



competition commission
south africa

Media Advisory

For Immediate Release

19 October 2021

**ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND RECONSTRUCTION TO TAKE CENTRE STAGE AT THE 15TH
ANNUAL COMPETITION LAW, ECONOMICS AND POLICY CONFERENCE**

The 15th Annual Competition Law, Economics and Policy Conference is set to take place on 20 – 22 October 2021. Economic Recovery and Reconstruction will take centre stage at this year’s virtual Conference. The Conference is the annual event which is proudly and jointly held by the Competition Commission and the Competition Tribunal of South Africa.

Themed “Economic Recovery and Reconstruction – The Role of Competition Policy,” the Conference enjoins legal practitioners, economists, politicians, academics, industry role players and civic society in a meeting of minds to discuss and reflect on competition regulation, state of the economy and policy proposals aimed at shaping an inclusive, deconcentrated economy.

In addressing Economic Recovery and Reconstruction, speakers from multi-disciplinary institutions will tackle among other topics, the urgent need to build capable state institutions that are critical in the achievement of a growing and inclusive economy in South Africa. The Conference is also expected to take stock of challenges, progress, and achievements over the last few years in South Africa while looking at the experiences of the United States and Mexico.

The Conference has attracted seasoned speakers from a diverse socio-economic community domestically and internationally. These include the Commissioner of the Mexican Competition Authority, Ms Alejandra Palacios Prieto; Professor of Trade Regulation at New York University School of Law, Professor Eleanor Fox; Director-General of the Kenyan Competition Authority, Mr. Francis W. Kariuki; Retired Judge President of the Competition Appeal Court, Judge Dennis Davis; Chairperson of the Competition Tribunal, Ms Mondo Mazwai; distinguished litigant and

Constitutional Law expert, Advocate Tembeka Ngcukaitobi; Commissioner of the Public Service Commission, Professor Somadoda Fikeni as well as the Group Chief Executive Officer of Transnet, Ms Portia Derby.

The panelists are expected to share their insights on topical issues which include:

- prospects and opportunities presented by African Continental Free Trade Area Agreement (AfCFTA);
- the role of public interest in economic recovery and transformation;
- lessons learnt from the pandemic for future competition regulation;
- competition enforcement in sectors that are critical for economic recovery (including the digital economy); and
- access to vaccines, diagnostic kits, and related products during and after the Covid-19 pandemic

At this year's Conference the Competition Commission of South Africa will also launch a ground-breaking Research Grant Programme, an initiative aimed at building multi-disciplinary research capacities within the academic community to tackle important areas of competition law enforcement in South Africa.

A draft programme is herewith attached for ease of reference.

RSVP: AnnualConf@compcom.co.za on or before 15h00 on Tuesday 19 October 2021.

[ENDS]

Issued by:

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