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**PROGRESS REPORT ON DOMESTICATION OF THE FIRST TEN
YEAR IMPLEMENTATION PLAN OF AGENDA 2063**

PROGRESS REPORT ON DOMESTICATION OF THE FIRST TEN YEAR IMPLEMENTATION PLAN OF AGENDA 2063

I. Introduction

1. This note summarizes progress made and actions taken by the Commission with respect to the implementation of Agenda 2063 since the January 2016 meetings of the AU Policy Organs. It builds upon the report prepared for the retreat of the Executive Council that took place 5-7 May in Nairobi, Kenya.

2. It serves as a briefing note, as well as a short-term planning tool, and it highlights some of the key activities the Commission will be focusing on leading to the meetings of the AU policy organs and the Summit scheduled for July 2016.

1. Progress

3. The main areas of work supported by the Commission fall under the following main clusters:

- Domestication of Agenda 2063 in Member States and other stakeholders;
- Internal domestication of Agenda 2063 within the Commission and AU Organs;
- Measurement Framework for Agenda 2063 First Ten Year Implementation Plan;
- Convergence/Alignment of M&E Frameworks of RECs for Agenda 2063 FTYIP;
- Flagship Projects and Programmes;
- STC on Finance, Planning and Monetary Affairs;
- Agenda 2063 Financing, DRM & Partnership Strategy; and
- Other Activities.

(A) Domestication of Agenda 2063 in Member States' National Planning Frameworks

(i) Domestication of Agenda 2063 FTYIP continues to gather momentum within Member States. Since adoption, and leading up to the January 2016 Summit and beyond, some 25 Member States have hosted AUC technical facilitation missions.

- West Africa: Benin, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Gambia, Liberia, Senegal, Togo;
- East Africa: Comoros, Eritrea, Kenya, Rwanda, Sudan, Seychelles;
- Southern Africa: Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Swaziland, Zambia, Zimbabwe;
- North Africa: Algeria, Saharawi Republic;
- Central Africa: Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo, Republic of Congo, Sao Tome.

- (ii) Briefing Kits on Agenda 2063 in the four AU official languages were prepared and distributed to national stakeholders during domestication missions.
- (iii) Detailed country domestication mission reports are available and are being shared with respective embassies/missions based in Addis for onward transmissions to national authorities.

4. Some key observations with respect to domestication at Member States level are summarized below:

(B) Internal domestication of Agenda 2063 within the Commission and AU Organs

5. In tandem with the work to facilitate domestication by Member states, initial steps have also been taken towards the internal domestication of Agenda 2063 by the Commission. The Chairperson has further expanded the initiative to cover all AU Organs in line with the call by the Summit that all AU Organs to align their work with the Agenda 2063 FTYIP by June 2016. In this connection, the Commission's directorate of strategic planning (SPPMERM) has finalized the necessary tools to support the exercise and departments have already started work on this issue. It is expected that upon completion, work plans of all Commission's departments and directorates will be fully consistent with Agenda 2063 FTYIP.

6. As an adjunct to the above mentioned work stream, the Commission is also launching a self-assessment of its strategic plan (2014-2017), which is in its final phases of execution. This exercise will enable not only to take stock of progress made but will also assist the Commission to draw useful lessons that can inform implementation of Agenda 2063 FTYIP. The tools for the self-assessment exercise to be undertaken by the Commission's departments and directorates have also been developed and placed online.

(C) Measurement Framework for Agenda 2063 FTYIP

7. Working in close collaboration with Directors General of Statistics of Member States through ASSD (African Symposium on Statistical Development), partner institutions (AfDB, ECA, etc.), significant progress has been realized with respect to development of the Agenda 2063 measurement and accountability framework, in terms of both process and substance.

Process

- Multi-partner led effort involving Statistics SA, ASSD, UNECA, AfDB, NPCA, APRM and national experts is now in place;
- Involvement of Directors of national statistical institutions and Planners

Substantive outputs

- A set of 114 core indicators and data sources has been agreed. These are linked to the targets, priority areas and aspirations of the results framework of the Agenda 2063 FTYIP;
- A set of 85 "super indicators" have been identified from the core indicators with the RECs;

