

AFRICAN UNION

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EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
Thirty-First Ordinary Session
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**REPORT OF THE FIRST ORDINARY SESSION OF THE
SPECIALIZED TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON
TRANSPORT, TRANSCONTINENTAL AND INTERREGIONAL
INFRASTRUCTURE, ENERGY AND TOURISM
13 – 17 MARCH 2017, LOMÉ, TOGO**

**REPORT OF THE FIRST ORDINARY MEETING OF THE AFRICAN UNION
SPECIALIZED TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORT,
TRANSCONTINENTAL AND INTERREGIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE,
ENERGY AND TOURISM
13 – 17 MARCH 2017, LOMÉ, TOGO**

SUMMARY NOTE

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The First Ordinary Meeting of the Specialised Technical Committee (STC) on Transport, Transcontinental and Interregional Infrastructure, Energy and Tourism (STC-TTIIET) was held in Lomé, Togo on March 17, 2017 under the theme: **“Financing Infrastructure in Africa”**. The meeting was preceded by a preparatory meeting of experts which took place from 13 to 16 March 2017 at the same venue. In addition, side meetings of the Ministerial Working Group on the Single African Air Transport Market (SAATM) and the Pan African Investment Forum Ministerial Panel Discussion were also held on 16 March 2017.

2. In attendance were Ministers and Experts of Transport, Energy and Tourism from thirty seven (37) Member States as well as representatives of Regional Economic Communities (RECs), specialised institutions and partner organisations.

3. At the onset of the meeting, the first Bureau of the Specialised Technical Committee (STC) on Transport, Transcontinental and Interregional Infrastructure, Energy and Tourism (STC-TTIIET) was elected to lead its work for a two-year period (2017 – 2019). The Bureau, which was elected on the basis of geographical and sectorial equity, is composed as follows:

Chair	:	Togo (West Africa), Transport Sector
1 st Vice-Chair	:	Mauritania (North Africa), Energy Sector
2 nd Vice-Chair	:	Zimbabwe (South Africa), Tourism Sector
3 rd Vice-Chair	:	Ethiopia (East Africa), Energy Sector
Rapporteur	:	Congo (Central Africa), Transport Sector

THE SESSIONS

4. The meeting was held in plenary and break-out sessions. The plenary session addressed overall cross-cutting topics while sectorial issues were considered by three (3) break-out sessions on transport, energy and tourism.

MAIN AGENDA ITEMS

5. In summary, the main items on the agenda of the STC meeting were:

Cross-Cutting Matters

1. Innovative financing and domestic funds mobilization strategies for major continental, regional and national infrastructure projects in the energy, transport and tourism sectors.

2. Strengthening and Promoting National and Regional Capacities for Projects Preparation.
3. Update on the implementation of the PIDA/PAP and the Way Forward
4. Regional Infrastructure as a Catalyst for Job Creation in Africa.
5. AU Agenda 2063 and UN-SDGs.
6. Unlocking Access to Basic Infrastructure and Services for Rural and Remote Areas.

Energy Sector Issues

1. Regional Geothermal Program and Geothermal Risk Mitigation Facility (GRMF) Operationalization.
2. Africa Bioenergy Policy Framework and Guidelines Implementation.
3. Harmonized Continental Regulatory Framework in the Electricity Sector.
4. African Development Bank's New Deal on Energy for Africa.
5. Africa Renewable Energy Initiative (AREI) and its operationalization phase.
6. SE4ALL and Global Tracking Framework (The African Chapter).
7. Green Mini Grid Africa Strategy and Rural Electrification.
8. Clean Energy Corridors in Africa.
9. Electricity Smart Grid.
10. Africa - EU Energy Partnership (AEEP).
11. Africa Energy Information System and Database.
12. Atlas of Africa Energy Resources.

Transport Sector Issues

1. The Future of the African Single Air Transport Market (SAATM) under the AU Agenda 2063.
2. Revision and updating of the Regulatory Texts of the 1999 Yamoussoukro Decision on Liberalisation of Air Transport Markets In Africa.
3. Consideration of the Windhoek Ministerial Declaration on Aviation Security and Facilitation.
4. Review of the Abuja Aviation Safety Targets including ANS.
5. Vision 2063 of the African Integrated High-Speed Railway Network (AIHSRN).
6. SMART Corridors for Transforming Africa's Trans-border Infrastructure and Trade Facilitation.
7. African Action Plan for the Decade of Action on Road Safety.
8. Sustainable Roads for Development and Regional Integration in Africa: What Roles for ARMFA.
9. African Federation for Construction Contractors (AFCCA).
10. Increasing African Ports Capacity and Efficiency for Economic Growth.

Tourism Sector Issues

1. Presentation of Activities for the International Year for Sustainable Tourism for Development by the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO).
2. Enhancing the Competitiveness of the Tourism Industry in Africa.
3. Addressing Africa's Narrow Range of Tourism Products.

4. Harmonization of Tourism Strategy within the Continent.
5. Tourism and Security in Africa.
6. Financing and Investing in Tourism in Africa.
7. Convergence of Civil Aviation and Tourism Policies: UNECA Study on Conclusions and Recommendations on Aviation and Tourism.
8. Developing Domestic and Regional Tourism in Africa.
9. Building Human Capital in the Tourism Sector in Africa.

OUTCOME

6. Following extensive deliberations in both the Experts and Ministerial sessions of the STC meeting, the Ministers decided to adopt the following main outcomes of the meeting:

1. The Declaration of Lomé (Declaration of the First meeting of the Specialized Technical Committee on Transport, Transcontinental and Interregional Infrastructure, Energy and Tourism);
2. The Rules of Procedure of the Specialized Technical Committee on Transport, Transcontinental and Interregional Infrastructure, Energy and Tourism;
3. Three (3) Subcommittees of the STC on Energy, Transport and Tourism;
4. The African Union Plans of Action on Energy, Transport (Air, Maritime, Railway and Road), Tourism and PIDA;
5. Windhoek Ministerial Declaration and Targets on Aviation Security and Facilitation in Africa; and
6. Revised and updated Regulatory Texts of the 1999 Yamoussoukro Decision on Liberalisation of Air Transport Markets In Africa:
 - i) Competition Regulations;
 - ii) Dispute Settlement Mechanism;
 - iii) Powers and functions of the Executing Agency.

7. In each sector and field; and for each issue and activity, the Ministers expressed their views and made specific guidance and requests on the kind of actions to be undertaken by the AUC, Member States, RECs, specialised institutions and international partners.

CONCLUSION

8. The EXECUTIVE COUNCIL is invited to:

- i) note and endorse the enclosed Report of the First meeting of the Specialized Technical Committee on Transport, Transcontinental and Interregional Infrastructure, Energy and Tourism and its main outcomes as adopted by the sector Ministers at the meeting;
- ii) endorse the enclosed Declaration of Lomé and the draft Decision of the STC meeting in order to give legal effect to the outcome of the meeting.

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**THE FIRST ORDINARY SESSION OF THE
AFRICAN UNION SPECIALIZED
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORT,
TRANSCONTINENTAL AND INTERREGIONAL
INFRASTRUCTURE, ENERGY AND TOURISM
13 – 17 March 2017, Lomé, Togo**

REPORT OF THE MINISTERS' MEETING

REPORT OF THE MINISTERS' MEETING

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The First Ordinary Session of the Specialised Technical Committee (STC) on Transport, Transcontinental and Interregional Infrastructure, Energy and Tourism (STC-TTIET) was held in Lomé, Togo on March 17, 2017 under the theme: "Financing Infrastructure in Africa". The meeting was preceded by a preparatory meeting of experts which took place from 13 to 16 March 2017 at the same venue. Additional side meetings of the Ministerial Working Group on Single African Air Transport Market (SAATM) and the Pan African Investment Forum Ministerial Panel Discussion were also held on 16 March 2017.

