You are cordially invited to attend an event discussing the findings of the 15th edition of the African Economic Outlook (AEO), organized within the framework of the Geneva Environment Network, on Tuesday 5 July 2016 at the Palais des Nations. The African Development Bank, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development and the United Nations Development Programme partner to produce this annual report, with the support of over 100 researchers, economists, statisticians and other experts from Africa and other regions of the world. Launched in May 2016, the report presents the state of affairs in Africa and addresses the sustainable cities and structural transformation theme.

Africa is urbanising fast. By the mid-2030s, a majority of Africans will live in urban areas. But productive jobs and quality public services are not keeping up with the fast growth of cities and towns. And yet urbanisation holds a huge potential for accelerating economic, social and environmental development; even rural areas would benefit from the development of vibrant, sustainable African cities. Harnessing that potential requires new, ambitious national urban strategies. Although priorities will depend on each country’s specific context, all need to clarify land rights, provide better infrastructure and services, manage the growth of intermediary cities, and put the sustainable use and management of natural resources center stage in the economic development of cities and urbanization strategy.

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

- Welcome and Opening Remarks
  - Wondwosen ASNAKE, Programme Management Officer, UNEP
- Presentation of the report
  - Arthur MINSAT, Economist, Africa, Europe & Middle-East, OECD Development Centre
- Discussing Panel
  - Kookie HABTEGABER, Global Lead for Green Economy, WWF International
  - Jan KELLETT, Special Advisor, External Engagement: Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Team, UNDP
  - Jean-Yves BARCELO, Head, Geneva Liaison Office, UN-HABITAT
  - Niel WALMSLEY, Creditworthiness Network Manager, C40 Cities Finance Facility
- Q & A
- Closing Remarks

REGISTRATION

http://www.genevaenvironmentnetwork.org/?q=en/aeo2016 or gen.secretary@unep.org by 4 July.