

"Africa Forward: Strengthening Governance, Innovation, and Integration for a Transformative Future"

The theme for the 2025 Southeastern Model African Union Conference is Africa Forward! It celebrates the continent's growth potential, cultural vibrancy, and global influence.

This year's SEMAU focuses on (1) strengthening governance by emphasizing democratic institutions, transparency, peacebuilding, and leadership accountability; (2) fostering innovation by highlighting the role of youth, digital technology and entrepreneurship in shaping Africa's future; (3) promoting integration by reflecting on the importance of regional unity through initiatives like the African continental trade area and cross-border collaboration; and (4) addressing historical injustices like the trans-Atlantic slave trade, colonialism, and apartheid to foster unity and establish mechanisms for reparatory justice on a global scale. Overall, these topics integrate elements of governance, innovation, and continental integration aligned with Agenda 2063 and current AU priorities. The agenda topics for each committee are presented below.

Agenda

I. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (The Assembly of Heads of State and Government will receive a report from the Council on the two topics below)

Topics

1. Resolution of a crisis: Crisis in Democratic Republic of Congo

II. PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL

Topics

- 1. Harnessing Technology and Innovation for Early Warning and Conflict Prevention
- 2. Cross-Border Security Cooperation to Combat Terrorism and Transnational Crime
- 3. Reparations as a Tool for Sustainable Peace: Addressing Historical Injustices and Conflict Legacies in Africa.

III. COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC MATTERS

Topics

- 1. Maximizing the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) through Digital Innovation and Startup Incubation
- 2. Youth Entrepreneurship and the Future of Work in Africa's Informal Economy
- 3. Economic Reparations and Structural Transformation: Advancing Africa's Development Through Debt Justice and Compensation for Historical Exploitation

IV. COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL MATTERS

Topics

- 1. Harnessing Africa's Youth Dividend: Advancing Employment through Skills Development, Innovation, and Inclusive Economic Policies
- 2. Combating Gender-Based Violence and Advancing Gender Equality through Education, Innovation, and Community-Led Governance
- 3. Reparations for Social Development: Addressing Generational Inequality Stemming from Colonialism and Enslavement

V. COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS, DEMOCRACY AND GOVERNANCE

Topics

- 1. Combatting Disinformation and Protecting Democratic Integrity in the Digital Age
- 2. Safeguarding Constitutional Order: Addressing the Rise of Military Coups and Democratic Backsliding in West Africa
- 3. Strengthening Human Rights through Reparative Justice: Developing AU Guidelines for Addressing Historical and Systemic Injustices

VI. COMMITTEE ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Topics

- 1. Advancing Africa's Green Economy: Climate-Smart Technologies and Innovation in Agriculture
- 2. Strengthening African Voices in Global Climate Negotiations: Toward COP30 and Beyond
- 3. Environmental Reparations and Climate Justice: Holding Historical Polluters Accountable to Support Africa's Green Transition