



AFRICAN REGIONAL MINISTERIAL MEETING

ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

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PANEL DISCUSSION QUESTIONS BYMASALE GODFRIS LEMATSELA

SESSION I: STRENGTHENING THE ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR SUCCESSFUL SME DEVELOPMENT

1. WHAT POLICIES SHOULD GOVERNMENTS PUT IN PLACE TO PROMOTE ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND AN ENVIRONMENT CONDUCIVE TO THE ESTABLISHMENT AND GROWTH OF SMES?

- f* Government can firstly provide skills programmes for those interested in starting their own businesses. This is vital if these new businesses were to succeed.
- f* Also, as mentioned in my other comments, it is important to provide technical guidance to funding sources, and provide easier access to credit in general, so that fresh entrepreneurs can have enough money to start their ventures.
- f* Government must furthermore ensure that there are no unnecessary “red tape” or bureaucratic hurdles that place administrative burdens on new entrepreneurs when they set up and run their enterprises.
- f* Lastly, it is important to note that new enterprises only flourish in environments that have fair competition, where new entrants are also granted access to the market.

2. WHAT ROLES CAN SOCIAL PARTNERS, THE PRIVATE SECTOR AND CIVIL SOCIETY BEST PLAY TO CONTRIBUTE TO SME CREATION?

Again, I will be drawing from the South African model to answer this question, however I believe that the commitments agreed to by the South African Social Partners comprising of Organised Business, Organised Labour and Government under the auspicious of our country’s New Growth Path (NGP) is

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local industry but encourages competition and creates an conducive economic environment for SMM to grow.