

Delegation



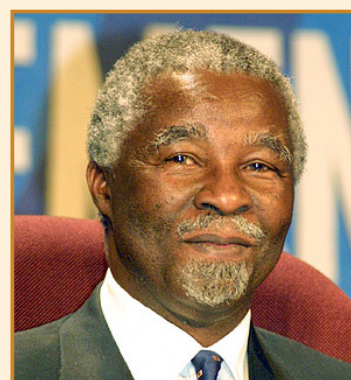
Advocacy in Global Processes: Towards Implementing the Recommendations of the AU/ECA High Level Panel on Illicit Financial Flows (IFF) from Africa

Inaugurated in 2012, The High Level Panel (HLP) on Illicit Financial Flows (IFF) from Africa was established by the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) under the direction of the joint African Union and Economic Commission for Africa (AU/ECA) Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development. The Panel which was ably chaired by His Excellency, Mr. Thabo Mbeki (Former President of the Republic of South Africa), brought together eminent personalities from within and outside Africa who shared a common concern and expertise in the financial aspects of Africa's development. Among several other objectives, the High Level Panel had the primary role of further exploring and gaining a better understanding of the nature of illicit financial flows out of Africa and assessing its impact on continental development. Built on a foundation of focused research on IFFs,

in depth regional consultations and a well aimed advocacy plan (Track It! Stop It! Get It!); the Report of the High Level Panel on Illicit Financial Flows from Africa was presented to the African Union Heads of States at the 24th African Union Summit held in January 2015 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Demonstrating their shared concern on the issue of IFFs from Africa, the African Union Heads of States promptly passed the High Level Panel Report on Illicit Financial Flows as an AU Special Declaration on IFFs. Among other things, this Declaration called for the continued engagement of the Chair and members of the Panel to continue carrying out advocacy work by effectively disseminating the Panel's findings and recommendations. Thus, increasing collaboration between African countries and their global partners and ultimately promoting a stronger understanding of the scale of the problem for African economies.

H.E. Mr. Thabo Mbeki (Former President of South Africa and Chair of the High Level Panel on Illicit Financial Flows from Africa)

Mr. Mbeki served two terms as the second post-apartheid President of South Africa from 14 June 1999 to 24 September 2008. He was the President of the African National Congress from 1997 - 2007. Mr. Mbeki held the position of Chairperson of the African Union (2002- 2003). Mr. Mbeki holds an Honorary Doctorate from Rand Afrikaans University and an Honorary Doctorate of Laws from the Glasgow Caledonian University.



African Union



United Nations
Economic Commission for Africa



 United Nations
Economic Commission for Africa

Dr. Abdalla Hamdok (Deputy Executive Secretary and Chief Economist of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Chair of the Technical Committee of the High Level Panel on IFFs)

Dr. Abdalla Hamdok is the Chair of the Technical Committee of the High Level Panel on IFFs. He has over 30 years of experience as a senior policy analyst and economist on addressing diverse development challenges of the African policy landscape, primarily in the fields of governance, institutional analysis, public sector reforms, regional integration and resource management. From 2001 onwards, Dr. Hamdok has headed successively ECA's portfolios of activities on development policy management, NEPAD and regional integration, and governance and public administration. By way of an interlude from 2003-2008, he served the International IDEA as Regional Director for Africa and the Middle East. Earlier, he held the positions of Chief Technical Advisor (1995-1997) at the International Labour Organization, Zimbabwe; Principal Policy Economist (1997-2001) at the African Development Bank, Cote d'Ivoire; Head of the Public Sector Group and Member of the management committee (1993-1995) at Deloitte & Touche Management Consultants, Zimbabwe; and senior official (1981-1987) at the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning of Sudan. Dr. Abdalla Hamdok holds a PhD and MA in Economics from the School of Economic Studies, University of Manchester, UK and a BSc. (honours) from the University of Khartoum, Sudan.



 African Union

H. E. Lazarous Kapambwe (Special Adviser for Economic Affairs to the Chairperson of the African Union Commission)

H. E. Lazarous Kapambwe was elected sixty-seventh President of the Economic and Social Council on 18 January 2011. Ambassador Kapambwe is currently the Special Adviser for Economic Affairs to the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, a position he has occupied since October, 2012. He has served as Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Zambia to the United Nations in New York since 18 June 2007. Prior to the United Nations, he served as Zambia's Ambassador to Ethiopia and the African Union. He was concurrently accredited as Ambassador of Zambia to Sudan, Yemen, Djibouti and Somalia. Mr Kapambwe also held posts in Europe and the United States, as Counsellor and Deputy Chief of Mission at the Zambian Embassies in Bonn, Germany and in Washington, D.C. Mr Kapambwe obtained a bachelor's degree in political economy from the University of Zambia. He has a post-graduate diploma in international relations from Nairobi University, Kenya and received a certificate in contemporary American politics from New York University in May 1988.

