



\*DRAFT Programme\*

# **IGC AFRICA GROWTH FORUM 2014**

**ORGANIZED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH**

**THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE BANK OF GHANA**

**June 15-17 2014**

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**Day 0: Sunday, June 15**  
**La Palm Royal Hotel, Accra**

**1900-2200**

**Welcome Cocktail**  
Organized by the Bank of Ghana

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**Day 1: Monday, June 16**  
**Adae Kese, La Palm Royal Hotel, Accra**

**0800-0900**

**Registration**

**0900-1000**

**Welcome Session**

Session Chair:

**Prof. Ernest Aryeetey**, Vice Chancellor, University of Ghana

Opening Remarks:

**Prof. Jonathan Leape**, Executive Director, IGC  
**Hon. George K. Ricketts-Hagan**, Deputy Minister of Finance, Ghana

Official Opening:

**Dr. Henry K. Wampah**, Governor, Bank of Ghana

**1000-1030**

**Tea/Coffee/Cocoa Break**

## SESSION 1

**1030-1230**

### **Macroeconomic Management in a Constrained Fiscal Environment**

Macroeconomic management and public finance are key policy areas for state effectiveness in Africa. This session will explore possibilities for coordination between fiscal and monetary authorities for ensuring macroeconomic stability. It will explore how governments can increase tax revenue, tax buoyancy and the efficiency of expenditure, as developmental assistance comes under pressure.

Session Chair:

**Dr. Ibrahim Stevens**, Country Programme Director, IGC

Panelists:

**Prof. Nada Eissa**, Lead Academic, IGC South Sudan,  
Georgetown University

**Dr. Louis Kasekende**, Deputy Governor, Bank of Uganda

**Hon. George K. Ricketts-Hagan**, Deputy Minister of  
Finance, Ghana

**Dr. Michael Gondwe**, Governor, Bank of Zambia

**1230-1330**

**Lunch**

## SESSION 2

**1330-1500**

### **State Effectiveness: Strengthening Governance**

In a sizable number of developing countries, the public sector fails to provide many, if not most, critical public goods necessary for economic development. The presence of a well-functioning state is key to encouraging economic growth. Part of this concerns having a public sector that has the capacity to raise revenues and spend them effectively; and that policymakers are incentivized to act in favour of their citizen. This session will discuss ways to improve state effectiveness and strengthen governance.

Session Chair:

**Prof. Ernest Aryeetey**, Vice Chancellor, University of  
Ghana

Presenters:

**Prof. Robin Burgess**, London School of Economics  
*"The Value of Democracy"*

**Mr. Ambrose James**, *"Debates - The Impact of Voter  
Knowledge Initiatives in Sierra Leone"*

**Prof. Tavneet Suri**, Massachusetts Institute of  
Technology

*"Six Texts Six Votes: Mobilizing Voters in Kenya"*

Discussants:

**Dr. Emmanuel O. Akwetey**, Executive Director,  
Institute for Democratic Governance, Ghana

**Doreen Kagarama**, Economic Advisor, Strategy and  
Policy Unit, Office of the Presidency, Rwanda

**1900**

### **Conference Dinner (Invitation Only) La Palm Royal**

Hosted by the Ministry of Finance

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**Day 2: Tuesday, June 17**  
**Adae Kese, La Palm Royal Hotel, Accra**

**SESSION 3**

**0900-1030**

**Building Effective Cities for Growth**

Over one third of Africa's 1 billion inhabitants currently live in urban areas and this proportion is expected to rise to over a half by 2030. Seeking to understand the extent to which existing spatial distributions of economic activity should be modified, will be important in maximizing agglomeration economies. Infrastructure, housing, local government structures and social service delivery are key policy challenges that will be explored in this session.

Session Chair:  
Panelists:

**Dr. Richard Newfarmer**, Country Director, IGC Rwanda  
**Prof. Sir Paul Collier**, Academic Director, IGC  
**Mr. Richard Kikonyogo**, Strategy Management Officer,  
Kampala Capital City Authority, Uganda  
**Mr. Steve Akuffo**, Commissioner, National Development  
Planning Commission, Ghana  
**Mr. Horatio Max Gorvie**, City Engineer, Freetown City  
Council, Sierra Leone

**1030-1100**

**Tea/Coffee/Cocoa Break**

**SESSION 4**

**1100-1230**

**Firm Capabilities**

Production in developing countries is concentrated in firms that are both small and unproductive which results in low aggregate productivity and contributes to the low living standards in these countries. This session will explore reasons why firm capabilities are so low in developing countries and ways to increase labour productivity and move resources from unproductive firms and sector to productive ones.

Session Chair:  
Presenters:

**Dr. John Page**, Country Director, IGC Tanzania  
**Prof. John Sutton**, London School of Economics  
*"Industrial Development in Sub-Saharan Africa:  
Opportunities and Challenges"* (via video link)  
**Prof. Jonas Hjort**, Columbia Business School  
*"Emerging Firms"*

Discussants:

**Mr. Adam Gahhu**, Policy Analyst, Tanzania Private  
Sector Foundation  
**Mr. Negussie Gurma Bikila**, Director, Investment  
Project Planning & Policy Research Directorate, Ethiopian  
Investment Agency

**1230-1330**

**Lunch**

## **SESSION 5**

**1330-1500**

### **Farm Productivity and Agricultural Development**

Increasing agricultural productivity in Africa is important in unlocking its growth potential, especially in rural areas where market failures are widespread- farmers are unable to obtain access to credit, insurance and inputs. Food security also becomes a growing concern.

Session Chair:

**Dr. Alemayehu Seyoum Taffesse**, Country Director, IGC Ethiopia

Presenters:

**Prof. Chris Udry**, Yale University

*"Financial Markets, Investment and Productivity in Agriculture"* (via video link)

**Prof. Tavneet Suri**, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

*"New Rice for Africa: Impacts on Yields and Nutrition"*

**Prof. Michael Carter**, University of California, Davis

*"Persistent effects of a temporary agricultural input subsidy- Evidence from a field experiment in Mozambique"*

Discussants:

**Prof. Rafael N. Uaiene**, Assistant Professor and Coordinator (Mozambique), Food Security Group, Michigan State University

## **SESSION 6**

**1500-1600**

### **Ideas for Growth – Priorities for further IGC research**

**Jonathan Leape**, Executive Director, IGC

**Ibrahim Stevens**, Country Programme Director, IGC

**Dr. Nii Moi Thompson**, Economic Adviser to the President, Ghana

**Dr. Louis Kasekende**, Deputy Governor, Bank of Uganda

**Mr. Berlin Msiska**, Commissioner General, Zambia Revenue Authority

**Hon Mrs. Mary Jarvese Yak**, Deputy Minister of Finance, South Sudan (TBC)

**Public Lecture**  
**Physician and Surgeons Auditorium**

**1730-1930**

**Public Lecture: Fiscal Sustainability and Growth Challenges for African Countries**

Chair:  
Keynote Address:

**Mr. Millison Narh**, Deputy Governor, Bank of Ghana  
**Prof. Sir Paul Collier**, Director, IGC

**Conference Closing Remarks**

Closing Remarks:

**Mr. Millison Narh**, Deputy Governor, Bank of Ghana  
**Dr. Nii Sowa**, Country Director IGC Ghana  
**Jonathan Leape**, Executive Director, IGC

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