

Media Advisory

INVITATION FOR MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES

What: The Institute of African Leadership for Sustainable Development (UONGOZI Institute), in collaboration with the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), will convene a **regional forum on “Harnessing Africa’s critical minerals for green industrialisation and sustainable development”**. The forum is organised as a key event preceding UNECA’s 12th Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development. It will unpack aspects of governance, policy frameworks, capacity, and opportunities while offering recommendations on how to drive value addition, green industrialisation, and climate resilience.

When: 27 April 2026.

Where: UNECA Headquarters, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Who: **The guest of honour will be H.E. Hailemariam Dessalegn Boshe**, former Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia. **The keynote address will be delivered by Dr. Paul Jourdan**, an Independent Mineral Policy Analyst. Delegates of the forum will include business and political leaders, academics, and development partners from across the continent.

How: The forum will combine plenary and panel discussions, expert presentations, and a spotlight session to amplify the perspectives of youth, women, and local communities on the topic.

Objective: The forum seeks to provide a space to discuss effective ways of leveraging Africa’s critical minerals to drive green industrialisation and sustainable development. The key objectives are to:

- i. Deepen participants’ knowledge of governance and policy frameworks for Africa’s critical minerals, drawing lessons from past experiences and current practical experiences;
- ii. Explore practical pathways for local beneficiation and regional supply chain integration that can support green industrialisation and inclusive growth; and
- iii. Build consensus on guiding principles that balance mineral exploitation with environmental safeguards, community rights, and intergenerational equity.

Journalists are invited to cover the opening plenary session **from 8:00 AM – 11:00 AM**.

AFRICA'S CRITICAL MINERALS FORUM

27 APRIL 2026
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA



HARNESSING AFRICA'S CRITICAL
MINERALS FOR GREEN INDUSTRIALISATION
AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

About UONGOZI Institute: The Institute of African Leadership for Sustainable Development, commonly known as UONGOZI Institute, is a regional leadership development hub operating under the Office of the President of the United Republic of Tanzania. Established in 2010 by the Governments of Tanzania and Finland, the Institute is dedicated to inspiring and equipping African leaders to deliver inclusive and sustainable solutions for their nations and the wider continent.

It applies a holistic and mutually reinforcing approach to capacity development which recognises that leadership competencies are developed through a continuous, lifelong learning process. Its two strategic pillars – leadership and sustainable development – are addressed through four main areas: executive education, policy dialogues, action-oriented research, and technical support. Its clientele includes organisations as well as individuals from the public sector, private sector, and civil society.

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