

**Draft Programme**  
**African Agency in the China-Africa Relationship, 3 December 2018**  
SAIIA Headquarters, Johannesburg

10h00 – 10h15	<b>Registration</b>
10h15 – 10h30	<b>Welcoming</b> Ms Elizabeth Sidiropoulos, Chief Executive, South African Institute of International Affairs (SAIIA) Mr Henning Suhr, Head, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung South Africa
10h30 – 12h00	<b>Opening Session – African Agency and the Shifting Global Landscape</b>  This session will explore how the concept of African agency is changing in the wake of global geopolitical and economic shifts. The most notable of these has been the rise of China as a development, trade and investment partner. The panel will consider how Africa’s relationship with China is enabling and limiting its agency. Global geopolitical shifts mean that the Africa-China relationship is reshaping how other development partners interact with the continent. At the same time, a global trade war and a breakdown of traditional multilateralism are reshaping African options. The panel will consider how African agency is changing and how the continent can maximise its own decision-making power  <b>Keynote Panel:</b> Dr Vera Songwe, Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa (tbc) Prof Zeng Aiping, Executive Director of the China-Asian-African Cooperation Centre at the Chinese Institute of International Studies Ambassador Manelisi Genge, DIRCO Prof. Chris Alden, London School of Economics  Discussion: 30 minutes  Moderator: Dr Cobus van Staden (SAIIA)
12h00-12h45	<b>Lunch</b>
12h45–14h00	<b>Panel Discussion: African decision-making in China-Africa multilateral forums</b>  African decision-making in relation to China is not restricted to the bilateral level. Multilateral forums both enable and restrict new forms of collective bargaining. This panel will reflect on African decision-making at the recent Forum on China-Africa Cooperation summit. It also looks at how China’s Belt and Road Initiative presents new opportunities and challenges for African collectivity, and how

	<p>proposed AU reforms could impact African agency in relation to China.</p> <p>Presenter:  <b><i>'African decision-making and China-Africa multilateralism: taking lessons from FOCAC, the AU and the Belt and Road Initiative'</i></b> (15 minutes)  Cobus van Staden, Researcher, SAIIA</p> <p>Respondents:  Ms Yazini April, HSRC  Ms Anzette Were, Anzette Were Consulting, Kenya  Dr Faith Mabera, Institute for Global Dialogue (tbc)</p> <p>Discussion: 30 minutes</p> <p>Moderator: Ms Neuma Grobbelaar, SAIIA</p>
14h00-14h15	<b>Tea Break</b>
14h15-15h45	<p>Panel Discussion: African Agency at Ground Zero</p> <p>This session uses case studies of African interactions with China to raise questions about which internal and external factors are limiting African countries' ability to maximise their own resources for development. The panel will include presentations of debt and infrastructure, mining, and wildlife resource management.</p> <p>Ms Anzette Were, Anzette Were Consulting, Kenya  Dr Iginio Gagliardone, Wits University  Prof Jean-Pierre Cabestan, Hong Kong Baptist University</p> <p>Moderator: Dr. Cobus van Staden, SAIIA</p>
15h45-16h00	<p>Rapporteur: Ms Luanda Mpungose, SAIIA</p> <p>Closing remarks: Ms Neuma Grobbelaar, SAIIA</p>