



ONLINE SEMINAR

**WIPO/WEBINAR/CR/2023/7/1 PROV.
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH
DATE: MAY 25, 2023**

Online Seminar with Intellectual Property (IP) Offices and Innovation Stakeholders on the IP Gender and Diversity Gaps in the Africa and Arab Regions

organized by
the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

and
Invent Together

Geneva, May 30 and 31, 2023

DRAFT PROVISIONAL PROGRAM

prepared by the International Bureau of WIPO

This is the fourth edition of a series of on-line discussions involving all stakeholders in the innovation ecosystems about the IP gender and diversity gaps with the goal to raise awareness, evaluate it quantitatively and qualitatively, and to discuss policies and other actions that show promise in addressing it.

Tuesday, May 30, 2023

Panel I – High-level policy panel ([ONLINE](#), public):

The importance of designing policies addressing the IP gender and diversity gaps and engaging women’s and other diversities’ participation in the innovation ecosystems of the Africa and Arab regions

11.00 – 11.10 **Welcome address**

Mr. Edward Kwakwa, Assistant Director General, Global Challenges and Partnership Sector (GCPS), World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), Geneva

11.10 – 12.10 **Panel discussion**

Co-moderators:

Ms. Joni Laura, Senior Director, Government Affairs, Qualcomm, San Diego, United States of America

Ms. Samaar Shamon, Director, Sector of the Director General, News and Media Division, WIPO, Geneva

Panelists:

Ms. Esther Kunda, Director General, Innovation and Emerging Technologies, Ministry of Information Communication Technology and Innovation (MINICT), Kigali

Ms. Lulwa Abdulrahman AlMannai, Founder, LAM Brand, Manama

Ms. Maya Morsy, President, Egypt’s National Council for Women, Cairo

Ms. Melissa Basque Roux, Principal Officer, Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA), African Development Bank Group, Abidjan

Ms. Nabila Aguele, Formal Special Adviser to Nigeria’ Minister of Finance, Budget and National Planning, Abuja

12.10 – 12.30 **Closing remarks**

Ms. Dalila Hamou, Director, External Relations Division, GCPS, WIPO, Geneva

Wednesday, May 31, 2023

Panel II – IP Economists panel ([ONLINE](#), public):

The challenges of measuring and analyzing the gender and diversity gaps in the IP system of the Africa and Arab regions

11.00 – 11.05 **Opening remarks**

Mr. Marco M. Alemán, Assistant Director General, IP and Innovation Ecosystems Sector (IES), WIPO, Geneva

11.05 – 11.30 **Keynote presentation**

Ms. Irene Ochem, Founder and Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Africa Women Innovation and Entrepreneurship Forum, Cape Town

11.30 – 12.30 **Panel discussion**

Co-moderators:

Mr. Carsten Fink, Chief Economist, Department for Economics and Data Analytics (DEDA), IES, WIPO, Geneva

Ms. Erika Kraemer-Mbula, Professor of Economics, University of Johannesburg, Johannesburg, South Africa (to be confirmed)

Panelists:

Ms. Elodie Carpentier, Fellow, Innovation Economy Section, DEDA, IES, WIPO, Geneva

Ms. Ghati Nyehita, Research Coordinator, Democratic Governance and Rights Unit (DGRU), Cape Town

Ms. Melissa Langworthy, Consultant, Senior Gender Expert, European Commission "EU-GCC Political Dialogue, Cooperation and Outreach" Initiative, Equinoccio, Abqaiq, Saudi Arabia

Mr. Prince Oguguo, Young Expert, Innovation Economy Section, DEDA, IES, WIPO, Geneva

Ms. Rana Dajani, Visiting Professor, MIT Refugee Action Hub (ReACT), Cambridge, United States of America

12.30 – 13.00 **Open floor discussion**