II. ATTENDANCE

2. The following thirty seven (37) Member States participated in the meeting: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central Africa, Chad, Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Gabon, The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Côte D'Ivoire, Kenya, Lesotho, Libya, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Sahrawi, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

3. The following Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and International organizations were also represented. Southern African Development Community (SADC), Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), African Development Bank (AfDB), United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA), International Labour Organization (ILO), World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), German Corporation for International Cooperation (GIZ), NEPAD Infrastructure Project Preparation Facility (NEPAD-IPPF), World Economic Forum (WEF), European Investment Bank, ECOBANK, International Air Transport Association (IATA), International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), African Federation of Construction Contractors' Association (AFCCA), East African Tourism Platform (EATP), Société de Gestion de Manantali (SOGEM), African Energy Commission (AFREC), Global Observatory linking Research to Action (GORA), Trans-Saharan Highway Liaison Committee (CLRT), Africa Transport Policy Program (SSATP), Askya Airlines, African Forum for Utility Regulators (AFUR), African Airlines Association (AFRAA), African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC), African Electro-technical Standardization Commission (AFSEC), International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), UK Royal & Sun Alliance Insurance (RSA), Togo Ree Zone Authority, UK Africa Green Co and the West African Power Pool (WAPP).

III. OPENING CEREMONY

4. The opening ceremony was presided over by the Prime Minister of the Republic of Togo, H.E. Mr. Komi Selom KLASSOU. H.E. Mr. Ninsao Gnofam, Minister of Infrastructure and Transport of the Republic of Togo, H.E. Dr. Amani Abu-Zeid, Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy at the African Union Commission, Mr. Amadou Hott, Vice-President of the African Development Bank for Power, Energy, Climate and Green Growth delivered statements.

5. H.E. Mr. Ninsao Gnofam, Minister of Infrastructure and Transport of the Republic of Togo, welcomed the participants to the conference and reiterated the readiness of the Togolese authorities to make their stay very pleasant as well as provide the most conducive conditions for the work ahead. Mr. Gnofam summarized the main outcomes of the experts' meeting.

6. AfDB Vice-President Hott called on Ministers to prioritize energy sector development given the enabling role of energy for most other areas. He further presented progress on the implementation of the Bank's New Deal on Energy for Africa and reiterated the Bank's pledge to increase its energy investments to \$12 billion for the 2016-2020 period with a view to leverage another \$45-50 billion.

7. H.E. Dr. Amani Abou-Zeid, AUC Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy, thanked the Government of Togo for the warm hospitality extended to all guests and for hosting the event. The Commissioner observed that the African continent presents a favourable profile for investors; led by its abundant energy resources and an average economic growth rate higher than 5 percent, its fast population growth and its huge needs for infrastructure, both in energy and transport sectors. She then urged for more involvement of both public and private actors for infrastructure promotion and investment.

8. H.E. Komi Selom KLASSOU expressed the delight of his people at the honour done to the country in hosting the First Ordinary Session of the STC on Transport, Infrastructure, Energy and Tourism having hosted last year's AU Conference on Maritime Security and Safety. The Prime Minister highlighted that the continent will account for a quarter of the world population in 2050 and will be facing huge challenges as the power demand is expected to rise five times, transportation volumes will increase by up to eight times and Information and communications technology demand will swell by a factor of 20, while the number of tourists will increase by five times.

9. Given Africa's huge investment needs in infrastructure, the Prime Minister noted that the current conference is expected to explore ways and means of achieving the regional and continental integration targets specified in the AU Agenda 2063 by mobilizing financing for the PIDA priority projects estimated at US\$ 360 billion, in order to reach energy security, bridge the internet divide, modernize transport systems and enhance tourism on the continent. Therefore, Prime Minister Klassou called for the meeting to reflect on innovative financing mechanisms in order to respond to the investments needs the continent is facing for the attainment of its objectives. Prime Minister Klassou finally declared the First Ordinary Session of the STC officially opened.

IV. PROCEDURAL MATTERS

1. Election of the Bureau of the STC

10. The Bureau of the meeting was elected on the basis of geographical and sectoral equity replacing the provisional bureau that had been established to chair the deliberations of the Experts' Meeting from 13 to 16 March 2017.

11. The following countries were elected to form the Bureau:

Chair	:	Togo (West Africa), Transport Sector
1 st Vice-Chair	:	Mauritania (North Africa), Energy Sector
2 nd Vice-Chair	:	Zimbabwe (South Africa), Tourism Sector
3 rd Vice-Chair	:	Ethiopia (East Africa), Energy Sector
Rapporteur	:	Congo (Central Africa), Transport Sector

2. Adoption of the Agenda and Work Programme

12. The following agenda was adopted with no amendments:

I. OPENING CEREMONY

II. PROCEDURAL MATTERS

1. Election of the Bureau
2. Adoption the Agenda and Work Programme

III. WORKING SESSIONS

3. Consideration and adoption of the STC Rules of Procedure and Establishment of the Sub-Committees
4. Consideration of the Report of the Meeting of Experts
5. Consideration and adoption of the STC Draft Action Plan January 2017 up to the next STC meeting (2019)
6. Consideration and adoption of the Declaration of the Ministers' Meeting

IV. CLOSING

V. WORKING SESSIONS

SESSION 1: CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF THE STC RULES OF PROCEDURE AND ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEES

13. The meeting adopted the STC Rules of Procedure.

14. On the basis of Rule 5 of the Rules of Procedures,

(a) The STC established the following three (3) Sub-Committees, which are open to all Member States:

- i) Sub-Committee on Transport;
- ii) Sub-Committee on Energy;
- iii) Sub-Committee on Tourism.

(b) All Member States are represented in the Sub-Committee and the Bureau positions of the Sub-Committee are held by the same Member States that form the Bureau of the STC.

SESSION 2: CONSIDERATION OF THE REPORT OF THE MEETING OF EXPERTS

15. The Chair of the Experts' Meeting presented the Experts' Report to the Ministers. The meeting then adopted the Report with amendments and directed the

Sub-Committees to oversee implementation of recommendations under their respective sectors. The Experts' Report covered the following issues:

1. CROSS – CUTTING ISSUES

1.1 Innovative Financing and Domestic Funds Mobilization Strategies

16. The STC emphasized the need for creating a conducive environment for private sector participation and bringing projects to bankability as well as the need for proposals of more innovative financing tools.

1.2 Financing of Major Transcontinental, Interregional and National Infrastructure Projects in the Energy, Transport and Tourism Sectors: Opportunities and Challenges

17. The STC recognised that projects require careful preparation and development with sound Project Preparation Capacities. The STC noted the need for countries to consult each other, simplify institutional arrangements, restructure national budgets and reduce political interference and dependence on public and donor financing.

1.3 Strengthening and Promoting National and Regional Capacities for Projects Preparation

18. The STC encouraged Member States to make direct contributions to NEPAD – IPPF (Infrastructure Project Preparation Facility).

1.4 Update on the implementation of the PIDA/PAP and the Way Forward

19. The STC noted the importance on the following factors to enhance success and increase the impact of the PIDA/PAP projects:

- i) Integrated corridor approach;
- ii) Harmonization of legal and regulatory frameworks;
- iii) Strengthening the capacity of Member States and RECs in structuring projects, negotiations and management of PPPs;
- iv) Strong project monitoring and evaluation and encourage Member States to contribute financially to NEPAD instruments.

1.5 Regional Infrastructure as a Catalyst for Job Creation in Africa

20. The STC observed that infrastructure projects have the potential of being a big source of employment but require deliberate interventions and a culture of skills development in order to realise that potential.

21. The STC urged:

- a) AUC and NPCA in collaboration with partners to develop local content guidelines for infrastructure projects to support job creation in the sector; and
- b) Member States to develop local content requirements for infrastructure projects and enact necessary instruments for the same.

1.6 AU Agenda 2063 and UN-SDGs

22. Following a presentation by AUC on Agenda 2063 and its linkage with UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the STC urged:

- a) Member States to integrate Agenda 2063 into their National Development Plans and their long term visions;
- b) AUC to fast track completion of development of modalities for raising domestic resources to support basic infrastructure development envisaged under Agenda 2063; and
- c) The AU/UN to synergise efforts in the implementation of the two agenda (agenda 2063/SDGs) by harmonising the accountability framework.

1.7 Unlocking Access to Basic Infrastructure and Services for Rural and Remote Areas

23. The STC adopted the new approach and strategies for unlocking access to basic infrastructure and services for rural and remote areas, and invited Pan African Institutions and partners to support the AUC in developing and implementing the approach.

