

10TH AFRICAN COMPETITION AND ECONOMIC REGULATION (ACER) WEEK

2 & 3 October 2025

Hilton Hotel, Windhoek, Namibia

DRAFT CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

The 10th ACER conference combines presentation of research papers by practitioners, authority staff and academics from across Africa with keynote speakers and high-level panels of experts and leaders in authorities on critical topics in economic regulation and competition.

DAY 1: Thursday 2 nd October 2025	
0830-0900	REGISTRATION AND TEA
0900-0910	INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Director of Ceremonies: Dina Gowases, Corporate Communication Practitioner, Namibian Competition Commission Welcoming remarks: Andreas Penda Ithindi, NaCC Board Chair, and ED Ministry of Health & Social Services Prof Reena das Nair, Executive Director, Centre for Competition, Regulation and Economic Development (CCRED) at the University of Johannesburg
0910-0930	OFFICIAL OPENING KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Honourable Natangue Ithete, Deputy Prime Minister, and Minister of Industries, Mines and Energy
0930-1030	PANEL 1: Regional competition enforcement and the benefits and challenges for economies in Southern Africa <i>Chair: Vitalis Ndalikokule, CEO & Secretary to Commission, Namibian Competition Commission</i> <i>Speakers:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marcio Lelis, Head of Department for Board of Directors, Autoridade Reguladora da Concorrência, Angola Doris Tshepe, Commissioner, Competition Commission South Africa Mwila Zambwe, Chief Investigator Mergers and Monopolies, Competition and Consumer Protection Commission, Zambia Nangosora Ashley Tjipitua, CCLAS Advisory, Namibia

1030-1100	TEA
1100-1200	<p>PANEL 2: Merger review – challenges and international insights</p> <p><i>Chair: Yasmin Carrim</i></p> <p><i>Speakers:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • David Kovo, Mergers coordinator in the chief economist's team, DG Comp, European Union: Merger review in regional economic communities, the EU experience • Johannes Ashipala, Director Mergers & Acquisitions, Namibian Competition Commission: Merger review in Namibia, key challenges with cross-border mergers and potential competition • Prof Thando Vilakazi, University of Johannesburg and Competition Tribunal South Africa, adjudicating complex mergers in dynamic markets • John Oxenham, Primerio, discussant
1200-1300	<p>PANEL 3: Competition and regulation for green industrialisation</p> <p><i>Chair: Mr. Robert Kahimise, CEO, Electricity Control Board, Namibia</i></p> <p><i>Speakers:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Michael Humavindu, Executive Director, Ministry of Finance Namibia: Green industrialisation and energy regulation in Namibia • Prof Antonio Andreoni, co-Director, Centre for Sustainable Structural Transformation, SOAS University of London: Competition and industrial policy for the green transition • Pamela Mondliwa, Head of Research, Industrial Development Corporation of South Africa: Development finance and green industrialisation in Southern Africa
13h00-14h00	LUNCH
1400-1530	<p>PARALLEL A: Regulation, competition and economic development</p> <p><i>Chair: Bradley Khoa, Senior Analyst: Legal, Mergers & Acquisitions, Namibian Competition Commission</i></p> <p><i>Speakers:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Katherine-Tulonga Amakali, Electricity Control Board Namibia: Regulatory Support for De-risking Investments in the Energy Sector • Shepherd M Nyambe, University of Namibia: The Potential Effects of AfCFTA on Africa's Green Industrial Trade: A Case for Namibia's Green Hydrogen Developments • Mondli Mbele, University of Johannesburg: The impact of regulation in network sectors on economic growth in OECD countries • Martin Untiedt, NERSA: The role of economic regulation in energy transition within the South African petroleum sector • Rofhiwa Ramugondo, NERSA: The main roles of the National Energy Regulator of South Africa in Advancing Just Energy Transitions
1400-1530	<p>PARALLEL B: Regulation and competition law in Namibia and South Africa</p> <p><i>Chair: Prof Jonathan Klaaren</i></p> <p><i>Speakers:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Langa Dlamini, Ports Regulator South Africa: The Transport Economic Regulator • Prof Dunia Zongwe and Mr Adolf Gariseb, UNAM: Embedded Hegemony: How Executive Discretion Binds Namibian Markets

