

Debt crisis in Senegal: towards sustainable and progressive solutions as alternatives to the IMF's austerity approach

International Conference under the patronage of

Mr. Ousmane Sonko, Prime Minister of Senegal

and President of PASTEF-The Patriots

King Fahd Palace, Dakar, Senegal

May 12-13, 2026

Provisional program

<p>Day 1: The problem of Senegal's debt – Searching for sustainable alternatives to austerity policies</p>

10:00-11:00: Welcome and registration

11:00– 12:00: Opening Session under the patronage of the Prime Minister and President of Pastef-les Patriotes, Mr. Ousmane Sonko.

- Welcome message from Charles Abugre (IDEAs).

- Message from Madam Aminata Maiga, UN Resident Coordinator, Senegal (tbc)

- Allocution from Guest of honour Prime Minister and President of Pastef-les Patriotes, Mr. Ousmane Sonko.

Moderator: to be defined

12:00-12:30: Opening Remarks: Senegal's Debt, Monetary Sovereignty, and Paths to Resolution. Professor Jeffrey Sachs

12:30-13:00: The nuts and bolts of the Senegalese debt problem: genesis and perspectives. Ndongo Samba Sylla (IDEAs)

Moderator: Charles Abugre

13:00 -14:00: Lunch break

14:00-15:30: Round table: Short-term options and long-term solutions to Senegal's debt problem.

John McIntire (formerly of the World Bank), Keith Lockwood (UNCTAD), Hippolyte Fofack (formerly of the World Bank and Afreximbank); IMF representative (tbc).

15:30- 16:00: What role can natural resources play in strengthening Senegal's financial independence?

Speaker: Mouhamadou Diop, CEO of Petrosen Trading and Services

Moderator: Sandrine Aïda Koissy-Kpein DB, Development Coordination Officer, Economist, UN Resident Coordinator, United Nations System in Senegal (tbc)

4:00 PM - 4:30 PM: Coffee break

16:30 - 18:00: Keynotes: Experiences and approaches to relations with the IMF – Martin Guzman (former Minister of Economy and Finance of Argentina); Jayati Ghosh (Professor of Economics, India).

Discussants: Senator Omtatah (Kenya), Hakim Ben Hammouda (former Minister of Economy and Finance of Tunisia).

Moderator: Vera Mshana

<p>Day 2: Towards a campaign for economic sovereignty and transparency and justice in debt matters</p>

09:00-10:00: Tackling the root cause of Senegal's debt problem – Proposals for monetary and payment system reforms

Alioune Camara (Senegalese banker), Ali Zafar (UNDP), Andres Arauz (central banker and former Ecuadorian minister), Alvaro Cencini and Andrea Carrera (Academic economists, payment systems specialists).

Moderator: Alvin Mosioma

10:00-11:00: Roundtable: Mobilizing for debt justice: Making the idea of a debtor countries cartel work: Panel with Progressive International.

Moderator: to be defined

11:00-11:30: Coffee break

11:30-13:00: Round table: Mobilizing the global community behind Senegal's call to action: Eric Toussaint (CADTM), Jérôme Phelps (Debt Justice), Souleymane Gueye (FRAPP).

Moderator: Ebrima Sall (TrustAfrica)

13:00 - 14:00: Lunch break

14:00 - 16:00: Roundtable: Launching and maintaining advocacy for justice and transparency in debt in favor of Senegal: what will be the necessary conditions?

Speakers: Ayib Daffe, MP and Secretary General of PASTEF, Afrodad, Latindad, African Sovereign Debt Justice Network (AfSDJN), a Senegalese CSO.

Moderator: Office of the Prime Minister

16:00 - 16:30: Keynote: Why Senegal needs international solidarity - by Mrs. Yassine Fall, economist and Minister of Justice.

Moderator: to be defined

16:30 - 17:00: Joint statement, summary and conclusion