



# **PAC** | **13<sup>th</sup> Pan-African Conference** **on Illicit Financial Flows and Taxation**



**Theme:**  
Honouring a Legacy, Building a  
Future: A Decade of the HLP



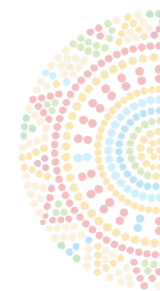
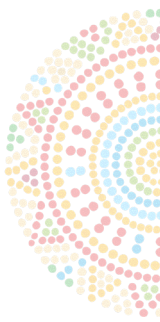
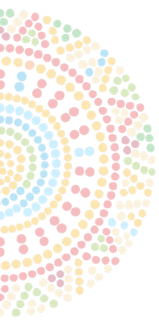
**7-10, Oct 2025**



**Johannesburg, South Africa**

**PROGRAMME**





# Programme

Day 1: Tuesday, 7 October 2025	
18:30 - 19:00	<b>Registration and Delegate arrival</b>
19:00 - 20:30	<p><b>Official Opening Ceremony &amp; Networking Reception</b></p> <p>The evening will mark the official opening of the 13th Pan-African Conference on Illicit Financial Flows and Taxation (PAC), bringing together participants for a ceremonial launch. The session will feature opening remarks from the co-hosts of the PAC reflecting on the 10-year journey since the landmark High-Level Panel Report on IFFs and the evolving continental and global agenda for tax justice. Interwoven with artistic interludes that celebrate Africa's rich cultural heritage, the opening will create a space that honours both the gravity of the issues at hand and the spirit of pan-African solidarity. The evening aims to strike a meaningful balance between organisational formality and cultural resonance, leaving participants inspired, grounded, and ready to engage in this milestone gathering.</p> <p><b>Speakers: Co-convenors of the 13th PAC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Economic Justice Network</li> <li>• International Development Economic Associates</li> <li>• United Nations Economic Commission for Africa</li> <li>• Africa Tax Administration Forum</li> <li>• African Union Commission</li> <li>• Tax Justice Network Africa</li> </ul>
Day 2: Wednesday, 8 October 2025	
08:30 - 09:00	<b>Registration and Delegate Arrival</b>
09:00 - 10:00	<p><b>Session 1: Ten Years Later – Reflections on the High-Level Panel Report</b></p> <p>This opening session will set the tone for the conference by revisiting the landmark High-Level Panel (HLP) Report on Illicit Financial Flows from Africa, a decade after its release. The report, chaired by H.E. President Thabo Mbeki, marked a turning point in Africa's understanding and framing of illicit financial flows—not merely as a technical issue, but as a political, developmental, and justice imperative. This session will offer a retrospective lens to reflect on the report's legacy: what progress has been made over the past ten years, what structural and political obstacles remain, and how the HLP's findings reshaped African and global discourse on tax justice, transparency, and financial accountability.</p>
10:00 - 10:30	<p><b>Question and Answer</b></p> <p>Presentation of commemorative plaques to members of the HLP</p>
10:30 - 11:00	<p><b>Tea Break</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Group Photo</li> <li>• Press Briefing</li> </ul>



11:00 - 12:00	<b>Session 2: Official Launch of the Anti-IFFs Policy Tracker</b>
12:00 - 12:30	<b>Question and Answer</b>
12:30 - 14:00	<b>Lunch Break and Networking</b>
14:00 - 15:30	<p><b>Session 3: Decolonising the Global Financial Architecture: Charting a New Economic Future</b></p> <p>This session will explore the deep structural imbalances in the current global financial architecture and their implications for development and sovereignty in Africa and the Global South. It will focus on the institutions, rules, and ideologies that underpin the system—and propose alternative pathways grounded in justice, equity, and economic transformation using the global tax system as a case study. As we reflect on a decade since the High-Level Panel Report, this session challenges us to think beyond reform at the margins and towards a fundamental reimagining of how global finance serves people and planet.</p>
15:30 - 16:00	<b>Questions and Answer</b>
16:00 - 17:00	<p><b>Session 4: Rethinking Domestic Resource Mobilization</b></p> <p>This session takes a critical look at the way taxation and domestic resource mobilisation are usually understood—as though they are interchangeable concepts that both refer to raising tax revenues that are needed to fund public priorities. This approach overlooks one important reality: that the state, through its central bank, is the monopoly issuer of a nation’s currency. It also obscures the true role of taxation in the colonial experience and its enduring effects. <b>This conversation will explore why a deeper understanding of taxation and DRM, and the difference between them, is essential if Africa is to achieve true economic sovereignty and prosperity.</b></p>
17:00 - 17:30	<b>Question and Answer Session</b>
<b>Day 3: Thursday, 9 October 2025</b>	
08:00 - 08:30	<b>Registration</b>
08:30 - 10:30	<p><b>Session 5: Fiscal Sovereignty and Industrial Ambition: Reclaiming Tax Policy for Africa’s Transformation</b></p> <p>This session will explore how tax policy can be a strategic tool to support Africa’s industrialisation and structural transformation, rather than only as a revenue-raising mechanism. It will examine fiscal frameworks that can promote value addition, regional production chains, and economic diversification. It will also critically assess current practices and their alignment (or misalignment) with long-term industrial policy goals, while offering insights into how fiscal space can be used to nurture domestic industries and reduce dependence on raw commodity exports. It will also address the domestic and international political economy challenges that such uses of tax policy might encounter.</p>





