



## **Draft Programme**

### National Policy-Level Workshop

on fostering productive capacities in Zimbabwe for industrialisation,  
economic diversification, and inclusive growth

**Rainbow Towers Hotel & International Conference Centre  
Harare, 8-9 May 2024**

## DAY I: Wednesday, 8 May 2024

**08:30-09:00** Registration

### **09:00-09:30 Opening Session**

09:00-09:10 Opening remarks by the Ministry of Industry and Commerce

09:10-09:20 Opening remarks by RCO (tbc)

09:20-09:30 Introductory remarks by UNCTAD

**09:30-10:00** Group Photo and Coffee & Tea Break

**10:00-11:00 Session I: Zimbabwe’s development vision “Towards a Prosperous & Empowered Upper Middle-Income Society by 2030”: challenges and opportunities for sustainable and inclusive development.**

*This session will provide substantive foundation for key issues of deliberations at the workshop by assessing the current trends in socio-economic development of Zimbabwe, progress achieved and challenges encountered. In the session, views will be exchanged on Zimbabwe’s development vision and strategy, with particular attention to enablers and facilitators of growth, structural transformation and economic diversification.*

Moderator:

Presentations by the Government:

10:00-10:20 Zimbabwe’s development vision 2030, objectives and main challenges to development – **Office of the President and Cabinet**

10:20-10:40 Pattern and sources of economic growth, job creation and poverty reduction in Zimbabwe - **Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare**

10:40-11:00 Interactive discussions, questions, and answers (Q&A)

**11:00-12:00 Session II: Productive capacities and structural transformation: measuring and benchmarking performances by using UNCTAD’s Productive Capacities Index (PCI) for evidence-based policy formulation and implementation.**

*This session is intended to relate the concepts of productive capacities and structural economic transformation to Zimbabwe’s development endeavours, including policy implications for inclusive growth and sustainable development. The session will discuss UNCTAD’s Productive Capacities Index (PCI), which is an innovative approach applied by UNCTAD to measure and benchmark the level of development of productive capacities, and the National Productive Capacities Gap Assessment as the prelude for building productive capacities. It will examine Zimbabwe’s PCI and discuss the success stories of building productive capacities and accelerating structural economic transformation.*

Moderator:

11:00-11:20 Zimbabwe's performance in UNCTAD's Productive Capacities Index and policy implications

*Mr. Mussie Deleegn, Acting Head, Productive Capacities and Sustainable Development Branch, Division for Africa, LDCs and Special Programmes, UNCTAD*

11:20-11:40 Productive capacities in a comparative perspective – the success stories and the policy lessons for Zimbabwe

*Mr. Andrzej Bolesta, Economic Affairs Officer, Productive Capacities and Sustainable Development Branch, Division for Africa, LDCs and Special Programmes, UNCTAD*

11:40-12:00 Interactive discussions, questions, and answers (Q&A)

**12:00-13:00** Lunch Break

**13:00-15:00** **Session III: Key sectoral development challenges: How to ensure sustainable development of and value added in agriculture, mining, manufacturing and tourism?**

*Zimbabwe Vision 2030 lists agriculture, mining, manufacturing and tourism as priority sectors for development. At the same time PCI analysis shows comparatively low level of structural change capacity and natural capital. This session will examine Zimbabwe's comparative advantages and potential, together with main challenges to structural transformation, economic diversification, and productive capacities' building, looking at the proposed pillars and drivers of growth: modern agriculture, industry with important role of manufacturing and mining of resources, the latter in a facilitating role, as well as services such as tourism.*

Presentations by the Government:

13:00-13:20 Opportunities and challenges to agricultural modernisation and sectoral value added.  
**Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Rural Development.**

13:20-13:40 Prospects for creating a robust industrial sector, including manufacturing.  
**Ministry of Industry and Commerce.**

13:40-14:00 Mining as the facilitator of industrial transformation: Sustainability and challenges.  
**Ministry of Mines and Mining Development.**

14:00-14:20 Sustainable tourism and productive job creation: Necessary policies and sectoral predicaments.  
**Ministry of Tourism and Hospitality Industry**

14:20-14:30 UNCTAD intervention to share countries' experiences and success stories.

