



ABEC

AFRICA BUSINESS ETHICS CONFERENCE

2025

ABEC FORUM CONCEPT NOTE

*Integrity in Action: A Multisectoral Approach to
Strengthening Collective Action for Business Integrity*



NAIROBI, KENYA



10TH DECEMBER 2025

BACKGROUND

Since its inception, the African Business Ethics Conference (ABEC) has served as a continental platform for fostering dialogue and collaboration around ethical business conduct. The 2024 edition, themed “A Brave New Africa: Business Growth in Times of Economic Turbulence,” brought together representatives from the private sector, civil society, academia, youth, and development partners from across Africa to discuss the intersection of ethics, governance, and business sustainability.

Participants collectively emphasized that while significant progress has been made in awareness and policy formulation, there remains a critical need for collective action: practical, multisectoral collaboration that translates shared values into measurable change.

Building on this momentum, ABEC 2025 Forum seeks to move from commitment to implementation, uniting key stakeholders around actionable strategies that strengthen business integrity systems and foster trust across African markets.

RATIONALE FOR ABEC 2025 STAKEHOLDERS FORUM

Integrity is the foundation upon which sustainable economies are built. However, efforts to curb corruption and embed ethical standards often remain fragmented. The ABEC 2024 resolutions highlighted collaboration, compliance, ethical leadership, and youth engagement as central pillars in promoting integrity.

The ABEC 2025 Forum will therefore serve as a continuation and deepening of this agenda, focusing on how stakeholders can harness efforts to champion for Integrity and institutionalize ethics and accountability in business. The Forum will bring together private sector leaders, civil society organizations, think tanks, academia, youth representatives, development partners, and government agencies to share lessons, align priorities,

and chart a coordinated path toward collective action on integrity.

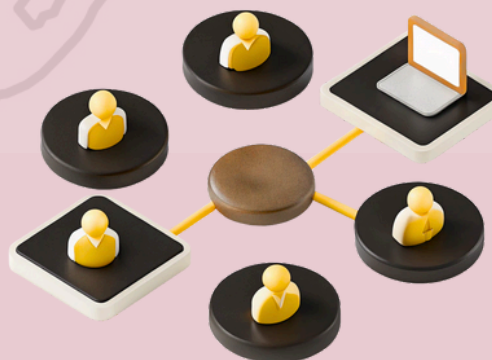
This year’s convening will also mark a pivotal shift from discussion to implementation by laying the groundwork for the establishment of a private sector-led collective action working group and creating a sustainable framework for collaboration.

OBJECTIVES

1. Establishing a Private sector led Collective Action working group to synergize efforts and foster a coordinated approach to combating corruption, promoting business integrity, and Public Finance Management transparency.



2. Strengthen collaboration and accountability frameworks that enable continuous knowledge sharing, co-creation of solutions, and implementation of the Integrity Action Plan to be launched at both national and regional levels.



3. Showcase the business Integrity award pilot results as one of the solutions to building a culture of integrity.



EXPECTED OUTCOMES

1. Renewed commitment to be part of the solution to business integrity and public finance transparency.



2. Launch of a technical working group to establish a private sector-led collective action on compliance & budget transparency working group.



3. Announcement of pilot online Wezesha Business Integrity award winners.



FORUM TOPICS

- The State of Business Ethics in Africa – Why Collective Action Matters
- Lessons from Successful Collective Action Initiatives
- How Different Actors Can Advance Collective Action

BEYOND THE FORUM

While ABEC 2025 Forum will serve as a key convening platform, it is designed as the starting point of a long-term collective action process. The discussions and commitments emerging from the forum will strengthen the Private Sector-Led Collective Action Working Group and lead to the development of a Private Sector Collective Action Plan.

These structures will provide a sustainable framework for continued collaboration, regular multi-stakeholder meetings, and follow-up actions, advocacy informed by research and a powerful voice aimed at embedding integrity across business operations and public-private engagement. Through this approach, ABEC 2025 transitions from being a single event to a catalyst for an ongoing integrity movement, ensuring the partners' investments yield lasting impact beyond the forum.

ORGANIZING PARTNERS

