

The Nordic-African Business Webcast220

NABA, the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Scatec Solar and the African Finance Corporation organized this Thursday, October 8, 2020, The Nordic-African Business Webcast.

African businesses met their Nordic counterparts on this year's most useful digital platform to reconnect with the continent and re-engage with it. What is the best way to do business virtually? How will the business climate change in the future? Do we need a hub for business relations between Africa and the Nordic countries? Participants were able to meet business leaders, experts, politicians and benefit from their vision of the future of business between the Nordic countries and Africa.

During the session "strengthening the business climate" the Secretary General of the European Business Council for Africa (EBCAM) Alexandros Spachis participated as speaker where he explained the actions carried out by the the European Business Council for Africa and gave relevant advice for the young business leaders.

The following points will be retained from this exchange:

- Strengthening of the young people employability by training, by formations, by strengthening and develop the skills, by creating partnership with the companies
- Targeting business opportunities by focusing on fast-growing sectors (technology development, industrialization...)
- To create a business, healthy environment (politically stable), minimize exposure to risk, thinking in the long term (stay there)

The AFC Great Debate

Moderator:

- Mark Eddo

Speakers:

- Prof. Paul Collier – University of Oxford
- Jens Thomassen – Partner, AP Moller Capital
- Caroline Ditlev- Simonsen – BI Norwegian Business School
- Tutu Agyare – CIO, Nubuke Investment

AFC convenes leading thinkers on Africa for the second AFC Great Debate. This year the focus is Covid-19 and its impact on global supply chains. They will battle it out over the motion: 'This house believes legacy trade practices and infrastructure bottlenecks are the biggest impediment for Africa to take advantage of the great global supply chain realignment.'

Global trade across the world is being severely impacted by the covid19 pandemic. It's not just a chain crisis, it's a chain reaction that's taking its toll on demand and supply chains across the globe. Factories are closing down, millions of jobs are being cut and supply shortages and bottlenecks are strangling industries globally. As countries and companies reconsider their strong dependence on production from Asia, the perception is that African countries stand to gain as these companies aim to diversify.