- A workshop on the costing of the implementation of the measurement framework at the national level and development of Resource Mobilization and Technology Strategies was held in Pretoria, South Africa on 3 – 7 May 2016. The aim was to enable Africa to deal with funds that are acquired from donors for generation of data that informs policy. On the technology strategy the concern is for the continent to have the right global partnerships as we move towards greater use of technology, since data and technology are indivisible therefore statistics cannot be separated from technology;
- Development of Agenda 2063 score cards in targeted areas as part of validating the indicators:
 - ✓ Gender Scorecard was assessed and indicators rearranged into those tracking impact on Social, Economic and Governance. This will be published in time for presentation at the Summit in July.
 - ✓ Peace and Security is also developing scorecard for APSA, which will monitor implementation of one of the flagship projects, “Silencing Guns by 2020”.
 - ✓ Preliminary negotiations have been held with Department of Political Affairs to develop scorecard for governance, building on experience gain on Gender Scorecard with assistance from Cape Verde.
 - ✓ Department of Social Affairs is also negotiating with UNNESCO Institute of Statistics to develop scorecard for Culture.

(D) Convergence/Alignment of M&E Frameworks of RECS for Agenda 2063

8. The RECs are envisaged to play a vital role with regards to implementation of Agenda 2063 FTYIP in terms of both the achievement of targets at regional level, but importantly also because of the interface role they are expected to play between country-level and continental level, especially in with respect to M&E. The Commission, therefore, continues to work closely with the RECs in a collaborative effort to ensure alignment of their M&E frameworks with Agenda 2063. Significant progress has been made as detailed below.

Process

- A multi-stakeholder partnership involving all the eight RECs and key collaborative institutions (AUC, ASSD, UNECA, AfDB, ACBF, etc.) has been established;
- A series of regular technical meetings are being held to build consensus on the work underway.
- A roadmap has been agreed with all stakeholders, including all the eight RECs towards finalization of the M&E framework.

Outputs

- Monitoring cycle, including the frequency / duration for obtaining the monitoring data / information from the member states, as well as, the frequency / time line for generating the monitoring reports has been agreed.
 - ✓ Annual reporting cycle for MS;
 - ✓ Bi annual cycles at regional level to the AUC.
- Consistency in reporting formats, which will be generated electronically by each REC.;
- A draft report template for Agenda 2063, has been developed.

(E) Flagship Projects and Programmes

9. A detailed report on progress with respect to the flagship was presented to the recently held retreat of the Executive Council in Nairobi. No new information is therefore available – refer to report.

(F) The 2nd meeting of the STC and 9th meeting of the Finance, Monetary Affairs, Economic Planning and Integration

10. The 9th Joint Annual Meetings of the African Union Specialized Technical Committee on Finance, Monetary Affairs, Economic Planning and Integration and the Economic Commission for Africa Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development Addis Ababa, 4 and 5 April 2016, acknowledged that Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development offer a unique opportunity for Africa to achieve inclusive and transformative development with equity. As a consequence, they endorsed a single monitoring and evaluation framework, accommodating both agendas, and a common reporting architecture that will produce a single periodic performance report.

11. The Ministers also acknowledged the fact Agenda 2063 FTYIP endeavours to integrate the two agendas, and also, appreciated that the measurement framework highlighted the convergence of the two agendas at the target level, which has made it possible to identify common indicators.

(G) Agenda 2063 Financing, DRM & Partnership Strategy

12. Executive Council Decision (**Doc. EX.CL/899(XXVII)**) urged Member States, RECs and the Commission, NPCA in partnership with the UNECA, and AfDB to (a) deepen the examination of the strategy for the domestic and external financing of Agenda 2063 and (b) prepare an operational plan for implementation of the recommendations of the Resource Mobilization Study.

13. Towards this end an Expert Meeting on Agenda 2063 Financing, Domestic Resource Mobilization (DRM) and Partnership Strategy, involving financial services/markets specialists, development finance institutions, thematic experts (PPP/infrastructure, OGM, blue economy, etc.), treasury/fiscal experts is scheduled to take place after the July 2016 Summit finalise the operational framework.

