

REGIONAL ROUNDTABLE – 7 February 2017
Two Oceans Aquarium, V&A Waterfront, Cape Town

8:45	Registration
09:00 – 09:15	Welcome - Opening Remarks
09:15 – 10:30	<p>Session 1:</p> <p>Global developments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Global developments and geopolitical shifts: Brexit, Trump Presidency, China stepping into the Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP) vacuum - Implications of the UK’s Brexit terms for the EU-SADC EPA - Future of Africa’s relationships with old friends (prospects for Economic Partnership Agreements with the EU, AGOA); new friends jostling for position (China, India, Japan) - Does BRICS have a future? - WTO Ministerial Conference December 2017 (Trade Facilitation Agreement; future of the multilateral trading system?) - Towards a sustainable development agenda - environment, climate change, the blue economy <p>Review of South Africa’s trade and broader economic policy developments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - use of import tariff, trade remedies (chicken saga’s, strategic trade policy and partnerships – old friends, new friends and good friends) - challenges of deindustrialisation - infrastructure and regulatory matters (energy, transport including ports, communications) - domestic politics, political economy: The election in 2017 of new ANC leader and broader implications - South Africa in a continental context – can we expect a leadership role?
10:30 – 10:45	Tea break
10:45 – 11:30	<p>Session 2: Regional update (Part 1)</p> <p>Bigger picture developments: industrial development in the spotlight (relationship between industrial development ambition and the integration agenda); role of the private sector and non-state actors in integration processes; from regional economic communities to a role for the African Union Commission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SACU (developments after the 2016 Ministerial Retreat) - SADC (industrial development matters, derogations and the SADC Free Trade Area, political economy challenges – South Africa, Zimbabwe...)

11:30 – 13:00	Session 3: Regional update (Part 2) Tripartite Free Trade Area (TFTA) <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Status update (will the trade in goods negotiations be completed in 2017? What lessons are there for the Continental Free Trade Area?) Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA) <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Principles, guidelines, scope, design matters- Negotiations about the negotiations (level of ambition, negotiation modalities, preparation of a draft text, a new model piloted by African Union – role of the Commission, Summit, Assembly?)
13:00 – 14:00	Close and Lunch