

Industrialisation in Africa and the AfCFTA

As the AfCFTA advances its work on building an industrial policy and development protocol it needs to address a number of conceptual and policy questions on industrialization and development that are relevant to the African context. These include the role of manufacturing in Africa, opportunities presented by the move to a low carbon economy, and how we use our critical minerals strategically. These issues and others will be discussed by a high level panel.



03 September 2026 at 08h45 (SAST)



26 Degree South Hotel | Beyers Naude Drive | Muldersdrift



Online via Zoom

REGISTER NOW

Scan the QR code or click below

[CLICK HERE](#)



MEET THE PANEL



MODERATOR

Professor Faizel Ismail Professor Faizel Ismail is the former Director of the Nelson Mandela School of Public Governance (UCT) and former South African Ambassador to the WTO. He is a leading expert on trade policy, the WTO, and the AfCFTA.



Ha-Joon Chang is Professor of Economics at SOAS University of London and Co-Director of DLD and CSST. A leading development economist, he has authored 17 books translated into 45 languages and serves on the UN Committee for Development Policy.



Prof Arkebe Oqubay is an Honorary Professor at the Nelson Mandela School of Public Governance and former Senior Minister of Ethiopia. With over 30 years in policymaking, he is internationally recognised as a leading thinker on Africa's industrialisation and strategic development.



Dr Adeyemi Dipeolu is a diplomat, economist, and public administrator. He is an Adjunct Professor at the Nelson Mandela School of Public Governance and has served as Special Adviser to the Vice-President of Nigeria on Economic Matters, as well as in the Nigerian Foreign Service.



Dr Noncedo Vutula is Chief Research Officer for Regional Integration and the AfCFTA at the Nelson Mandela School of Public Governance (UCT). She is a former senior South African representative to the World Trade Organization with extensive experience in international trade and regional integration.



Dr Rob Davies is the former South African Minister of Trade and Industry (2009–2019) and served for twenty-five years as an ANC Member of Parliament. He is an Honorary Professor at the Nelson Mandela School and a former academic and anti-apartheid activist.