



UNIDO's panel session "The Euro-Mediterranean Integration and the Industrial Development of North Africa"

Wednesday, 22 May 2024, 14:00 p.m. – 15:30 p.m. Conference Room CR-1 (C building 2nd floor), Vienna International Center, Vienna, Austria / <u>Microsoft Teams link</u>¹

Background

Following the successful Italy-Africa Summit held in Rome on 28-29 January 2024, with attendance by the Director General of UNIDO, Mr. Gerd Müller, UNIDO is scheduled to organize **a panel session titled "The Euro-Mediterranean Integration and the Industrial Development of North Africa"**, in collaboration with the Institute for European Policy Making (IEP) of Bocconi University and the Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations in Vienna.

The UNIDO's panel session will explore the theme of Euro-Mediterranean integration as a catalyst for advancing Africa's industrialization. The session aims to contribute to the follow-up plan initiated after the Africa Summit. It will facilitate discussions among academics, policymakers from Member States, and private sector representatives with an objective to explore forward-looking economic perspectives and to promote partnerships for addressing key challenges and opportunities in the region.

This initiative aligns with the strategic goals of the recently announced Mattei Plan by the Government of Italy that aims to revitalize Euro-Mediterranean economic integration, focusing on education, agriculture, health, energy, and water sectors.

Moreover, the event will build upon the recent UNIDO's policy brief "<u>Diving into</u> <u>diversification: How North African countries can boost economic ties with the EU</u>", developed in collaboration with the Institute for European Policy Making (IEP) at Bocconi University and Bari University, that highlights the existence of significant policy space for promoting industrial diversification opportunities across various sectors in the Euro-Mediterranean region.

¹ Please note that access to the platform will be open 30 minutes prior to the start of the event. Participants are encouraged to log in earlier to allow for any last-minute problems they may encounter to be addressed. Any changes to the modalities of the panel session will be communicated in due course prior to the holding of the event based on the applicable health and safety measures in place at the Vienna International Centre.



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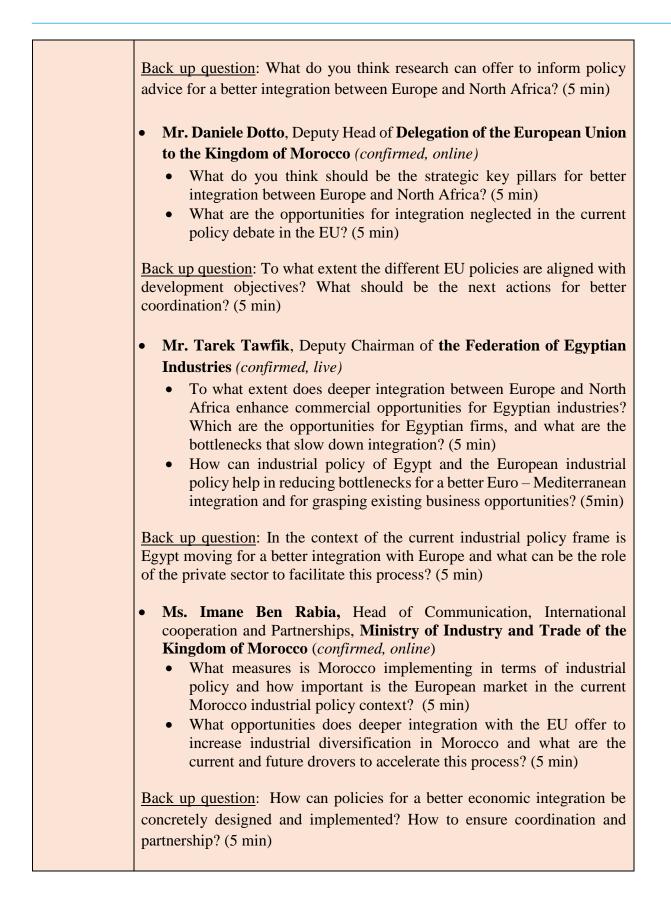
Speakers and Agenda

14:00- 14:15	Welcoming remarks
	• Mr. Yuko Yasunaga, UNIDO Deputy to the Director General and
	Managing Director of the Directorate of Corporate Services and
	Operations (confirmed, live) 5 min
	• H.E. Ambassador Debora Lepre, Permanent Representative of
	Italy to the United Nations in Vienna (<i>confirmed, live</i>) 5 min
	Hint: the engagement of Italy foe the Euro-Mediterranean economic integration in the light of the current European challenges.
	• Mr. Daniel Gros , Director of the Institute for European Policy Making (IEP) at Bocconi University (<i>confirmed, online</i>) 5 min
	Hint: The relevance of the Euro-Mediterranean integration in the workstream of the institute: motivations, examples, ways forward.

14:15-15:15	Panel discussion moderated by Mr. Cristiano Pasini, Director of the Division of Capacity Development, Industrial Policy Advice and Statistics at UNIDOGlobal experts, Government officials, representatives of academia and private sector will explore the theme of Euro-Mediterranean integration as a catalyst for advancing Africa's industrialization.
	Panelists:
	• Mr. Carlo Altomonte, Professor of Economics at Bocconi University and Director of the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR) Lab (confirmed, live)
	 UNIDO's policy brief "Diving into diversification: How North African countries can boost economic ties with the EU", prepared in in collaboration with Bocconi University and Bari University, points to challenges and opportunities to strengthen industrial diversification and deepening integration between the EU and North Africa. Why is this policy brief timely for today's discussion? (5 min) As pointed out by the Industrial Development Report (IDR) 2024, we are in a poly-crisis and there is a new on the new impetus on Industrial policy in high income industrialized economies. What your research at IEP points out to the implication for the other side of the Mediterranean (developing countries)?











	• Mr. Lorenzo Ortona, Advisor for the Italian presidency of the Council
	of Ministers. Responsible for the Mattei Plan Implementation
	(confirmed, online)
	• How does the Piano Mattei contribute to revitalizing Euro- Mediterranean economic integration? (5 min)
	• To what extent the Plan Mattei incorporate industrialization of North Africa as one of the objectives and what do you think could be implemented within this Plan to promote this important aspect?
	Back up question: How can we turn the energy challenge in North Africa into an opportunity for the region to accelerate progress towards sustainable development? (5 min)
15:15-15:30	Q&A session and closing remarks 15 min