Ambassador Olusegun Apata (Chairman of the Nigerian Coca-Cola Bottling Company Plc and Member of the High Level Panel on IFFs)

H.E. Mr. Olusegun Apata is the Chairman of the Nigerian Coca-Cola Bottling Company Plc and has served the company's Board of Directors since 2006. Ambassador Apata served for three decades in the Nigerian Diplomatic Service. His last major diplomatic assignment was as Nigeria's Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York from 1999 to 2003. He attended the University of Lagos for his undergraduate studies while he earned his graduate degrees from the University College, Dublin and Oxford University.



Mr. Raymond Baker (President of Global Financial Integrity (GFI) and Member of the High Level Panel on IFFs)

Mr Raymond Baker is the President of Global Financial Integrity (GFI) and has for many years been an internationally respected authority on corruption, money laundering, growth, and foreign policy issues, particularly as they concern developing and emerging economies and impact upon western economic and foreign interests. He also serves on the World Economic Forum's Council on Transparency and Anti-Corruption and the Policy Advisory Board of Transparency International-USA. In January 2009, Mr. Baker brought together a coalition of research and advocacy organizations and over 50 governments to form the Task Force on Financial Integrity and Economic Development - an organization which advocates for transparency in the global financial system. He is a graduate of Harvard Business School and Georgia Institute of Technology.



Barrister Akere Muna (founder and former President of Transparency International (TI) Cameroon and Member of the High Level Panel on IFFs)

Akere T. Muna is the founder and former President of Transparency International (TI) Cameroon. Called to the Bar of England and Wales in 1978, he is a lawyer by training. In 2007-2008, he was appointed a member of the independent High-Level Audit Panel of the African Union. From 2008 to 2014, he was President of the African Union's Economic, Social and Cultural Council (ECOSOCC). He is a former President of the Pan African Lawyers Union (2005-2014) and former President of the Cameroon Bar Association. He is a former member of the IMF (International Monetary Fund) Advisory Group for Sub-Saharan Africa (2010). In January 2010, he was elected for a 4-year term to the Panel of Eminent Persons, which oversees the African Peer Review process; he later became the Chairperson until the end of his term in 2014. He is currently the first ever Sanctions Commissioner of the African Development Bank. He was actively involved in the TI working group that helped draft the AU Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption and authored a guide to the Convention. He was elected Vice-Chair of TI's Board in 2005 and again in 2008 and 2011. Since then, he serves as Chair of the Council of the International Anti-Corruption Conference (IACC).





Dr. Adeyemi Dipeolu (Special Adviser for Economic Affairs to the Vice President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and Former Head of the Secretariat & Member of the Technical Committee of the High Level Panel on IFFs)

Dr. Adeyemi Dipeolu is a seasoned, career diplomat and an international civil servant. He currently serves as the Special Adviser for Economic Affairs to the Vice President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. Prior to being appointed to his current position, he was the Director of the Capacity Development Division of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA). Since joining the United Nations system in 2005, Dr. Dipeolu has also served as the Chief-of-Staff of UNECA and was previously the Coordinator of the African Trade Policy Centre at the UNECA. These positions were held following an illustrious career in the Nigerian Foreign Service, where he started as a Third Secretary in 1980 and rose to the rank of Ambassador. In the course of his work in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Dipeolu also served in the Nigerian Presidency on the Permanent Mission of Nigeria to the United Nations in Geneva, and in the Nigerian diplomatic missions in Pretoria, South Africa; Addis Ababa; Ethiopia, and Caracas, Venezuela. Dr. Dipeolu sits on the Boards of a number of universities. He was educated at the Universities of South Africa, Cambridge, Oxford, and Ife (now Obafemi Awolowo University).



Advocate Mojanku Gumbi (Senior Adviser on Legal matters to H.E. Thabo Mbeki and Member of the Technical Committee of the High Level Panel on IFFs)

Advocate Mojanku Gumbi serves and has served on the boards of many companies, trusts, and philanthropic associations including the Nelson Mandela Children's Fund and the Thabo Mbeki Foundation. She also served as Special Adviser to South African President Thabo Mbeki from 1999 to 2008 and also worked for Mr Mbeki when he was Deputy President (Vice President) during the Mandela Administration (1994 to 1999). During his presidency, she spearheaded South Africa's economic diplomacy, ensuring a global presence for South African companies, as well as peace-making initiatives in several areas of the globe. Advocate Gumbi holds Law degrees from the South African Universities of the North, and Witwatersrand, and a certificate in Trial Advocacy from the University of Texas in Austin.



Dr. Adam Elhiraika (Director, Macroeconomic Policy Division, UNECA and Head of the Secretariat & Member of the Technical Committee of the High Level Panel on IFFs)

Prior to joining the UNECA, he held various academic positions including Associate Professor of Economics at the United Arab Emirates University. He also taught at the University of Gezira in Sudan, the University of Fort Hare in South Africa, and the University of Swaziland. He has published extensively in international refereed journals including The Journal of Development Studies, Development Policy Review, The Middle East Business and Economic Review, The Journal of Agricultural Economics, Canadian Journal of Development Studies, and others. Dr. Elhiraika holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Glasgow in the United Kingdom.