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**REPORT ON ACTIVITIES OF THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE (PRC) SUB-COMMITTEE ON AUDA-NEPAD
FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 2019 TO JANUARY 2020**

**REPORT ON ACTIVITIES OF THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE (PRC)
SUB-COMMITTEE ON AUDA-NEPAD
FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 2019 TO JANUARY 2020**

INTRODUCTION

1. The PRC Sub-Committee on AUDA-NEPAD is one of the PRC Sub-Committees that comprises fifteen (15) member states on the basis of three (3) per region, with a mandate to advise the PRC on AUDA-NEPAD related issues as enshrined in its Terms of Reference (TORs). The Sub-Committee is currently chaired by Ambassador of the Republic of Botswana and Permanent Representative to the African Union.

SUMMARY OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 2019 TO JANUARY 2020

2. During the period under consideration, the PRC Sub-Committee on AUDA-NEPAD was under the Chairmanship of the Republic of Botswana. In this period, the Sub-Committee on AUDA-NEPAD focused on the modalities for the implementation of Assembly Decision AU/Dec.635 (XXVIII) of January 2017 which was adopted during the 28th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Union, that transforms the AUDA-NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency into an African Union Development Agency, within the framework of the African Union Institutional Reforms. In addition, the sub-committee also considered the Draft Statute of the African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD) as well as Rules of Procedure.

3. The eighteenth (18th) meeting of the PRC Sub-Committee on AUDA-NEPAD held on 14th April, 2019 considered AUDA-NEPAD legal documents, namely, the Draft statute and the Draft rules of procedure. The overall objective of the meeting was to review the aforementioned legal documents.

4. This was followed by the working visit of the newly-constituted PRC Sub-Committee on AUDA-NEPAD and the African Union Development Agency-NEPAD (AUDA-NEPAD) held from 30th – 31st May, 2019, at the AUDA-NEPAD offices in Midrand, South Africa where they also reviewed the proposed structure for the AUDA-NEPAD.

5. This report is a recapitulation of the activities of the Sub-Committee, the challenges encountered, and the recommendations on the way forward.

6. The 18th meeting of the PRC Sub-Committee on AUDA-NEPAD held on 14 April 2019 discussed the legal documents pertaining to the AUDA-NEPAD Structure and Rules of Procedure, the working visit of the newly-constituted PRC Sub-Committee on AUDA-NEPAD and the African Union Development Agency-NEPAD (AUDA-NEPAD) held from 30th – 31st May, 2019, at the AUDA-NEPAD offices in Midrand, South Africa among other issues, reviewed the draft statutes and rules of procedure of AUDA-NEPAD. In addition, during the same visit, an induction was also held and AUDA-NEPAD historical and evolutionary trajectory and status of transformation of NPCA into AUDA-NEPAD was presented.

7. The discussion in Midrand, focussed on the necessity to ensure coherence and

coordination at the National level; the need to manage levels of expectation related to programme implementation; and the significance of communicating the project selection criteria, and to ensure access by all Member States. In addition, it was emphasized that the Blue Economy should be considered as a factor for economic growth and more needs to be done in this domain. Members were also of the view that there was a need to align National Development Planning with Agenda 2063 and increase collaboration between AUDA-NEPAD, RECs and AUC.

8. It should be recalled that during the thirty-Fifth Ordinary Session of the Executive Council held on 4 - 5 July 2019 Niamey, Niger the following legal Instruments of the AUDA-NEPAD, were adopted namely:

- (i) Statute of the AUDA-NEPAD; and
- (ii) Rules of Procedure of the Governance Structures of the AUDA-NEPAD as follows:
 - (a) Rules of Procedure of Heads of State and Government Orientation Committee (HSGOC);
 - (b) Rules of Procedure of the Steering Committee.

9. In addition, the Executive Council also adopted the structure of the AUDA-NEPAD which is to be implemented over a period of three years through strict application of AU Staff Regulations and Rules.

Important issues identified arising from the conduct of the activities of the PRC Sub-Committee on the AUDA-NEPAD

10. While conducting its activities and also transpiring from various meetings it held, the PRC Sub-Committee on AUDA-NEPAD identified the following important issues for further consideration and implementation:

1) Structure of AUDA-NEPAD

- a. The issue of country quotas in the Agency needs to be addressed as the new structure is being put in place over the next three years
- b. There is a need to ensure that AUDA-NEPAD is functional, impactful and much more visible;
- c. There is a further need to communicate the selection criteria of all projects, and to ensure access and proper geographical distribution to all Member States;
- d. The Blue Economy should be considered as a factor for economic growth and more needs to be done in this domain;
- e. Adequate communication on AUDA-NEPAD's progress is essential, especially in garnering the support of Member States;
- f. In terms of capacity building, there is need to establish a data base of women and youth with the aim of attracting local capacity; and
- g. Awareness workshops should be organized to showcase what AUDA-NEPAD is doing including the Blue Economy;

2) Inter-Institutional Relations

- a. There is need for more clarified roles between AUC and AUDA-NEPAD with a

clear division of labour, especially at the level of resource mobilization, and how coordination can be done in alignment with the decision from the AU structures; and;

- b. There is need to adopt an integrated and coherent approach to the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of Agenda 2063 and Agenda 2030.

3) Managing By Evaluation at AUDA-NEPAD

- a. The internal capacity relating to monitoring and evaluation needs be strengthened within the proposed new structure of AUDA-NEPAD;
- b. Monitoring and Evaluation involves organizing joint planning and review sessions with SPPMERM for a common understanding that speaks to Agenda 2063 and showcasing or popularizing tools on accessing data in real time; and
- c. It may be necessary to conceptualise a type of African development fund, through which the Development Agency could have a development fund which would pool funds from partners. There is a need for Africa to be creative in this aspect, and interaction with AUC in this respect is very positive.

