

The 2019 Africa CEO Forum will take place in Kigali from the 25th-26 March, 2019 at the Kigali Convention Center. The Africa CEO Forum is the largest international gathering of decision-makers and financiers from the African private sector.

This was announced today during a press conference at the Rwanda Development Board.

Hosted by Rwanda for the first time, the Forum will bring together over 1,500 public-sector decision-makers, global business leaders and investors to debate how to increase the competitiveness of African businesses.

Speaking at the announcement, the Chief Executive Officer, Rwanda Development Board, Clare Akamanzi said that the Africa CEO Forum was an opportunity local, continental and global business to discuss how to modernize Africa's economy.

"Africa CEO Forum is yet another opportunity for Rwanda's private sector to meet their international counterparts to discuss business opportunities on the international level. Furthermore, as Rwanda seeks to position itself as the preferred MICE destination in Africa, we believe that the Forum is a great opportunity for Rwanda to showcase to the world, our know-how when it comes to hosting the biggest meetings on the African continent. We look forward to hosting the Africa CEO Forum, we are confident that it will bring great value to both local and continental business people", Clare Akamanzi concluded.

President and Founder of Africa CEO Forum, Amir Ben Yahmed, is confident that Rwanda is the right host for the 2019 Africa CEO Forum.

"This seventh edition will be held at the heart of the continent, in Rwanda, a country both Francophone and Anglophone, whose economic dynamism and development model anchored in education, innovation and performance perfectly reflect the values of the Africa CEO Forum", Amir Ben Yahmed said.

The Africa CEO Forum is organized yearly by Jeune Afrique Media Group, publisher of Jeune Afrique and of The Africa Report.

Over the last decade, revenue from MICE (Meetings, incentives, conferences and exhibitions) has grown by 180% while the number of delegates visiting Rwanda has jumped from 15,000 in 2008 to 28,300 in 2017. In May 2018, ICCA (International Congress and Convention Association) named Rwanda as the third most popular

destination in Africa for accommodating international meetings and events.