

The ACP Geneva Office, the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the Geneva office of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

are kindly inviting you to the panel at the 2018 WTO Public Forum, Session 34:

“Africa goes digital: leaving no one behind”

3 October 2018, 08:30-10:00 at Room S1, WTO

Digital trade is growing rapidly in Africa, implying significant changes for the way African countries trade and industrialize. Digital trade can provide many opportunities that promote or realise human rights. This includes pushing overall demand for closing digital divides, creating improved ICT infrastructure and overall better infrastructure to promote development solutions and through creation of decent jobs and employment. However, technology must generally be made available, affordable and accessible with equality and non-discrimination underpinning these rights of access and use, to enable participation in development and more generally in political, social and economic spheres. How such a human rights based approach could look like for African economies will be tackled at this session.

Moderator:

Ms Nadira Bayat, Programme Director at Global Economic Governance (GEG) Africa

Speakers:

- ❖ Ms Peggy Hicks, Director, Thematic Engagement, Special Procedures and Right to Development Division, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
- ❖ Mr David Luke, Director and Coordinator of the African Trade Policy Centre at the Economic Commission for Africa
- ❖ Ms Ololade Shyllon, Human Rights Lawyer and Head of Democracy, Transparency and Digital Rights Unit at the Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria, South Africa.