
(Item Proposed by the Republic of Guinea)
CONCEPT NOTE ON THE STATUS OF PROGRESS AND MEASURES ENVISAGED TO EXPEDITE IMPLEMENTATION OF DECISION NO 465 ESTABLISHING THE SOUTH/SOUTH AND TRIANGULAR COALITION FOR AFRICA POST-2015

1. This note gives the status of progress of implementation of Decision No. 465 establishing the South/South and Triangular Coalition for Africa post-2015 and indicates measures envisaged to speed up implementation of the Decision.

I. BACKGROUND:

2. The 20th Summit of the African Union held in Addis Ababa from 27 to 28 January 2013, adopted Assembly Decision/AU/Dec.465 (XX) establishing the South/ South and Triangular Coalition for Africa post-2015 and accepted the candidacy of Guinea to host its headquarters.

3. By adopting this decision, the 20th Summit expressed the determination of the continent to increase, diversify, pool and better coordinate resources from the South- South and Triangular Cooperation for Africa Post-2015 in order to attain sustainable development objectives. The decision was the first action of the Post-2015 Development Agenda for Africa.

II. STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECISION:

4. Decision No. 465, in its sub paragraph 6, requested the Sixth Joint AU/ECA Conference of Ministers of Finance, Economy and Planning held in Abidjan in March 2013 to deepen reflection on the implementation of the Coalition.

5. Consequently, the Guinean Government, with the support of ECA and UNDP, prepared the Report on measures and actions for further reflection on the implementation of the Decision.

6. The report identified the objectives, defined the statutes and missions and proposed the organization and operation of the Coalition.

7. Similarly, under the preparatory phase, a draft institutional support Document, financed through a trust fund managed by the UNDP and other partners, was prepared in order to implement the following actions:

   a) make an assessment of the areas of South/South and Triangular Cooperation in Africa;

   b) propose a new African strategy for South/South and Triangular Cooperation;

   c) Propose on action plan for the implementation of the new African Strategy;

   d) organize the Conference of the Coalition Partners.

8. However, for want of translation into the Commission's languages, consideration of the Report was deferred to the 7th Meeting of the Joint Conference
of Ministers of Finance held in Abuja in March 2014. The meeting, while endorsing the Report subject to correction of "misprints" and amendment to the rotation of African members of the Executive Committee, called for the implementation of the Decision.

9. The revised Report was sent to the Secretariat on 8 April 2014 for a new translation before being sent to Member States and placed on the Agenda of the Malabo Summit in June 2014.

10. Since the Report was not presented to the Malabo Summit, the implementation of the Decision continued to experience delays, particularly in regard to the implementation of actions envisaged under the 2013-2015 preparatory phase.

11. It is worth emphasizing that since the adoption of the Decision, no action has been taken to include the implementation of the Decision in the Commission's annual strategic action plans; no institution or person has been formally appointed at the AU Commission to be responsible for the implementation of the Decision; no budgetary provision has been allocated for the implementation of the Decision; No Statements by the Commission's Officials made mention of the establishment of the Coalition as part of Post-2015 Development Agenda, much less formal inclusion of the issue as a statutory item of the Commission. That notwithstanding, the Guinean Government appointed a Coalition Project Coordinator with a Technical Secretariat. The Secretariat prepared the implementation Report adopted by the Conference in Abuja and also the Draft Institutional Support document.

12. Lastly, the Government took measures to host the headquarters of the Coalition.

13. Overall, apart from the Report approved by the Conference of Ministers in March 2014 in Abuja, no action has been undertaken by the Commission since the adoption of the Decision.

14. In a bid to make up for the delay the Guinean Government, with the support of the NEPAD Agency, has taken the following measures to fast-track the implementation of the Decision establishing the Coalition.

III. MEASURES ENVISAGED TO ACCELERATE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECISION:

15. In order to speed up implementation of the Decision, the following actions have been envisaged:

15.1 Definition of a concept note for the study on coordination and pooling of existing international partnerships with Africa in 2015 and a new roadmap to avoid delay by carrying out the actions envisaged in the preparatory phase and reschedule the start-up of the Coalition activities to June 2016 instead of January 2016.

The above-mentioned Study will enable:

i) an inventory to be made;
ii) a new African strategy to be mapped out;

iii) an implementation action plan of the new strategy to be proposed;

iv) the regional institutional support project to the 2016-2020 Coalition to be formulated;

v) the terms of reference of the Conference of the Coalition Partners scheduled for December 2015 to be prepared. Through the Study, actions of the preparatory phase initially planned for 2013-2015 to backstop the Institutional Support Project will be undertaken.

15.2 Completion of the above-mentioned study between May and July 2015;

15.3 Organization of the Conference of the Coalition Partners in December 2015;

15.4 Inclusion of the Coalition among the statutory issues of the Commission;

15.5 Budgeting the Coalition and provision of budgetary allocation for 2016 and subsequent years;

15.6 Technical and financial support of the Commission in the form of logistical support to the Technical Preparatory Committee for the implementation of the above-mentioned study.

16. These measures will lead to the transformation of the Institutional Support Project of the 2013-2015 preparatory phase into a 2016-2020 Institutional Support Project to backstop the start-up of the Coalition's activities from June 2016.

17. The outcomes of these actions together with the Implementation Report adopted in Abuja will be submitted to the policy organs of the African Union in June 2016.

IV. CONCLUDING REMARKS:

18. As in the case of the concept note and the draft decision submitted in January 2013, the Government of Guinea has commissioned the Study under the supervision of the Ministry of Cooperation. The support of the Commission would consist in providing expertise either in the form of logistics, recruiting an international consultant or seconding an Official of the Commission to assist the Technical Committee for the conduct of the Study for a period not exceeding two weeks in June 2015.
2015

Presentation of the report on the status of implementation of decision no. 465 of the 20th AU summit establishing the south / south and triangular coalition for Africa post-2015 and assigning Guinea to host the headquarters (Item Proposed by the Republic of Guinea)