2. ENERGY SECTOR ISSUES

2.1. THEME 1: ELECTRICITY MARKET DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENTS PROMOTION

2.1.1. Regional Geothermal Program and Geothermal Risk Mitigation Facility (GRMF) Operationalization

24. The STC considered the GRMF, the financial support provided, eligibility and the process of application and urged the AUC to:

- a) Improve the procedures of awarding grants and disbursement of the funds;
- b) Put greater emphasis on mobilizing resources for further application rounds; and
- c) Investigate modalities of sustainability of the GRMF programme such as revolving fund.

2.1.2. Africa Bioenergy Policy Framework and Guidelines Implementation

25. The STC considered the outcomes of mainstreaming the African Bioenergy Framework and Policy Guidelines and urged AUC and ECA to:

- a) Review and update the guidelines according to the conditions of each African region;
- b) Work with the regional centres of excellence to develop action plans for each region;
- c) Harmonize approaches of different initiatives working on bioenergy in Africa; and
- d) Mobilize technical support to implement pilot projects to provide a learning platform.

2.1.3. Harmonized Continental Regulatory Framework in the Electricity Sector

26. The STC:

- a) Adopted the strategy and action plan for Harmonized Continental Regulatory Framework in the Electricity Sector; and
- b) Urged the AUC to set up a continental coordination unit for the implementation of the action plan in collaboration with the Pan African Institutions and RECs and their sub-structures like the Regional Power Pools to implement the strategy and the action plan.

2.1.4. Africa Green Regional Energy: Efficient, New and Creditworthy Off-taker (Africa GreenCo) Initiative

27. The STC urged the Africa GreenCo in collaboration with the AUC, the RECs and Power Pools to:

- a) Organise technical workshops on a regional basis to further explain the model and its benefits to the concerned stakeholders; and
- b) Further develop and elaborate the model for one Power Pool before being considered for roll out and expansion to other regions of Africa.

2.2. THEME 2: NEW INITIATIVES, STRATEGIES AND RENEWABLES

2.2.1. African Development Bank's New Deal on Energy for Africa

28. The STC recommended that:

- a) Governments should close financing gap by increasing spending on energy to 2-3% of GDP or 7.5-10% of fiscal revenue, reduce subsidies and attract private sector investment;
- b) AfDB will develop an Africa power sector bankability index to assist government in decision making; and
- c) Lessons should be drawn from the Ethiopian success story on domestic mobilisation and replicated in Africa.

2.2.2. Africa Renewable Energy Initiative (AREI) and its operationalization phase

29. The STC:

- a) Urged AUC in collaboration with the AfDB as co-leaders of the AREI and H.E. Alpha Condé, President of the Republic of Guinea, and Coordinator of Renewable Energies in Africa, to ensure the operationalization of AREI
- b) Called for fast tracking the implementation of the AREI to achieve the set targets of delivering at least 10 GW of new and additional renewable energy by 2020, and least 300 GW renewable energy capacity by 2030, in collaboration with existing initiatives and to put emphasis on equipment manufacturing in Africa;
- c) Called for awareness raising on continental initiatives such as AREI to be increased among Member States including tracking and monitoring of the implementation on the ground; and
- d) Urged Member States to include AREI into their national development plans and commit to the promotion of Renewable Energy.

2.2.3. SE4ALL and Global Tracking Framework (The African Chapter)

30. The STC urged Member States and RECs to harmonise data collection systems and the validation process across countries and regions.

2.2.4. Green Mini Grid Africa Strategy and Rural Electrification**31.** The STC:

- a) Urged Member States to adopt mini-grid policies into their national policies especially for rural infrastructure development and support of economic development; and
- b) Encouraged Member States that are advanced in application of mini-grid strategies to share experiences with other Member States.

2.2.5. Clean Energy Corridors in Africa**32.** The STC:

- a) Urged Member States and RECs to ensure coordination among various sectors and actors as well as commitment and ownership at country level; and
- b) Urged Member States to embed the clean energy corridors into the national renewable energy and climate change agenda as well as the process of the creation of sustainable and low carbon power market.

2.2.6. Electricity Smart Grid**33.** The STC:

- a) Urged Member State public and private institutions to support AFSEC and take into consideration the standardization efforts undertaken by the RECs; and

- b) Urged Member States to transform the existing standardization laboratories in the continent into regional institutions by allowing other Member States to sign partnership agreements with them.

2.3. THEME 3: PARTNERSHIPS, DATABASE AND FLAGSHIP PROJECTS

2.3.1. Successful Flagship Regional Energy Projects and Lessons Learned

34. The STC:

- a) Urged AUC and AfDB to take lead in resource mobilization efforts for project preparation facilities; and
- b) Urged AUC to organize a financiers' round table to pledge on project preparations for committed regional projects.
- c) Requested AUC to plan, coordinate, monitor and evaluate the existing and new regional, continental and/or international energy initiatives, which adhere to/accepted by African institutions that add value to the energy sector in Africa by contributing to sustainable energy access, energy security and energy efficiency in the African energy sector.

2.3.2. Africa - EU Energy Partnership (AEEP)

35. The STC urged the AEEP to revise the AEEP 2020 targets and align with the current global initiatives for consideration as one of the outcomes to the AU/EU Summit in November 2017 in Abidjan.

2.3.3. Africa Energy Information System and Database

36. The STC:

- a) Underscored the importance of capacity building and sensitization to ensure integrity of energy data;
- b) Urged Member States to create awareness and capacity in countries' institutions about the African produced statistics, as well as build capacity in these institutions;
- c) Urged Members States to provide resources for research and capacity building for data collection; and
- d) Urged Member States and RECs to carry out studies on sectoral consumption of energy such as final consumption of fuel wood and other biomass sources that are not well funded in many countries despite being their major energy sources.

2.3.4. Atlas of Africa Energy Resources

37. The STC urged Member States to utilise all energy sources, Renewable and Non-renewable, for the benefit of the Continent.

3. TRANSPORT SECTOR ISSUES

3.1. THEME 1: PROGRESS REPORT ON TRANSPORT ACTION PLANS

38. The STC urged:

- a) Member States to prioritise implementation of the regional and continental programme activities and decisions adopted at the AU and RECs for which they have major responsibility and speed up incorporation of the continental and regional policies and legal frameworks into national legal and regulatory systems and especially ratification of regional and continental treaties;
- b) RECs to align their activities to those of the AUC and make provision in their calendars and budgets to participate;
- c) Member States and RECs to support AUC initiatives geared towards promotion of completion of the missing links within the major transport corridors including promoting air connectivity in the continent;
- d) Member States to ratify the Africa Maritime Charter to avoid its provisions being overtaken by new issues in the sub-sector;
- e) The AUC to conduct an independent continental Cost Benefit Study and strategy on the implementation of the EGNOS SBAS project in Africa; taking into consideration existing initiatives in the implementation of EGNOS in the continent; and
- f) The AUC to finalise the continent transport policy framework as recommended by the Minister in-charge for Transport in Malabo, 2014.

3.2. THEME 2: AIR TRANSPORT

3.2.1. The Future of the African Single Air Transport Market (SAATM) under the AU Agenda 2063

39. The STC:

- a) Took note of the challenges faced towards the realization of the SAATM due to the slow pace of the full implementation of the YD;
- b) Urged other Member States to join the current 19 Champion States that have made a Solemn Commitment to the establishment of a Single African Air Transport Market (SAATM) by 2017;
- c) Took note that the SAATM will be launched in June 2017 as an AU Agenda 2063 flagship project.
- d) Requested the twenty (20) Champion States to expedite notification to the AUC and AFCAC on their respective concrete measures taken towards the establishment of SAATM;
- e) Approved the Celebration of YD Day on the 14th of November of each year; and
- f) Recognised the **Ministerial Working Group** on the establishment of the Single African Air Transport Market based on Rule 5 (2&3) of its Rules and Procedures.

