

Insights4Peace Webinar

Africa and the Momentum for the Reform of the Multilateral System

– Concept Note –

Background

The *Insights4Peace* Knowledge Series is an initiative under NeTT4Peace, designed to enhance the expertise of D-PAPS experts through expert-led discussions on peace, security, and governance. Each session brings together leading African think tanks to share evidence-based insights and foster an interactive dialogue that supports decision-making within the African Union (AU).

This session, hosted by Amani Africa Media and Research Services (Amani Africa), will focus on Africa and the Momentum for the Reform of the Multilateral System. The discussion will explore Africa's trajectory in the discourse on multilateral reform, unpack the proposed model, and discuss how Africa can convert political momentum into a genuinely text-based negotiation, giving participants a deeper understanding and practical applications.

Webinar Details

- Date & Time: 19 October 2026, 2:00 - 4:30 PM, EAT
- Platform: Zoom
- Organising Think Tank: Amani Africa Media and Research Services (Amani Africa)
- Lead Speaker(s): IJR, AU Commission, APRM, ECOSOCC & Development Reimagined
- Moderator: Amani Africa
- Target Audience: NeTT4Peace members, AU officials, Member States, RECs/RMs, UN, civil society, policymakers, think tanks, researchers and academia

Session Overview

Introduction

The contemporary global order continues to face compounding crises that expose deep fractures in multilateral governance. Intensifying geopolitical rivalries, systemic disregard for international norms and climate emergencies intersect with rising socio-economic inequality and institutional distrust, pushing the multilateral system to a breaking point. The failure of the UN Security Council (UNSC) to mobilise an effective response to the conflicts in Sudan, Gaza and Ukraine, among

others, together with the unprecedented resort to the veto by some permanent members in recent years, has further underscored this crisis of legitimacy and the pressing need for reform.

This crisis of legitimacy is particularly acute for Africa, which remains structurally marginalised despite constituting 18% of the world's population and nearly 30% of UN membership. Outdated governance frameworks, designed in the mid-20th century, deny African states equitable representation in decision-making structures of critical institutions like the UNSC (where the continent holds no permanent seats) and the IMF (with only 6.5% of the total voting power). As the UN Secretary-General's High-Level Panel has put it, 'today's Security Council is the highest profile example of failure in the multilateral system,' dominated by a small number of states and hampered by geopolitical polarisation that has left it unable to respond to major risks to international peace and security. Beyond the inconsistency and double standards that have brought it into disrepute, the Council, as a relic of a disappearing post-WWII power structure, remains out of step with the contemporary distribution of power and the shifts the international system has undergone over the past 80 years.

Context

Amani Africa has been at the forefront of mobilising organised engagement in the policy discourse and processes surrounding the reform of the multilateral system, particularly from an African perspective, emphasising the urgent need to reshape global governance structures to better reflect Africa's interests, address historical injustices, and respond to contemporary global challenges. In addition to the production of research analysis, convening of policy dialogue forums in New York, Nairobi, Geneva, and Addis Ababa, and presentation of briefings, including to the UN Security Council and the UN General Assembly Inter-Governmental Panel on UN Security Council Reform, a pioneer element of Amani Africa's work in this respect was the Joint Namibia-Amani Africa High-Level Panel of Experts on Africa and the Reform of the Multilateral System, launched in February 2023 on the sidelines of the 36th AU Summit. The panel's report, '[Reforming the Multilateral System: A Strategic Imperative Not a Policy Choice, the Report of Africa High-Level Panel](#),' launched by [H.E. Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah, President of the Republic of Namibia and Champion of the High-level Panel](#), released ahead of the UN Summit of the Future, was leveraged to inform and shape the engagement of the Africa Group in the negotiations on the Pact for the Future.

A significant development that followed was the adoption of the '[Pact for the Future](#)' at the Summit of the Future in September 2024. Of significance was the recognition of the need to address the historical injustice against Africa as a top priority, recognising the continent as a special case as enunciated in the Namibia-Amani Africa Panel Report. The phrasing 'as priority' and 'treating Africa as a special case' holds particular significance in this commitment. Under Action 40, the Pact also enunciates the commitment of UN Member States to 'intensify efforts for the reform [of the UNSC] through the [Intergovernmental Negotiations],' and encourages further discussion of reform models, proposing the development of 'a consolidated model' as a pathway to future progress.

Against this backdrop, Amani Africa, building on discussions from the NeTT4Peace Strategy Group meeting held in Cairo, Egypt, in November 2024, plans to hold a webinar session, as part

of the Network's Insights4Peace initiative, focused on 'Africa and the Momentum for the Reform of the Multilateral System.'

