



# **African International Economic Law Network Pre-Conference Newsletter**

**By:**

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## **Message from the AfIELN President & The Conference Chair**

Africa, a continent brimming with potential, is at a crucial crossroads amidst a confluence of crises that challenge its socioeconomic fabric. The launching of the operational phase of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) and the recent conclusion of three Phase II instruments in the areas of competition policy, investment, and intellectual property rights are excellent achievements toward the realisation of the dream of the African Union's Founders. However, these tremendous steps seem to have been overshadowed by global geopolitical tensions, the rising cost of living, and the ensuing cascade of sovereign debt crises in a post-pandemic recovery world.

The crises transcend national boundaries, affecting the lives of millions and demanding our urgent attention. In the context of this reality and urgency, we will unpack international economic law from African-centred perspectives during the forthcoming [African International Economic Law Network conference](#). The Conference will hold at the Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration (GIMPA) from the 21st to the 24th of June 2023. We are pleased with the responses to the call for papers, which closed on 5 January 2023.

We want to heartily congratulate those whose papers were accepted. Even if you did not submit an abstract, you are welcome to attend and be part of what will be a very enriching multi-stakeholder gathering of scholars, practitioners, professionals, and policymakers interested in International Economic Law in Africa. As you prepare for your trip to Accra, we invite you to think of concrete ways that you can strategically contribute to International Economic Law from African perspectives to move the work of the Network forward. On our part, we remain committed to our founding vision of providing a thriving forum for research, study, the exchange of ideas and formulation of practical African-centred proposals.

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