3.2.2. SAATM and Regulatory Texts: Update on the Adoption of the Regulatory Text of the Yamoussoukro Decision

40. The STC:

- a) Urged the AUC to speed up the finalization of the legal Instruments and Regulatory Texts of the Yamoussoukro Decision;
- b) Adopted the YD Text on: Annex 4: Regulations on the Powers, Functions and Operations of the Executing Agency of the Yamoussoukro Decision; Annex 5: Regulations on Competition in Air Transport Services within Africa and Annex 6: Regulations on the Protection of Consumers of Air Transport Services(NB: the adopted annex form part of this report); and
- c) Urged the Executing Agency of the Yamoussoukro Decision to consult with the AUC and the Monitoring Body of the YD in establishing the necessary institutions for the Dispute Settlement Mechanism and resubmit a revised draft text on Dispute Settlement Mechanism.

3.2.3. SAATM and Regulatory Text: Revised Duties and Functions of the Monitoring Body

41. The STC approved and adopted the revised Duties and Responsibilities of the Monitoring Body as Annex 2 to the Yamoussoukro Decision.

3.2.4. Consideration of the Windhoek Ministerial Declaration on Aviation Security and Facilitation

42. The STC received a summary of the outcomes of Ministerial Conference on Aviation Security and facilitation that was held in Windhoek Namibia from 4th to 7th April 2016 and urged:

- a) The AUC to expedite the endorsement of the Ministerial Declaration and Targets by the AU Summit of Heads of State and Government;
- b) Member States to implement the activities related to the Action Plan;
- c) AFCAC to continue its collaborative work with ICAO in assisting Member States to timely implement the Action Plan formulated to meet the Targets;
- d) AFCAC to discharge its assigned responsibilities in the Windhoek Ministerial Declaration and Targets, and the Implementation Action Plan; and
- e) Member States and partners to provide in kind and financial assistance in the implementation of the Activities of the Action Plan.

3.2.5. Review of the Abuja Aviation Safety Targets including ANS.

43. The STC:

- a) Adopted the recommendation by AFCAC to revise the Abuja Safety Targets and formulate one set of safety target that include ANS;
- b) Urged AFCAC and ICAO to undertake necessary coordination meetings with the stakeholders and the African States to finalize and propose new safety targets, for further consideration by the Ministers of Transport;

- c) Urged Member States to continually provide necessary information to AFCAC, for the monitoring of the implementation of the Abuja Safety Targets; and
- d) Urged AUC to support AFCAC efforts in sensitizing States on the implementation of the Abuja Safety Targets.

3.3. THEME 2: RAILWAY TRANSPORT

3.3.1. Vision 2063 of the African Integrated High-Speed Railway Network (AIHSRN)

44. The STC considered the African Union Railway Development Programme under PIDA and urged the AUC to:

- a) Set up, operationalize and strengthen of the Project Implementation Unit (PIU) and Project Management Team (PMT);
- b) Scale up resource mobilization mechanisms for the comprehensive pre-feasibility study for the AIHSRN flagship project involving African and international development financial institutions such as AfDB, DBSA, IsDB, etc;
- c) Comprehensively consult with China's Ministry of Commerce and China Railway Construction Corporation (CRCC), and any other relevant organizations regarding the implementation agreement;
- d) Sensitize AU Member States and all stakeholders and involve Africa Diaspora Experts;
- e) Speed up efforts to revive and strengthen the Union of African Railways (UAR) to enable it to harmonise railway policies, strategies and standards as well as facilitate implementation of regional and continental railway programmes; and
- f) Enhance cooperation with UIC in facilitating railway development and modernisation as well as strengthening the capacity of African railways.

3.3.2. SMART Corridors for Transforming Africa's Trans-border Infrastructure and Trade Facilitation.

45. The STC:

- a) Took note of progress on the implementation of the Support to PIDA PAP for the start-up of smart corridor activities under PIDA PAP Continental Project No. 3;
- b) Urged RECs and Corridor Management Institutions (CMIs) to work with relevant stakeholders and development partners to convert their corridors into smart corridors guided by the SC Definition and Characteristics provided; and
- d) Urged RECs and CMIs to work with Member States to upgrade skills through training of those who might be negatively impacted when implementing the SCs such as Clearing and Forwarding Agents.

3.3.3. African Action Plan for the Decade of Action on Road Safety

46. The STC urged:

- a) AUC to establish a common dataset with minimum set of road safety indicators to ensure comparability among African countries;
- b) Member States and AUC to accelerate the implementation of the Action Plan;
- c) AUC and RECs to benchmark road safety performance of African countries as a basis for learning and speeding-up positive developments in an effort to meet the set Action Plan targets;
- d) Member States to create and/or strengthen their Lead Road Safety Agencies by providing them with management autonomy and adequate financial resources to coordinate and implement road safety measures; Urged all road safety stakeholders to scale up their capacity building initiatives to Member States; and
- e) Member States to ensure that road safety is adequately taken into consideration in national development strategies in alignment with Agenda 2063 and Sustainable Development Goals.

3.3.4. Sustainable Roads for Development and Regional Integration in Africa: What Roles for ARMFA

47. The STC urged:

- a) Member States to establish Road Funds to enhance the preservation of Trans-boundary and Trans-Regional roads;
- b) Member States that have Road Funds to further capacitate them and encourage those without Road Funds to create Second Generation Road Funds; and
- c) ARMFA to be considered for recognition as a Specialized Agency of the AU so that the Association is in a better position to contribute to continental policy dialogues as well as decision making regarding road infrastructure, in general, and road maintenance, in particular.

3.3.5. African Federation for Construction Contractors (AFCCA)

48. The STC:

- a) Urged Member States to give extra points for national African Companies when bidding for tenders of projects financed by the African Institutions especially the ones financed by the African Development Bank.
- b) Encouraged partnerships between African companies and foreign companies operating in African Countries; and
- c) Urged all foreign construction companies operating in Africa to increase the African components in their projects both in terms of man power and locally produced construction materials.

3.3.6. Increasing African Ports Capacity and Efficiency for Economic Growth

49. The STC urged AUC:

- a) To expand the scope of the study to include more countries, regional corridors intermodal transport and dry ports;

- b) To further expand the study on the role and challenges of seaports and transport corridors in enhancing both the Regional Integration and Trade Facilitation in Africa;
- c) To include in the study analysis on the role of transport corridors and seaports as enablers to intra-African trade and ultimately to a sustainable and inclusive economic development of Africa; and
- d) To use the expanded study to contribute towards designing evidence based policies on countries case studies to support efforts towards enhancing the competitiveness of both the African seaports and transport corridors.

4. TOURISM SECTOR ISSUES

4.1. THEME 1: MAKING AFRICA THE PREFERRED DESTINATION FOR TOURISM UNDER THE AU AGENDA 2063

50. The Member States highlighted the need to have an update on AU/NEPAD Tourism Action Plan and the 2014 Seychelles Communiqué.

51. The STC urged NEPAD to:

- a) Provide a detailed update to Member States on the implementation status of the Tourism Action Plan and 2014 Seychelles Communiqué;
- b) Give more priority to tourism within the STC meeting in terms of discussion and organisation; and
- c) Create a Tourism Directorate or Division for better coordination and enhanced prioritization of tourism in line with AU Agenda 2063.

4.1.1. Presentation of Activities for the International Year for Sustainable Tourism for Development by the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO)

52. The STC urged Member States to ensure better communication on the celebration of 2017 as the International Year for Sustainable Tourism.

4.1.2. Enhancing the Competitiveness of the Tourism Industry in Africa

53. The STC urged Member States to:

- a) Prioritize the Tourism Sector in their development policies;
- b) Increase budgetary allocation to tourism;
- c) Encourage intra-African and domestic tourism;
- d) Develop integrated projects in the sub-regions, for instance, the development of tourism on the Congo River in Central Africa and the Slave Route in West Africa; and
- e) Put measures in place to facilitate travel (visa and biometric passport).

4.1.3. Addressing Africa's Narrow Range of Tourism Products

54. The STC Urged Member States to:

- a) Work on improving the image of their tourism products;
- b) Adopt a positive communication policy incorporating various events; and
- c) Integrate new communication and information technologies.