Objectives of the Webinar

The webinar will aim to:

- i. **Take stock of the current momentum:** Assess the cumulative significance of 2025–2026 developments (the C-10's Ezulwini/Sirte anniversary event, the first African G20 summit declaration including as it relates to debt, international financial architecture reform, climate justice and inequality, the E10's joint statement, the AU Assembly's February 2026 endorsement, the April 2026 IGN presentation and the developments at the 81st UNGA) and what they mean for the trajectory of UNSC reform.
- ii. **Assess ways of leveraging the Pact for the Future:** Provide a platform to discuss key elements of the commitments in the Pact for the Future for advancing the reform of the international financial architecture to rectify the inequities undermining Africa's development, including on financing of development.
- iii. **Translate momentum into institutional leverage:** Discuss how Africa can leverage the G20 platform, the Pact for the Future's Action 40 mandate, and the Co-Chairs' 2026 elements paper to convert political momentum into a genuinely text-based negotiation, and how the AU Commission can support this process.
- iv. **Strengthen public ownership:** Examine how citizens and civil society can build public awareness of, and sustained support for, Africa's multilateral reform agenda.

Key Guiding Questions and Themes

- i. Do the 2025-2026 milestones (C-10 anniversary event, E10 joint statement, AU Assembly endorsement, Africa Model UNSC Reform presentation to IGN) represent a genuine structural shift in the reform process, or a repeat of past cycles of high visibility without institutional follow-through? (Professor Tim Murithi)
- ii. With regards to converting political capital into institutional leverage, how can Africa operationalise the G20 platform, Action 40 and the Co-Chairs' elements paper as concrete negotiating tools, rather than symbolic gains and what role should the AU Commission play in turning common African positions into coordinated action? (AU Commission)
- iii. How do sovereign credit ratings shape Africa's cost of capital, and what role can African institutions play in reforming them? (APRM)
- iv. What lessons can be drawn from the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4) conference held in Spain and the G20 Summit held in South Africa in advancing the reform of the international financial architecture and the unlocking of sources of development finance, including through reform of the global tax system? (Development Reimagined)
- v. How can citizens and civil society build public ownership of Africa's reform agenda and sustain support for it? (ECOSOCC)
- vi. Does the Pact for the Future's commitment to treat Africa as a priority and special case carry weight beyond the Council seat debate, and how can Africa sustain unity of purpose



across the multilateral system, including in the Secretary-General selection process?
(General question for the panelists)

Expected/Learning Outcomes

The dialogue aims to give a clearer, evidence-based understanding of where Africa's multilateral reform push stands, the substance of the African Model, areas of convergence with groupings like the G4, and where the model has flexibility versus non-negotiable principles.

Expected Output

The webinar is expected to lead to a short report and a policy brief, capturing key takeaways and policy recommendations of the discussion for circulation to AU policymakers, the C-10, IGN Co-Chairs, the Addis-based diplomatic community, researchers and academia.

Draft Agenda

1:45 – 2:00 PM: Joining the Call

2:00 – 2:05 PM: Welcoming and Introductory Remarks | Amani Africa

2:05 – 2:15 PM: Professor Tim Murithi, Senior Advisor, Institute for Justice and Reconciliation | *UNSC reform and the multilateral system: whether the 2025 to 2026 developments are a structural shift or a repeat of past cycles, and what they mean for the trajectory of UNSC reform.*

2:15 – 2:25 PM: Ambassador Salah Hammad, Head of Secretariat, AGA-APSA, AU Commission | *AU Commission's role in turning Africa's common position on multilateral reform into coordinated action.*

2:25 – 2:35 PM: Ambassador Marie-Antoinette Rose Quatre, CEO, APRM | *Credit ratings and sovereign risk perceptions in the context of the launch of the Africa Credit Rating Agency (AfCRA).*

2:35 – 2:45 PM: Ms. Hannah Ryder, CEO, Development Reimagined | *Global tax reform and the reform of the international financial architecture.*

2:45 – 2:55 PM: Ambassador William Carew, Head of Secretariat, ECOSOCC | *Citizens' engagement perspective on Africa's asks on the remaking of the global order.*

2:55 – 4:00 PM: Interactive Q&A Session

4:00 – 4:20 PM: Final Reflections

4:20 – 4:30 PM: Closing (Summary of key takeaways and next steps)

Engagement & Participation



To ensure an interactive and impactful experience, the session will incorporate:

- Pre-Webinar Poll (Assess baseline knowledge and expectations)
- Live Polls & Chat (Encourage engagement during the session)
- Q&A Sessions (Foster discussion and real-time feedback)
- Post-Webinar Survey (Measure impact and gather participant feedback)

Registration & Contact Information

- Registration Link: https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_rpwSu-UYRdmYEpm3LFDq5Q
- Contact Person: previne.habu@amaniafrica-et.org, zekarias.beshah@amaniafrica-et.org, nett4peaceau@gmail.com

Join us for this insightful session as we explore the discussions on 'Africa and the Momentum for the Reform of the Multilateral System' and contribute to building stronger, evidence-based peace and security policies in Africa.