4) Policy, Financial, Institutional and Administrative Matters

11. Other issues that merited further consideration and implementation include the following:

- a. The PRC Sub-Committee on AUDA-NEPAD's Decisions to feed into those of the AUDA-NEPAD Steering Committee and the Heads of State and Government Orientation Committee (HSGOC);
- b. The AUDA-NEPAD's new mandate has necessitated the recalibration of the Agency's programme delivery. It operates on a multi-sectoral and corridor approach;
- c. As of Mid-December 2019 the overall execution rate of AUDA-NEPAD's budget was 99%. The 2019 budget allocation was \$17.6m from Member States but for 2020 it has been reduced to \$10m. With an AUDA-NEPAD expanded mandate, the resources requirement to achieve its strategic objectives falls short of the allocated budget. It was alluded that the funding gap of \$20 million from Member States will be brought to the attention of the relevant AU Organs for approval by way of a supplementary budget;
- d. The current structure of AUDA-NEPAD has 166 positions, out of which 38 have been filled laterally or in acting capacity, with 29 to fill in 2020 through e-recruitment. The list of vacancies should be shared with countries for wider participation in recruitment process;
- e. The strategic objectives and priority areas of AUDA-NEPAD which adopted the methodology using mega trends and an environmental scan based on Agenda 2063 and the Ten Year Implementation Plan (TYIP). The Strategic plan is aligned to the FTYIP of the A2063 (2020-2023). Regarding the resources for financing the strategic plan, AUDA-NEPAD have a current budget which is spread over three years, which is insufficient to fully implement the strategic plan. AUDA-NEPAD

interventions are moving from development sector specific programmes to an integrated approach wherein inter-sectoral projects are tenable together for economic activities;

- f. Furthermore, the AUC, AUDA-NEPAD, and member States have prepared the first monitoring report of Agenda 2063 and First Ten Year Implementation Plan. The methodology of the gathered data was presented, and thirty countries responded to the template and an aggregate of performance indicators were also presented; and
- g. The AUDA-NEPAD Steering Committee objected to two issues flagged in the Rules of Procedure (Co-Chairing of the Steering Committee by the Chairperson of the AU Commission) and the rotation of initiating members). The Legal Council was seized of the two issues and provided its analysis. The issues will be raised to the HSGOC.

Appointment of a New CEO for AUDA-NEPAD

- a. The current contract of the CEO ends in March 2020. The appointment of the CEO is done by the HSGOC, which will meet in February 2021, leaving a gap. The recruitment process must be triggered speedily. A timeline regarding the recruitment is needed urgently. The Steering Committee has indicated to have representatives in the interview panel;
- b. Given that the position of the CEO's of AUDA-NEPAD has already been occupied by persons from the Southern African region as well as Western African, the candidates coming from Eastern, Northern and Central region will be given an opportunity to apply in compliance with principle of rotation;
- c. The PRC Sub-Committee acknowledged the need for a smooth transition in the operationalization of AUDA-NEPAD and in this regard endorses the extension of the current CEO until a new one is appointed; and
- d. The HSGOC will also be seized on the extension of the contract of the current CEO until the recruitment of the new CEO

RECOMMENDATIONS

12. Based on the above mentioned issues, the PRC Sub-Committee on AUDA-NEPAD made the following recommendations:

- a) There is a need to maintain and strengthen the AUDA-NEPAD Coordination Unit within the Office of the AUC Chairperson's Office in the new structure as it plays a vital role in the coordination of activities between the PRC and the AUDA-NEPAD;
- b) Requests the AUDA-NEPAD to circulate the list of the positions to be filled in 2020 to all AU Member States ;
- c) Endorses the extension of the current CEO until a new one is appointed and Calls

for a comprehensive timeline on the recruitment of the new CEO;

- d) Requests the Commission to undertake and conclude the recruitment of the new CEO of AUDA-NEPAD by 31 December 2020. The Commission should communicate the Terms of Reference (TOR), timelines and the details of the recruitment process to the Member States;
- e) Recognises the need for the full and continuous involvement of the Sub-Committee in the on-going process of the transformation of the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency into the African Union Development Agency;
- f) AUDA-NEPAD to work closely and coherently with AUC, in order to ensure full implementation of its mandate;
- g) Requests the AUDA-NEPAD to finalize consultations on the pooling of the Funds from the partners and voluntary contribution by member States for the implementation of Agenda 2063 and its flagship projects;
- h) Takes note of the budget gap resulting from the expanded mandate of AUDA-NEPAD and requests AUDA-NEPAD to submit to the relevant AU structure detailed and itemised programme and project proposals as a supplementary budget for 2020; and
- i) The PRC Sub-Committee on AUDA-NEPAD's Decisions to feed into those of the AUDA-NEPAD Steering Committee and the Heads of State and Government Orientation Committee (HSGOC).

**DRAFT DECISION ON THE REPORT OF
THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON AUDA-NEPAD**

The Executive Council,

- 1. FURTHER REQUESTS** AUDA-NEPAD to finalize consultations on the pooling of the Funds from the partners and voluntary contribution by member States for the implementation of Agenda 2063 and its flagship projects.
- 2. TAKES NOTE** of the budget gap resulting from the expanded mandate of AUDA-NEPAD and **REQUESTS** AUDA-NEPAD to submit to the relevant AU structure detailed and itemised programme and project proposals as a supplementary budget for 2020.
- 3. ALSO REQUESTS** the Commission to undertake and conclude the recruitment of the new CEO of AUDA-NEPAD by 31 December 2020. The Commission should communicate the Terms of Reference (TOR), timelines and the details of the recruitment process to the Member States.

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