4.1.4. Harmonization of Tourism Strategy within the Continent

55. The STC urged AUC to establish an organ for the coordination of the development plans and programmes of RECs in order to harmonize the Continental Tourism Strategy.

4.1.5. Tourism and Security in Africa

56. The STC urged Member States to:

- a) Strengthen security initiatives;
- b) Take tourism concerns into account in national security policies; and
- c) Train and sensitize defence and security forces on tourism.

4.1.6. Financing and Investing in Tourism in Africa

57. The STC urged Member States to:

- a) Promote tourism investment at national level;
- b) Establish High-Level Tourism Boards, chaired by the President or the Prime Minister; and
- c) Create synergy between the AU, UNWTO, ICAO and technical and financial partners, in order to keep abreast of existing studies and build Africa's potential and comparative advantage.

4.1.7. Convergence of Civil Aviation and Tourism Policies: UNECA Study on Conclusions and Recommendations on Aviation and Tourism

58. The STC urged Member States to:

- a) Establish multilateral agreements at national and regional levels;
- b) Improve Africa's connectivity to the rest of the world as well as that of inter-African connectivity;
- c) Improve safety and security of airport infrastructure;
- d) Organize meetings between Ministers of Tourism and Air Transport; and
- e) Consider introducing chartered flights to destinations to reduce air transport costs.

4.1.8. Developing Domestic and Regional Tourism in Africa

59. The STC underscored the need for African countries to develop domestic tourism and promote inter-state routes. Member States stressed the need to develop domestic tourism and to embrace the dynamics of multiple destination routing.

60. The STC urged Member States to:

- a) Consider developing preferential pricing policies for nationals; and

- b) Inculcate the culture of tourism from an early age.

4.1.9. Building Human Capital in the Tourism Sector in Africa

61. The STC urged Member States to:

- a) Strengthen the capacities of the actors in the Tourism sector;
- b) Sensitize their citizens on Tourism; and
- c) Establish training centres attached to the Ministry of Tourism.

SESSION 3: CONSIDERATION OF THE STC ACTION PLANS FOR 2017 – 2019

62. The Ministers considered and adopted the plans of action submitted by the Experts and adopted them with comments which have been included in the final documents.

SESSION 4: CONSIDERATION OF THE DECLARATION OF THE MINISTERS' MEETING (DECLARATION OF LOMÉ)

63. The Ministers undertook a detailed consideration of the Draft Declaration of Lomé prepared by the Experts, made several amendments to enrich and improve it and adopted the Lomé Declaration.

64. During the consideration of the Draft Declaration, Nigeria pledged to host the third Annual International Civil Aviation Authority (ICAO) World Aviation Forum in Africa this year within the framework of PIDA and in coordination with ICAO, NPCA, AfDB and UNECA.

VI. CLOSING

65. In her closing remarks, the AUC Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy expressed her gratitude for the presence and active participation of all delegates. She then thanked the Togolese Government for the excellent preparation of the meeting. The Commissioner observed that the Ministers' Declaration sets out a framework for the sectors' activities for the next two years towards the transformation of Africa. She reaffirmed the commitment of AUC to work with partners in the realisation of this objective.

66. In his closing remarks, the Chairman, the Minister of Infrastructure and Transport of the Republic of Togo, thanked all the Ministers for the honour done to his country and himself in being trusted to lead Africa and chair the STC for the next two years.

67. He noted that the task ahead for the STC is evident from the enormous needs in the sectors comprising the STC. He called upon the AUC to ensure the Ministers' Declaration is submitted to the next Summit of the AU Assembly of Heads of State and Government. The Minister assured his colleagues and other delegates that he was very confident that with their cooperation and solidarity, they will be able to make significant achievements in the implementation of the adopted Plans of Action. The Minister wished all participants safe journeys back to their countries and declared the meeting closed.

EX.CL/1024(XXXI)
Annex

LOME DECLARATION

AFRICAN UNION

الاتحاد الأفريقي



UNION AFRICAINE

UNIÃO AFRICANA

P. O. Box 3243, Addis Ababa, ETHIOPIA Tel.: (251-11) 5182402 Fax: (251-11) 5182400
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IA19544

**THE FIRST ORDINARY SESSION OF
THE AFRICAN UNION SPECIALIZED
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORT,
TRANSCONTINENTAL AND INTERREGIONAL
INFRASTRUCTURE, ENERGY AND TOURISM
13–17 March 2017
Lomé, TOGO**

DECLARATION OF LOMÉ

**DECLARATION OF THE FIRST SPECIALIZED TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON
TRANSPORT, TRANSCONTINENTAL AND INTERREGIONAL
INFRASTRUCTURE, ENERGY AND TOURISM**

We, the Ministers in charge of Transport, Transcontinental and Interregional Infrastructure, Energy and Tourism, meeting in Lomé, Republic of Togo, on 17 March 2017, as part of the **First Specialized Technical Committee on Transport, Transcontinental and Interregional Infrastructures, Energy and Tourism**, organized by the African Union Commission in collaboration with the Government of the Togolese Republic to consider strategies for strengthening the financing of the aforementioned sectors;

CONSIDERING:

1. The Treaty establishing the African Economic Community adopted in Abuja, Nigeria, in June 1991;
2. The Constitutive Act of the African Union adopted in Lomé on 11 July 2000, especially its Articles 14 to 16, which stipulate that the African Union Commission should in particular coordinate policies in the fields of Energy Transport, Communication and Tourism sectors;
3. The Declaration: Assembly/AU/Decl.2 (XVIII) adopted by the Eighteenth Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in January 2012 which adopted the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA) as the single policy and strategic framework for the development of infrastructure in Africa;
4. The Decision: Assembly/AU/Dec.227 (XII) reconfiguring the existing STCs and created one on Transport, Transcontinental and Interregional Infrastructure, Energy and Tourism;

UNDERSCORING:

1. The Specialized Technical Committees (STCs), which constitute an important technical organ of the AU, were established under Article 25 of the African Economic Community Treaty (the Abuja Treaty);
2. The importance and role of regional infrastructure in political, economic and social development as well as the integration of Africa, in a bid to deepen its participation in the global economy;
3. The need of the African Member States to achieve the overall objective of accelerating continental integration through effective implementation of programmes and projects of the Union;
4. The potential of regional infrastructure development as a key leverage to create jobs;
5. The need to unlock the institutional and financial constraints in order to strengthen national and regional capacities and to increase the participation of national financial institutions in financing the infrastructure projects, notably the Priority Action Plan of the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA-/PAP) to be implemented until 2020 and other African Union flagship projects under the African Union Agenda 2063;

CONCERNED BY:

1. The low level of development of infrastructure and transport, energy and tourism services in Africa as well as the high cost and low quality of energy, transport and tourism services in Africa in terms of availability, cost sustainability and security and consequently the poor access of African populations to modern services;
2. The multiplicity of rules, regulations and standards as well as the complexity of administrative procedures between African countries which hinder integration of interregional networks in the continent;
3. The huge financing needs and the low level of resources mobilized at the national, regional and continental levels for the preparation, implementation and maintenance of regional infrastructures;
4. The unprecedented challenges posed by climate change and the risks to attaining the objectives of AU Agenda 2063 and the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

RECALLING:

1. The AUC role to coordinate and facilitate the harmonization of policies, strategies, regulations and standards for infrastructure and services on the African continent;
2. The central role of the Regional Economic Communities in the implementation of programmes and projects for the coordination and development of transport, energy and tourism infrastructure and services;
3. The primary role of AU Member States to incorporate continental policy, strategic and regulatory frameworks into national systems as well as implement regional and continental infrastructure projects in their territories;
4. The establishment of Africa Climate Resilient Investment Facility by the AUC, the Economic Commission for Africa, the World Bank and the African Development Bank to strengthen the capacity of African institutions and the private sector to plan, design, and implement infrastructure investments that are resilient to climate variability and change;
5. The Paris Agreement on climate change that provides an opportunity to turn climate change challenges into development opportunities. The implementation of the Agreement was launched during COP 22 in Marrakech, Morocco from 7 to 18 November 2016.