10:30 - 11:00	<b>Question and Answer</b>		
11:00 - 11:15	<b>Refreshment Break</b>		
	<b>Research Stream</b>	<b>Advocacy Stream</b>	<b>Policy/Legal Stream</b>
11:15 - 12:45	<b>Side Session I</b> UNU-Wider + African Tax Administration Forum <b>Breaking Barriers: Bridging Tax and IFFs Research with Policy Reform in Africa</b>	<b>Side Session II</b> Financial Transparency Coalition + SEATINI <b>Unlocking Africa's Wealth: Extractives, Illicit Financial Flows, and Domestic Resource Mobilisation</b>	<b>Side Session III</b> Pan African Lawyers Union + Open Ownership <b>From Policy to Practice: Leveraging Beneficial Ownership Data and Engaging Professional Enablers to Combat Illicit Financial Flows in Africa</b>
12:45 - 14:00	<b>Lunch</b>		
14:00 - 15:30	<b>Side Session IV</b> TJNA + University of Bath <b>Examining Multinational Enterprises' Tax Practices in Africa: The Case Study of BAT Kenya</b>	<b>Side Session V</b> AFRODAD + Center for Economic and Social Rights <b>Financing Climate Action: Addressing Illicit Financial Flows and the Debt–IFF Nexus</b>	<b>Side Session VI</b> United Nations Development Programme <b>Disrupting the Flow: curbing illicit finance across the continent and beyond</b>
15:30 - 16:00	<b>Refreshment Break</b>		
16:00 - 17:00	<b>Side Session VII</b> Policy Forum + TJNA + Oxfam <b>Taxing High-Net-Worth Individuals in Africa</b>	<b>Side Session VIII</b> TJNA + University of Cape Town + World Health Organisation + African Union-CDC <b>Reframing Health Taxes: A Central Pillar of Africa's DRM Strategy</b>	<b>Side Session IX</b> Economic Justice Network + Akina Mama Wa Afrika <b>Building a Resilient Trade and Industrialisation Framework to Combat IFFs in SADC</b>
19:00 - 23:00	<b>Cultural Dinner and Entertainment - Dress Code: African Traditional Attire</b>		

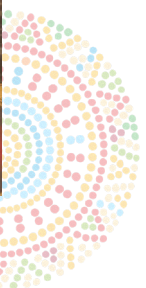
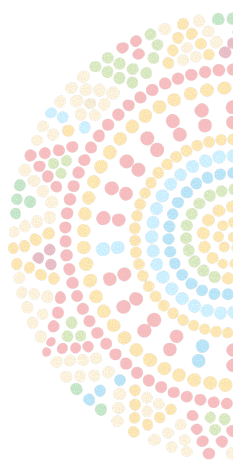




Day 4: Friday, 10 October 2025	
09:00 - 09:30	<b>Arrival and Registration</b>
09:30 - 11:00	<b>Session 6: Reimagining Africa's Fiscal Futures</b> <p>As the 13th PAC draws to a close, the final session will invite participants to step back from the specifics and engage in long-view, strategic reflection. Anchored in the principles of futures thinking, this plenary will serve as a collective pause—bringing together the threads of the conference to consider the big picture. Having explored urgent and intersecting challenges, the session will ask: If Africa continues on its current trajectory, where will the continent's tax justice agenda be in ten years? What must we do differently politically, institutionally, and collectively to realise the vision of Agenda 2063. The goal is not only to imagine the future, but to actively shape it together.</p>
11:00 - 11:30	<b>Communique and next steps</b>
11:30 - 12:00	<b>Closing session</b>
12:00 - 13:00	<b>Lunch</b>

Guests leave at their own pleasure







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