14:30-15:00 Interactive discussions, questions, and answers (Q&A)

**15:00-15:30** Coffee and Tea Break

**15:30-17:00** **Session IV: Institution building: How to ensure vibrant and dynamic institutions serving as foundations for growth and structural transformation?**

*Creating vibrant, dynamic and sound institutions is among the postulates of Zimbabwe Vision 2030. In the context of building productive capacities, economic decentralisation, regional investment and development master plans, and investment protection is of particular importance as listed in the Vision. The PCI component of Institutions illustrates Zimbabwe's comparatively low performance in the area. Well-functioning institutions are key to growth and development through transparent and enabling business environment, clear and predictable rules of engagement and trust and confidence of the domestic and international business sector. This session will examine the necessary steps to enhance Zimbabwe's process of institution building to facilitate structural transformation and economic diversification.*

Moderator

Presentations by the Government:

- 15:30-15:50 Institution building as enablers for growth and development: Challenges and opportunities.  
**University of Zimbabwe**
- 15:50-16:10 Coordination and decentralisation: How to ensure well-functioning “state machinery” for growth and development.  
**Ministry of Local Government and Public Works**
- 16:10-16:30 Enabling business environment as key to developmental success: Challenges.  
**National Competitiveness Commission**
- 16:30-16:45 UNCTAD intervention to share countries' experiences and success stories.
- 16:45-17:00 Interactive discussions, questions, and answers (Q&A)

## **DAY II: Thursday, 9 May 2024**

**09:00-10:00 Session V: Macroeconomic stability and financing for development: How to create conditions for growth and development.**

*Macroeconomic stability and predictable and stable access to financing are critical for sustainable development. However, they have been relatively weak aspects of Zimbabwe's development trajectory. Zimbabwe Vision 2030, within macroeconomic stability and financial realignment pillar, identifies critical areas as: fiscal space for development, arrears clearance and debt restructuring, aid coordination, anti-money laundering, financial intermediation, stability and inclusion, the currency reform. This session will discuss the detrimental role of macroeconomic instability and a lack of access to financing in Zimbabwe's sustainable development, seeking overall solutions to address these predicaments in view of the imperative to develop productive capacities.*

Moderator:

Presentations by the Government:

- 09:00-09:20 Macroeconomic stability in Zimbabwe: root causes, history and consequences of existing challenges for development and structural transformation.  
**Ministry of Finance, Economic Development and Investment Promotion.**

09:20-09:40 Financing growth, development and structural transformation: Innovative opportunities.  
**Ministry of Finance, Economic Development and Investment Promotion/RBZ**

09:40-09:50 UNCTAD intervention to share countries' experiences and success stories.

09:50-10:00 Interactive discussions, questions, and answers (Q&A)

**10:00-10:30** Coffee and Tea Break

**10:30-12:00 Session VI: Investment, regional integration and international trade: opportunities and challenges**

*Zimbabwe Vision 2030 emphasises the role of investment and subsequently investment promotion as the enabler for international economic interaction and, therefore, development. Investment policies need to be seen in the context of regional economic integration processes and broader national visions and capabilities for international trade. The session will focus on Zimbabwe's international trade and investment and the related challenges, opportunities and developments. The discussion will also concern the investment policies (including FDI and in relation to establishing Special Economic Zones, SEZ) and the role of the regional integration, within SADC and AfCFTA, as opportunities to galvanise international economic interaction and address the predicaments of being landlocked.*

Moderator:

Presentations by the Government:

10:30-10:50 Zimbabwe's international trade. Challenges and opportunities in the context of structural transformation.

**Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Trade**

10:50-11:10 Foreign investment and policies to attract strategic FDI to create value addition in priority sectors.

**Zimbabwe Investment Development Agency**

11:10-11:30 Regional integration: Zimbabwe's proposed strategy to reap benefits and shield threats.

**ZimTrade**

11:30-11:40 UNCTAD intervention to share countries' experiences and success stories.

11:40-12:00 Interactive discussions, questions, and answers (Q&A)

**12:00-13:00** Lunch break

**13:00-15:00 Session VII: Private sector development and human capital formation: education and job creation for the youth**

*Private sector development and human capital formation are critical for Zimbabwe's structural transformation and sustainable development. This is why they are listed in Zimbabwe Vision 2030, in the social development pillar (education and health), and as cross-cutting themes (micro, small and medium enterprises and youth development). However, the perception of Zimbabwe's relatively high human capital, is not reflected in the values of the PCI. Moreover, the PCI component related to private sector has shown a substantial decrease in value in recent years. This session will focus on private sector development and human capital formation as critical in ensuring the robustness of structural economic transformation and as important factors in building productive capacities. It will discuss the gaps between the labour market's needs and the output of the educational system, as well as the youth unemployment.*

Moderator:

Presentations by the Government:

13:00-13:15 Private sector's development as key to Zimbabwe's structural transformation: opportunities, policies, sectors.

**Confederation of Zimbabwe Industries (CZI)**

13:15-13:30 The education system: How to ensure its viability and competitiveness?

**Ministry of Higher and Tertiary Education, Science and Technology Development**

13:30-13:45 Challenges to healthcare and its impact on productivity.

**Ministry of Health and Child Care**

13:45-14:00 How to align skills development with labour market needs in view of structural transformation and regional integration

**Ministry of Skills Audit and Development**

14:00-14:15 Youth development and job creation: Possible strategies and existing obstacles.

**Ministry of Youth Empowerment, Development and Vocational Training**

14:15-14:30 UNCTAD intervention to share countries' experiences and success stories.

14:30-15:00 Interactive discussions, questions, and answers (Q&A)

**15:00-15:30** Coffee and Tea Break

**15:30-17:00 Session VIII: Infrastructure and connectivity in fostering productive capacities: the energy sector, transport, ICT, water and sanitation.**

*The process of building productive capacities requires improvements in infrastructure to galvanize countries' economic interaction and its growth. Within the infrastructure development pillar, Zimbabwe Vision 2030 clearly identifies the need to focus on the energy sector and power generation, transport, ICT, water and sanitation, as well as housing. However, PCI values for the components on energy, transport and ICT indicate existence of gaps, which need to be addressed in order to enhance connectivity and ensure that infrastructure plays its facilitating role. This is particularly important considering that Zimbabwe is a landlocked country, and this adds additional cost to its international economic interaction. This session will focus on the critical aspects of this infrastructure, namely, access*

*to and development of energy resources and electricity, to ICT infrastructure and transport network.*

Moderator:

Presentations by the Government:

15:30-15:50 Addressing the digital divide and ensuring digital transformation: challenges and opportunities.

**Ministry of Information Communication Technology, Postal and Courier Services.**

15:50-16:10 Towards sustainability of the energy sector: plans and strategies, obstacles and challenges.

**Ministry of Energy and Power Development**

16:10-16:30 Transport infrastructure, connectivity and landlockedness: How to address the existing challenges.

**Ministry of Transport and Infrastructural Development**

16:30-16:40 UNCTAD intervention to share countries' experiences and success stories.

16:40-17:00 Interactive discussions, questions, and answers (Q&A)

**17:00-17:20 Concluding Session**

17:00-17:10 The summary of the workshop

*Mr. Mussie Delelegn, Acting Head, Productive Capacities and Sustainable Development Branch, Division for Africa, LDCs and Special Programmes, UNCTAD*

17:10-17:20 Concluding remarks - **Zimbabwe National Chamber of Commerce**