For the Transport Sector**TAKE NOTE OF:**

1. The progress made in the establishment of Single African Air Transport Market (SAATM) and its current membership of 19 Member States;
2. The challenges encountered in the process of having the Yamoussoukro Decision Regulatory and Institutional Texts aligned and published after the January 2015 AU Summit;
3. The progress made on the implementation of the Abuja Safety Targets and activities undertaken by AFCAC and AFI States to meet the Safety Targets set

by the Ministers in Abuja in July, 2012 through the Abuja Declaration and endorsed by the Heads of State of the African Union;

4. The provisions of the AU Constitutive Act and the Convention on international civil aviation which support the vision of one single sky facilitating the implementation of the Yamoussoukro Decision towards the establishment of a single African air transport market, the introduction of an African passport issued by Member States, capitalizing on the global migration towards e-Passports, the Public Key Directory (PKD) and Advanced Passengers Information (API), and the abolishment of visa requirements for all African citizens in all African Countries by 2018; and
5. The updated plans of action for the Transport Sector 2017-2019;
6. The progress made in the implementation of EGNOS in Africa project and capacity building of the Joint Project Office (JPO);
7. The contribution and importance of the African Road Maintenance Funds Association (ARMFA) in mobilizing finance for the maintenance of roads and hence sustainable development and effective integration of Africa;
8. The lack of oversight and coordination mechanism for a harmonious development of the railways sector in Africa;
9. The progress made in the implementation of Continental Project Number 3 on the Design of Smart Corridors which includes Efficiency Monitoring System which will be piloted in two corridors;
10. The progress in the dissemination of the Intergovernmental Agreement on Road Standards and Norms for Trans Africa Highway Standards (TAHs) and The African Road Safety Charter through workshops held in Abuja, Rabat and the one to be held in Nairobi in April 2017;
11. The outstanding lack of full force of the African Maritime Transport Charter since its adoption in 2010; and
12. Different challenges facing river transport in Africa.

AFFIRM:

1. The need for improvement of aviation security by implementing of the UN Security Council Resolutions 2178 and 2309 on countering terrorist threats to civil aviation and adopt the Ministerial Declaration and targets on aviation security and facilitation in Africa as well as the need for updating Aviation Safety Targets in Africa by adding, among others, targets related to air navigation taking into account the establishment of specific programmes aimed at enhancing aviation infrastructure development for alignment with the objectives set out under the AU Agenda 2063, the African Civil Aviation Policy, the International Civil Aviation Organisation(ICAO)'s Global Aviation Safety and Global Air Navigation Plans.

INVITE:

1. The Executing Agency of the Yamoussoukro Decision to consult with the AUC and the Monitoring Body of the Yamoussoukro Decision in establishing the necessary institutions for the Dispute Settlement Mechanism of the Single African Air Transport Market and resubmit a revised draft text on Dispute Settlement Mechanism; and
2. All African Member States to join the Single African Air Transport Market (SAATM) for those who have not done so.

REQUEST:

1. AUC and the relevant AU Organs in charge of counter terrorism such as African Centre for Study and Research on Terrorism (ACSRT) and AFRIPOL in coordination with the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO), INTERPOL and other international partners to support the implementation of the Aviation Security and Facilitation Targets and Action Plan for Africa and the Windhoek Declaration and targets on Aviation Security and facilitation in Africa;
2. To refer the above Institutional and Regulatory Texts for expedited adoption through the AU process as recommended by the AUC Office of the Legal Counsel (OLC);
3. AUC to consider granting ARMFA the status of Specialised Agency of the African Union;
4. AUC to take the necessary measures to revive and strengthen the Union of African Railways (UAR) as a Specialised Agency of the African Union in harmonising policies, strategies, regulations and standards for the railways industry as well as coordinating regional and continental railways programmes;
5. RECs and/or Corridor Management Institutions (CMIs) to work with relevant stakeholders and development partners to convert their corridors into SMART corridors guided by the SMART Corridor Definition and Characteristics provided;
6. Member States to speed up ratification of the African Maritime Transport Charter to enable it to enter into full force.

RECOMMEND:

1. Launching of the Single African Air Transport Market (SAATM) in June 2017;
2. The adoption of the revised functions of the Monitoring Body of the Yamoussoukro Decision (YD) of 1999 as provided for in the Article 9.2. The revised functions will now replace Annex 2 of the same decision;
3. The endorsement of the Windhoek Declaration and targets on aviation security and facilitation in Africa by the next AU Assembly;
4. The organization of the Third Annual ICAO World Aviation Forum in Africa within the framework of PIDA and in coordination with ICAO, NPCA, AfDB and UNECA this year with focus on aviation infrastructure development and financing in Africa;
5. The revision of the Abuja Safety Targets considering new timeframes, emerging issues in safety and new Air Navigation Performance Indicators for Africa;
6. The adoption of the aligned Regulations on Competition in Air Transport Services within Africa, Regulations on the Protection of Consumers of Air Transport Services and regulations on the Powers and Functions of the Executing Agency of the Yamoussoukro Decision;
7. The AUC to establish a continental cost benefit study and strategy on the implementation of the SBAS project in Africa; taking into consideration existing initiatives in the implementation of EGNOS in Africa;

8. Member States to implement the Intergovernmental Agreement on Road Standards and Norms for Trans Africa Highway (TAHs) and Roadmap for accelerating the implementation of African Road Safety Action Plan that was adopted at the Third African Road Safety Conference jointly organized by ECA and AUC in Addis Ababa in July 2015. In particular, ECA and AUC with the African Transport Policy Programme to develop a minimum set of road safety indicators to ensure comparability between African countries; and
9. Member States and AUC to develop strategies for addressing the challenges of river transport in Africa.

For the Transcontinental and Interregional Infrastructure

TAKE NOTE OF:

1. The PIDA- PAP Implementation progress report;
2. The AU 2063 Agenda and its First Ten year Implementation Action Plan as well as the AfDB's new initiative high five;
3. The study conducted by the Africa region office of the International Union of Railways - Union Internationale de Chemin de Fer (UIC) – on the revitalisation of railway in Africa by 2040 and adopted by the African Union.

INVITE:

1. AUC and NPCA to conduct and make available by end of 2017, a comprehensive Mid-term Review in order to take stock on the successes and weaknesses in the implementation process of the PIDA PAP;
2. The partners including the African Development Bank, the UN Economic Commission for Africa and the European Union to provide technical and financial support in achieving this study;
3. AUC and NPCA to pay attention to the emerging needs and priorities including climate change resilient infrastructure, job creation as well as Agenda 2063 aspirations for the current and next phases of the implementation of PIDA;
4. All African Stakeholders to enhance co-ordination of the various institutions (Member States, RECs, AUC, NPCA, international partners and the private sector) involved in PIDA to avoid duplication, ensure greater synergies and effective utilisation of scarce resources;
5. The African Union to setup a mechanism for the operationalization of the UIC study for the implementation of the selected projects.

REQUEST:

1. Member States to develop strong ownership of PIDA PAP projects and include them in their national budgets and plans;
2. Member States to mobilize technical and financial resources for the implementation of the PIDA-PAP until 2020;
3. Member States to propose new regional projects for the second PIDA Priority Action Plan from 2020-2030;
4. Member States strongly urge to contribute and sustain project preparation and development for PIDA PAP projects by making financial contributions to the Service Delivery Mechanism and the NEPAD IPPF as tools to create capacity

