FACTI Panel's key recommendations in each country.

The participation of a professional and committed journalism would be vital to reinforce the urgent message to the United Nations Member States and all other stakeholders that transforming the global financial architecture to combat illicit financial flows is necessary to shape our collective future for the better.

## **Objectives**

The Panel would like to share with the media representatives what they view as the priority actions on generating political momentum for promoting financial accountability, transparency and integrity for achieving the 2030 Agenda in the world and specially in Africa.

The main objectives of the meeting will be to:

1. Introduce the FACTI Panel, its work, and objectives to the media representatives.
2. Discuss the role of media in promoting financial accountability, transparency and integrity in the region and in each country.
3. Discuss and suggest ways of effective collaboration between the FACTI Panel and media representatives.

## **Format/Program**

The meeting will be held on 16 February 2021, via WebEx Meetings.

*Welcoming remarks and presentation of the FACTI Panel (15 Min)*

- Irene Ovonji-Odida
- Annet Wanyana Oguttu
- Bolaji Owasanoye

*Presentations (15 min)*

- Nicholas Shaxon, Tax Justice Network.
- Will Fitzgibbon, International Consortium of Investigative Journalist.
- Dapo Olorunyomi, Publisher, Premium Times Nigeria

*Open discussion (30 min)*

- *Journalists from Cameroon, Gabon, Chad, Senegal, Nigeria, South Africa, Zambia, Uganda, Kenya, Morocco, Burkina Faso, Niger, Togo, Ghana, DRC, Egypt, Kenya, Mali, Guinea Conakry the Senegal.*

*Closing remarks by FACTI Panel members (5 min)*