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Londiwe Senona, Competition Commission South Africa: The Evolution of Public Interest in Competition Law – A Comparative Review of South Africa and Namibia • Mngqobi Sikhosana and Itumeleng Lesofe, CCSA: Drawing international lessons for South Africa on the treatment of non-compete clauses under competition law and labour law
1530-1600	TEA
1600-1700	<p>PANEL 4: Economics in competition law</p> <p><i>Chair: Chilufya Sampa, Shamba Centre for Food and Climate</i></p> <p><i>Speakers:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof Massimo Motta, Barcelona Graduate School of Economics: The role of economics in competition cases • Yasmin Carrim: Judging economic evidence • Prof Teresa Kaulihowa, Associate Dean of Commerce & Management, Namibia University of Science & Technology
17h30-19h30	<p>COCKTAIL AND NETWORKING FUNCTION</p> <p>Recognition of MCom outstanding students & book launch: Regulating for Rivalry in Africa</p> <p>Address: Prof Hinaunye Eita, University of Johannesburg, and Grace Mohamed, CCLAS</p>

	DAY 2: Friday 3rd October 2025
08h00-08h30	REGISTRATION AND TEA
0830-0930	<p>PANEL 5: Abuse of dominance: a comparative review of developing countries, including approaches to digital platforms</p> <p><i>Chair: Namibian Competition Commission</i></p> <p><i>Speakers:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof Thomas Cheng, University of Hong Kong: Abuse of dominance in developing countries • Thembaletu Sithebe, Zoë van der Hoven and Amy Wagner, Genesis Analytics: The role and evolution of interim relief cases in the South African competition regime • Joshua Eveleigh, Matthew Freer, Primerio: A Critical Assessment on Vertical Restraints in Key Jurisdictions across Africa
0930-1045	<p>PANEL 6: Market Inquiries and competition policy</p> <p><i>Chair: Sha'ista Goga, Acacia Economics</i></p> <p><i>Speakers:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof Reena das Nair, CCRED, UJ: A comparative assessment of market inquiries in retail, wholesale, and online sales markets in Kenya and South Africa • Mogau Aphane and Nonjabulo Sambo, CCSA: Market concentration, structural linkages and challenges faced by small market agencies at the National Fresh Produce Markets in South Africa • Teboho Bosiu, Relebohile Mariti and Grace Nsomba, CCRED UJ: Market access challenges for women entrepreneurs in southern Africa: case studies from Malawi, South Africa, Tanzania and Zambia • Ndinelago Ndapandula Ithindi, Namibian Competition Commission: Legal Barriers to SME Market Entry in Namibia: A Case for Inclusive Regulatory Reform

1045-1100	TEA
1100-1215	<p>PANEL 7: Inclusive growth, small & medium enterprises and barriers to entry</p> <p><i>Chair: Henry Aderam, Senior Analyst: Legal, Enforcement, Exemptions and Cartels, Namibian Competition Commission</i></p> <p><i>Speakers:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof Peter Whelan, Leeds University: Parent company liability in competition law: Searching for an appropriate model • Annerita Maritz and Darryl Dingley, Webber Wentzel: The effectiveness of competition policy: lessons learned from South Africa and Namibia • CCPC, Zambia: Enhancing competition enforcement in Zambia amidst the AfCFTA: Challenges and opportunities • Ngonidashe Jaure, CTC Zimbabwe: Women and Competition Law in Africa [tbc] • Tawanda Mawundike, CTC Zimbabwe: Competition, inclusive growth and sustainable development [tbc]
1215-1330	<p>PANEL 8: Competition and concentration in African agri-food markets</p> <p><i>Chair: Taimi Amunkete, Senior Researcher, Economics and Sector Research, Namibian Competition Commission</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chilufya Sampa, Shamba Centre: An Antimonopoly tracker for African agri-food markets • Grace Nsomba, Relebohile Mariti, Heike Fickel: Key developments in agricultural & food markets in East and Southern Africa • Arthur Mahuma and Simon Roberts, CCRED, UJ: Cracks or chasms in international merger review? A note drawing from recent agri-food cases • Jowetha Katjaita, Senior Corporate Strategy, Advocacy, and Stakeholder Engagement, Namibian Competition Commission: An ex-post assessment of the claimed merger efficiencies in the regulated Namibian pork industry
1330	CLOSURE: Chief Executive Officer & Secretary to the Commission – Vitalis Ndalikokule
1330-1430	LUNCH
1500-	OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES (tbc)

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