- for early stage project preparation and delivery of bankable infrastructure projects to attract investments;
5. Member states to adopt an integrated corridor approach to infrastructure development and maintenance that is multi-sectorial by involving private sector participation and promoting innovative structuring and financing;
 6. Member states encouraged to create a conducive investment climate by formulating and harmonising legal and regulatory frameworks to unlock private sector investment in trans boundary infrastructure projects;
 7. Member States to undertake measures to strengthen capacities in Member States and Regional Economic Communities in project preparation, structuring, negotiation and management of Public-Private Partnerships;
 8. Member States to develop strong and effective Project Implementation and Monitoring and Evaluation Frameworks and for the development of trans-boundary infrastructure projects throughout the project cycle and to make available information and data on infrastructure projects as inputs for job estimation;
 9. Member States to engage in strategic partnerships with key private sector actors, civil society and Centres of Excellence to promote vocational training, internships, and transition-to-work initiatives in infrastructure development with quality assurance;
 10. Member States to support the capacity building and access to funding of African Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs), so that they qualify for infrastructure tenders and can provide supplies for infrastructure projects;
 11. Member States to give preferential treatment to African companies when bidding on construction tenders in particular projects financed by African institutions while maintaining quality assurance;
 12. Member States to launch project finance training programs and enable African consulting companies to provide the required project finance support for infrastructure development (e.g. financial advisory, legal support to set up institutional and legal structures, negotiate contracts with suppliers of equipment and services, arrange for equity/debt finance and risk mitigation structures);
 13. AUC to convene a dedicated resource mobilization round table involving key donors and Member States for the purpose of ensuring that adequate financial resource for projects preparation;
 14. AUC and NPCA to:
 - a) Finalise and disseminate the Job Creation Toolkit to estimate and track labour market effects of regional infrastructure programs;
 - b) Provide a practical guide for project implementers on how to integrate skills development and employment promotion in the infrastructure project lifecycle;
 - c) Support the creation of a Platform that matches African Infrastructure Projects with African Suppliers, enabling project sponsors, governments, development partners, African Civil Society and the private sector to collaborate in needed interventions;
 - d) Ensure cross border validation of training, standards, quality control and enhanced national training programs; and
 - e) Develop in-land waterways.

For the Energy Sector

TAKE NOTE OF:

1. The efforts of Member States in the implementation of regional energy infrastructure projects;
2. The “New Deal in Energy for Africa” launched by the African Development Bank aimed at achieving Universal Access to Energy by 2025;
3. The efforts made and the achievements since the adoption of the Addis Ababa Declaration on Geothermal Energy in 2009 and the operationalization and challenges of the Geothermal Risk Mitigation Facility (GRMF), as well as the technical and financial support provided by the international development partners;
4. The progress, achievements and challenges in the implementation of the AUC programme on “Bioenergy Development in Africa” over the last five (5) years;
5. The implementation progress and the achievements of the AUC Initiative on “Harmonized Continental Policy and Regulatory Frameworks in the Electricity Sector”;
6. The progress achieved by the African Energy Commission (AFREC) in developing the African Energy Information System and making it available for use by Member States, RECs and specialized institutions;
7. The efforts of the Infrastructure Consortium for Africa (ICA) and its partners in developing and updating the “Atlas of Africa Energy Resources”;
8. The submission of the Ad-Hoc Report on “Electrification and Connectivity to Post Offices” by the AUC as requested by the Specialized Technical Committee on Communication and Information Communication Technologies (STC-CICT-1) ((Decision EX.CL/Dec.900 (XXVIII) Rev.1) for consideration;
9. The role of standardization and conformity assessment as a means to make the Smart Grids concept more available and flexible to integration of renewable energy for African utilities and populations;
10. The successful implementation of several initiatives led by regional and international institutions and partners that add value to the energy sector in Africa;
11. The huge hydropower potentials that could be exploited to provide affordable and sustainable power to support industrialization in Africa.

AFFIRM:

1. The role of AUC and the GRMF programme in encouraging public and private investors as well as public private partnerships to develop geothermal prospects for power generation in Eastern Africa;
2. The role of AUC and its Continental and Regional Partners in consultation with Member States to ensure the harmonization of policies and regulatory frameworks in the electricity sector;
3. The roles of the AUC, UNECA and NPCA in ensuring the coordination and implementation of the Bioenergy Policy Framework and Guidelines at the continental, regional and national levels;
4. The role of the Sustainable Energy for All (SE4All) Action Agendas as a suitable implementation framework for SDG7 at the national level and platform for coordination of partners; and
5. Our commitment to support the development, functioning and operation of the African Energy Efficiency Indicator Database by committing our institutions to

full and substantive involvement in the implementation and operation of this Database.

ADOPT:

1. The AUC Strategy Document and Action Plans towards the implementation of the Initiative on “Harmonised Continental Policy and Regulatory Frameworks in the Electricity Sector”;
2. The AUC Ad-Hoc Report on “Electrification and Connectivity to Post Offices” as referred by the Specialized Technical Committee on Communication and Information Communication Technologies (STC-CICT-1);
3. The Green Mini-Grid (GMG) Africa strategy highlighting the policy and regulatory measures to be undertaken to scale-up the deployment of mini-grids in Africa.

REQUEST:

1. The AUC, NPCA and UNECA to (a) review and/or develop Regional Bioenergy Policy Framework and Guidelines and Action Plans for the Regional Economic Communities; and (b) Create a finance and Projects Preparation Facility to assist private and public sector project developers in Bioenergy development;
2. The Member States to fully support the New Deal on Energy, as a programme to accelerate access to energy on the continent;
3. The AUC and its partners to mobilize resources to accelerate the operationalization of the Geothermal Centre of Excellence and to extend the technical and financial assistance to other African Member States;
4. The AUC to create a platform for sharing of best practices and experiences in the implementation of energy projects;
5. The AUC in collaboration with all relevant Pan African Continental and Regional Institutions to: (a) Establish a Continental Coordination Unit and implement the Action Plans of the Initiative on “Harmonised Continental Policy and Regulatory Frameworks in the Electricity Sector”; and (b) Mobilise funding to provide technical assistance to Member States, RECs and Regional Power Pools in the implementation of the Action Plans;
6. The SE4ALL Africa Hub to continue its coordination and facilitation role for the implementation of SE4ALL in Africa and to place a particular focus on mobilizing support towards implementation of the priorities identified in the Action Agendas and Investment Prospectuses;
7. The AUC and its Partners to provide political and technical support to Member States to ensure the connectivity and electrification of post offices in rural electrification programmes;
8. The AUC, the AfDB, the NPCA and other regional and continental organizations to mobilize the necessary financial and technical resources to implement the project on “African Energy Efficiency Indicator Database”; and
9. The AUC to plan, coordinate, monitor and evaluate the existing and new regional, continental and/or international energy initiatives, which adhere to/accepted by African institutions that add value to the energy sector in Africa by contributing to sustainable energy access, energy security and energy efficiency in the African energy sector.

RECOMMEND:

1. Member States to support the development of the African Energy Efficiency Indicator Database, establish their individual national energy databases and provide all kinds of assistance, especially providing reliable energy data and related information, timely and consistently, and preserve the spirit of partnerships for the implementation of this project;
2. Member States to provide support to the implementation of the AUC Initiatives on: (a) The Geothermal Risk Mitigation Facility; (b) The programme on Bioenergy development in Africa; (c) The harmonized Continental Policy and Regulatory Frameworks in the Electricity Sector; and (d) the Green Mini-Grids (GMGs) Africa strategy;
3. Member States and Institutions to join and support AFSEC as a platform for active participation in the process of standardization and conformity assessment.
4. Member States to set-up National Coordination Units to facilitate the implementation of the SE4All Action Agendas.
5. The AUC and its partners to improve the procedures of awarding grants and disbursement of funds in the GRMF Programme and to accelerate the establishment of the Africa Geothermal Centre of Excellence for research and development as well as capacity building targeting both public and private sector experts in African countries.
6. The AUC and the AfDB to: (a) Accelerate the implementation of the AREI; (b) request Member States to integrate the Africa Renewable Energy Initiative (AREI) framework into their national development plans; and (c) continue to monitor and track projects implementation in Member States.
7. The AUC and AfDB to support Member States in the development of hydropower infrastructures and Member States to recognize large hydropower systems as renewable energy in alignment with international standards;
8. The AUC to extend its utmost financial and political support for the successful implementation and operation of the African Energy Efficiency Indicator Database;
9. Member States to integrate the concept of the Clean Energy Corridors into their national renewable energy and climate change agendas as well as the process of creation of a sustainable and low-carbon power markets; and
10. Member States to seize the opportunities of off- and mini-grid solutions in providing access to rural areas. Member States to transform their utilities through reforms addressing tariff issues, losses and operational inefficiencies conducive to attracting more private sector involvement.

