



THE UFM BUSINESS FORUM  
18 June 2019  
Cairo, Egypt (venue TBC)  
Draft Agenda

08:30 – 09:00	<b>Registration</b>
09:00 - 09:30	<p><b>Welcoming remarks</b> <i>H.E. Mr. Nasser Kamel</i> <i>UfM Secretary General</i></p> <p><b>Mr. Ahmed El Wakil</b> <i>President of the Union of Mediterranean Chambers of Industry and Commerce (ASCAME)</i></p> <p><b>Keynote Speeches</b> <i>H.E. Dr. Tariq Mohammad Hammouri (TBC)</i> <i>Minister of Industry, Trade and Supply of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan</i></p> <p><i>UfM EU Co-Presidency (TBC)</i></p> <p><i>H.E. Eng/ Amr Nassar</i> <i>Minister of Trade and Industry of the Arab Republic of Egypt</i></p>
<p><b>Merchandise Trade: Challenges, barriers and prospects</b> <i>Moderator: Adrian Taylor</i></p>	
09:30 - 10:30	<p><b>Session 1</b> <b>The business community: Opportunities, challenges and expectations</b> <i>What opportunities can be expected from liberalizing trade in goods for businesses in the Mediterranean, north-south as well as south-south? What barriers still exist for the private sector to fully exploit the opportunities of free trade? How can these barriers be removed?</i></p> <p><i>Interventions of panelists and Q&amp;As</i> <b>Panelist 1</b> – Title, Organization <b>Panelist 2</b> – Title, Organization <b>Panelist 3</b> – Title, Organization</p>
10:30 – 11:00	<b>Coffee Break</b>
11:00 – 12:00	<p><b>Session 2</b> <b>Governments and regulators: Policies, negotiations and implementation</b> <i>What are the policy options and specific reform steps that can be taken, at the domestic level, to advance trade liberalization within the Mediterranean region?</i></p> <p><i>Interventions of panelists and Q&amp;As</i> <b>Panelist 1</b> – Title, Organization <b>Panelist 2</b> – Title, Organization <b>Panelist 3</b> – Title, Organization</p>



12:00 - 13:00	<p><b>Session 3</b> <b>International cooperation: The role of regional and global governance</b> <i>What is the institutional and legal framework to support free trade efforts by states and businesses in the Mediterranean? How can implementation and the use of trade agreements be enhanced? Can the Euro-Mediterranean Free Trade Area become a reality?</i></p> <p><i>Interventions of panelists and Q&amp;As</i> <b>Panelist 1</b> – Title, Organization <b>Panelist 2</b> – Title, Organization <b>Panelist 3</b> – Title, Organization</p>
13:00 - 14:00	<b>Lunch</b>
<p><b>Harnessing the Potential of New Trends and Technologies for E-Commerce</b> <i>Moderator: TBC</i></p>	
14:00 - 14:10	<p><b>Keynote Speech</b> <b>H.E. Eng./ Amr Talaat (TBC)</b> <i>Minister of Communication and Information Technology of the Arab Republic of Egypt</i></p>
14:15 - 15:15	<p><b>Session 4</b> <b>The business community: Opportunities, challenges and expectations</b> <i>Where do businesses in the Mediterranean see the opportunities and risks of new technologies and digital trade? What are the private sector's expectations towards regulators?</i></p> <p><i>Interventions of panelists and Q&amp;As</i> <b>Panelist 1</b> – Title, Organization <b>Panelist 2</b> – Title, Organization <b>Panelist 3</b> – Title, Organization</p>
15:15 – 16:15	<p><b>Session 5</b> <b>The governments and the regulators: Challenges beyond market access?</b> <i>To what extent are regulators -overwhelmed by new realities? What are their most challenging regulatory issues? How can we regulate in the least trade restrictive manner while ensuring the attainment of public policy objectives? How can inter-agency collaboration at the national level be improved to deal with such multidisciplinary issues?</i></p> <p><i>Interventions of panelists and Q&amp;As</i> <b>Panelist 1</b> – Title, Organization <b>Panelist 2</b> – Title, Organization <b>Panelist 3</b> – Title, Organization</p>
16:15 - 16:45	<b>Coffee Break</b>



16:45 - 17:45	<p><b>Session 6</b> <b>International cooperation: International organizations and interoperability</b> <i>What forms of international cooperation would be needed to facilitate cross-border business? How can jurisdictional interoperability be ensured in a manner that strikes the right balance between trade liberalization and necessary regulation for the public interest?</i></p> <p><i>Interventions of panelists and Q&amp;As</i> <b>Panelist 1</b> – Title, Organization <b>Panelist 2</b> – Title, Organization <b>Panelist 3</b> – Title, Organization</p>
17:45 - 18:00	<p><b>Wrap-up and Conclusions of the UfM Business Forum</b> <b>Mr. Rachid Maaninou</b> <i>UfM Deputy Secretary General for Business Development and Employment</i></p>

\* Simultaneous translation will be provided for all sessions in English, French and Arabic.