(H) Other Activities

14. In addition to the above, the Commission undertook a number of other activities as follows:

- Capacity Development: As a follow up to the Executive Council retreat in connection with the January 2016 summit held in Addis Ababa, ACBF organized a Stakeholders' Engagement Workshop on the Capacity Needs Assessment and Critical Technical Skills required for implementation of Agenda 2063 at AUC HQ, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 12 – 13 May 2016. At the conclusion of the workshop, participants developed a detailed action plan, which identified: key actions to pursue; actors responsible; time frame for implementation; and possible sources of funding for the actions identified;
- Appropriation/Internalization of Agenda 2063 by Stakeholders:
 - ✓ Assisting the Shipowners Association to develop their Strategic Plan that is in sync with Agenda 2063 FTYIP. This was followed by development of a work plan, including financing strategy to facilitate adoption and implementation by all members;
 - ✓ Participation at the UNESCO Chair Symposium on the Interface between Cultural Policy and Development, which was organized by Tshwane University of Technology in March. This was in recognition of the potential role culture policy can play in the cultural and creative industries, rural and urban regeneration and business entrepreneurship in culture-led transformations.
- Popularization of Agenda 2063: Much progress has been made to produce high quality Agenda 2063 documents for dissemination to the general public in sufficient quantities in all the four official languages of the AU: (i) Agenda 2063 Framework Document (10,000 copies); (ii) First Ten Year Implementation Plan (10,000 copies); (iii) Agenda 2063 Popular Version (120,000 copies); and (iv) Agenda 2063 Briefing Kit (10,000 copies). The availability of these key documents will significantly boost the popularization of Agenda 2063.

2. Next Steps

15. In addition to preparations for the upcoming meetings of the AU policy organs of the AU scheduled for July, priority will be given to consolidating domestication in Member States and supporting internal domestication of Agenda 2063 FTYIP within the Commission and other AU Organs.

Consolidation of Domestication of Agenda 2063 in Member States

16. Some of the key activities to be undertaken going forward will include:

- At the request of MS, the Commission will be fielding facilitation and technical support missions to Member States not visited so far. These include: Burundi, Ethiopia, Egypt, Tunisia, Uganda and others;

- For Member States already visited, there will be follow up on key actions agreed and closely monitoring reviews/preparation of national planning frameworks in order to offer timely support for integration/alignment with Agenda 2063 FTYIP;
- A consultation/planning meeting is also planned after the Summit to bring together the Heads National Planning entities of all the countries visited in order to share their experience in order to facilitate the “*South-South Cooperation*” within the Continent.

17. In addition to these key activities, work will continue in other areas, among which are the following:

- Finalize the First Ten-year Implementation Plan measurement Framework (i.e. Indicators and sources of data);
- Finalize and validate the RECS M&E Harmonization and Convergence Process;
- Hold the Expert Meeting on Agenda 2063 Financing, DRM and Partnership Strategy.

18. Due to time constraints, finalization of the above – i.e. measurement framework and alignment of RECs M&E frameworks - are scheduled for immediately after the July 2016 Summit. The Expert Meeting on Agenda 2063 Financing, DRM and Partnership could be scheduled after the Summit.

3. Conclusion

19. Implementation of Agenda 2063 is gathering momentum as evidenced by actions across a broad front and involving numerous stakeholders. Although many challenges remain, it can be safely said that the Agenda has taken root and is on the path to being firmly entrenched within the continent.

20. Challenges however, remain in terms of its links with global frameworks such as the SDGs and the ability to secure the resources to implement the commitments enshrined within it.

21. A few key areas where action is needed to consolidate the gains made are the following:

- a) To ensure that Agenda 2063 is firmly entrenched as the reference-planning framework at national level, it is critical that the national assemblies of Member States are mobilized and that legislative steps are taken in this connection. Building upon the decisions of the January 2016 AU Summit, the Pan African Parliament can be tasked with developing a model law on Agenda 2063, which can be used as a basis for national legislation. This will serve to ensure cross-party support for Agenda 2063 at national level. This work should be done in close consultation with ECOSSOC.

- b) Although Member States are fully engaged in domesticating Agenda 2063, the Commission needs to provide on-going technical support to ensure the momentum. In this regard, consideration should be given to setting up a technical and financial support facility, through a trust fund or other mechanism, for the purpose of domestication. This is particularly urgent in view of the fact that the UN-system is already gearing up to provide catalytic funds for integration of SDGs into national plans of Member States. The proposed technical support facility can take the form of a “Basket Fund” which be discussed with AfDB and other partners.
- c) Finally, consideration should be given to synchronizing the planning cycles of the Commission and all AU Organs with the Ten Year Implementation Plan. This will require adopting 5-year planning cycles whose dates are synchronized with the FTYIP. The implication for the Commission is that the next strategic plan spans the period 2019-2023. This will mean that the year 2018 be taken as a transition year not only for the plan but also provide the opportunity to align mandates, structures, roles and responsibilities and recruit the appropriate skills.

22. Given the strategic nature of these proposals, it might be prudent to seek Summit decisions regarding them.

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