For the Tourism Sector

TAKE NOTE OF:

1. AU Agenda 2063 ten year implementation plan and UN Agenda 2030 for sustainable development and their inclusion of tourism;
2. AU/NEPAD tourism action plans and the 2014 Seychelles tourism communiqué;
3. The Morocco 2016 African “Charter on Sustainable and Responsible Tourism” and the “Declaration on Tourism and Climate issues in Africa”;
4. The challenges facing tourism development in the continent.

AFFIRM:

1. The need to make Africa the preferred tourism destination, first for fellow Africans then for the rest of the world;
2. The importance of the tourism sector as key to addressing our respective development priorities, including poverty eradication and sustainable development.

INVITE:

1. The AUC and NEPAD to spearhead the implementation of the tourism action plans;
2. Partners including UNECA and donors to provide the necessary technical and financial support to the development of the sector with a view to achieve the goals of AU Agenda 2063 and UN Agenda 2030 for sustainable development;
3. All the African tourism stakeholders to work together towards ensuring a better visibility to the continental touristic potentials.

REQUEST:

1. Member States to prioritise the tourism sector as an important economic sector for the realisation of the AU Agenda 2063 and UN Agenda 2030;
2. Member States to ensure that they undertake necessary measures to ease the movement of people within the continent;
3. Member States to develop appropriate tourism products for the African tourist markets and to enhance their regional tourism marketing efforts;
4. Member States to take all the necessary measures to ensure safety and security of the continent; and
5. Member States to share best practices.

URGE:

1. Member States to allocate sufficient amount of their national budgets towards the development of the tourism sector;
2. Member States to ensure that their respective destinations are appropriately competitive particularly in terms of quality and standards, price competitiveness, accessibility, safety and security;
3. Member States to ensure the establishment of a conducive policy and regulatory environment;
4. Member States to establish a tourism fund geared towards supporting indigenous tourism entrepreneurship; and
5. The African Development Bank to consider extending the necessary support towards the development of tourism infrastructure and related infrastructure.

RECOMMEND THAT:

1. AUC in partnership with Member States, RECs and all African tourism stakeholders, ensure that the proposed African Tourism Organization is in line with AU Agenda 2063 ten year plan and is established by March 2018;

2. A Directorate, Division or Unit on Tourism be established in the structures of the AUC before December 2018 in order to provide policy support and coordination to the proposed African Tourism organisation.

DECIDE:

1. That the formulation of the AU Continental Tourism Policy Framework and Guidelines to which Member States should align their national tourism strategies in line with AU Agenda 2063 be urgently developed within one year of this declaration.

For Rural and Remote Areas**TAKE NOTE OF:**

1. The urgency to provide adequate infrastructure in rural and remote areas in order to improve and enhance the quality of services and promote activities which are crucial to jobs creation, access to quality education and healthcare services;
2. The AUC proposed Initiative to develop an integrated approach in unlocking access to basic infrastructure and services including energy, transport, water and ICT for rural and remote areas in Africa.

REQUEST:

1. The AUC to prepare a Strategy Paper and Action Plans for unlocking access to basic infrastructure and services including energy, transport, water and ICT for rural and remote areas in Africa.

INVITE:

1. Member States and Development Partners to provide technical and financial support to this initiative.

In conclusion**APPEAL TO:**

1. Member States of the African Union and Regional Economic Communities to strengthen inter-African and continental cooperation in the infrastructure sectors;
2. Member States to mainstream climate change into infrastructure planning and implementation; and further calls on Member States to enhance efforts to invest in climate information and services;
3. The various key regional and international partners including the African Development Bank (AfDB), United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), the World Bank and the European Union to continue supporting the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa;
4. Member States to formulate harmonized policies and regulations for infrastructure development promoting the use of local content and industrial

integration to create local jobs particularly for the youth, strengthen African Small and Medium Enterprises and ensuring technology transfer through vocational training;

5. AUC and NPCA to Develop and pilot the integrated corridor approach to link industrial hubs and rural areas, promote regional value chains thus creating new employment opportunities and test a methodology to estimate and track labor market effects of regional infrastructure programs.

REQUEST:

The African Union Commission to submit this Declaration to the next Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union for consideration and adoption.

Done in Lomé, Togo, on 17 March 2017

**DRAFT DECISION ON THE FIRST ORDINARY SESSION OF THE
SPECIALIZED TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORT,
TRANSCONTINENTAL AND INTERREGIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE,
ENERGY AND TOURISM (STC-TTIIET)**

Doc. EX.CL/1024(XXXI)

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the First Ordinary Meeting of the Specialised Technical Committee (STC) on Transport, Transcontinental and Interregional Infrastructure, Energy and Tourism (STC-TTIIET);
2. **CommendS** the Ministers responsible for Transport, Energy and Tourism for the successful holding of the First meeting of their Specialised Technical Committee (STC) and achieving notable outcomes for the development of the transport, energy and tourism sectors in Africa;
3. **ALSO COMMENDS** the Government and people of the Togolese Republic for the generous hosting of the historic event of the First Meeting of the AU Specialised Technical Committee (STC) on Transport, Transcontinental and Interregional Infrastructure, Energy and Tourism;
4. **RECOGNIZES WITH APPRECIATION** the Member States which have declared their Solemn Commitment to implementation of the Yamoussoukro Decision towards the establishment of a Single African Air Transport Market (SAATM) and urges all other Member States to subscribe to the Solemn Commitment to the SAATM.
5. **ENDORSES**
 - (i) The Report of the First Ordinary Meeting of the Specialised Technical Committee (STC) on Transport, Transcontinental and Interregional Infrastructure, Energy and Tourism (STC-TTIIET);
 - (ii) The Declaration of Lomé of the STC-TTIIET which clearly indicates the resolve of the sector Ministers and their commitment to the implementation of agreed policies, strategies and programmes for the accelerated development of energy, transport and tourism infrastructure and services in Africa.
6. **ALSO ENDORSES:**
 - (i) The African Union Plans of Action on Energy, Transport (Air, Maritime, Railway and Road), Tourism and the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA); and
 - (ii) The Windhoek Ministerial Declaration and Targets on Aviation Security and Facilitation in Africa.
7. **REQUESTS** the African Union Commission to:

- (i) submit the Rules of Procedure of the Specialized Technical Committee on Transport, Transcontinental and Interregional Infrastructure, Energy and Tourism to the next Session of the STC on Justice and Legal Affairs for clearance and, thereafter, to the AU Summit in January 2018 for adoption;
 - (ii) submit the Regulatory Texts of the Yamoussoukro Decision on the liberalisation of air transport markets in Africa to the next Session of the STC on Justice and Legal Affairs for clearance and, thereafter, to the AU Summit in January 2018 for adoption;
 - (iii) disseminate the endorsed: (i) Report of the First Ordinary Meeting of the Specialised Technical Committee (STC) on Transport, Transcontinental and Interregional Infrastructure, Energy and Tourism (STC-TTIIET); (ii) the Lomé Declaration of the STC-TTIIET; (iii) the African Union Plans of Action on Energy, Transport (Air, Maritime, Railway and Road), Tourism and PIDA; and (iv) the Windhoek Ministerial Declaration and Targets on Aviation Security Facilitation in Africa to all Member States and other stakeholders as well as facilitate their smooth implementation through capacity building measures whenever necessary;
 - (iv) take all the necessary measures within its mandate in collaboration with the Regional Economic Communities, specialised institutions, Member States, international partners and other stakeholders to speed up the implementation of the African Union Plans of Action on Energy, Transport (Air, Maritime, Railway and Road), Tourism and PIDA a view to enhancing integration and socio-economic development of Africa;
 - (v) ensure the elaboration and prioritisation of implementation of appropriate energy, transport, tourism and infrastructure programmes, including unlocking access to infrastructure for rural and remote areas, that are crucial for the successful achievement of the AU Agenda 2063 and the Global Agenda 2030.
8. **APPEALS** to the African Development Bank, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, the European Union, the World Bank and other development partners to support the implementation of the African Union Plans of Action on Energy, Transport (Air, Maritime, Railway and Road), Tourism and PIDA.

2017

Rapport de la Première Session du
Comité Technique Spécialisé de
l'Union Africaine sur le Transport, les
Infrastructures Transcontinentales et
Interrégionales, l'Énergie et le
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