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**REPORT OF THE AFRICAN UNION COMMISSION ON THE
OPERATIONALIZATION OF THE AU-SPECIALIZED TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
(AU-STC 8) ON PUBLIC SERVICE, LOCAL GOVERNMENT, URBAN
DEVELOPMENT AND DECENTRALIZATION**

**REPORT OF THE AFRICAN UNION COMMISSION ON THE
OPERATIONALIZATION OF THE AU- SPECIALIZED TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
(STC) ON PUBLIC SERVICE, LOCAL GOVERNMENT, URBAN DEVELOPMENT
AND DECENTRALIZATION.**

I. BACKGROUND

1. The Specialized Technical Committees (STCs), which constitute an important technical organ of the African Union (AU), were established under Article 25 of the Africa Economic Treaty (the Abuja Treaty). Following the transformation of the Organization of Africa Unity into African Union, the STCs were carried over by the Constitutive Act of the African Union under Article 14 to 16. The AU-STCs are expected to provide well informed inputs in their areas of specialization to the work of the Executive Council. Also, they are mandated to be part of the team that would monitor programme development and implementation by the AU and RECs on behalf of the Executive Council.

II. OPERATIONALIZATION OF THE AU-STC 8 ON PUBLIC SERVICE, LOCAL GOVERNMENT, URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND DECENTRALIZATION

2. Over the years, different ministerial conferences and programmes were put in place to promote good governance and development in different sectors across the continent. Some of these sectors include the Public Service and Administration; Decentralization and Local Government; Housing; Urban Development; and Human Settlements etc. While few of the African ministerial conferences operate independently from the African Union (AU), majority of them function under the African Union governance architecture¹.

3. The Department of Political Affairs (DPA) of the African Union Commission is the focal Department for and Secretariat of the AU-STC 8 on Public Service, Local Government, Urban Development and Decentralization. As elaborated in the next paragraph, the Department commenced the operationalization of the STC no.8 in line with all the AU relevant Decisions in 2013.

III. THE FIRST ORDINARY SESSION OF THE AU-STC ON PUBLIC SERVICE, LOCAL GOVERNMENT, URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND DECENTRALIZATION

4. The First Ordinary Session of the African Union Specialized Technical Committee on Public Service, Local Government, Urban Development and Decentralization (AU STC No. 8) was held in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo from 24th to 26th November 2014. The main objectives of the meeting were to:

- a) To operationalize the AU STC 8;
 - b) To harmonize the agreed programme and activities of the AU STC No. 8 Sub-Committees for the next two years (2015-2016).
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5. The Meeting was attended by Thirty (30) African Union Member States, namely:

Algeria, Angola, Benin, Burundi, Cameroon, Congo-Brazzaville, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, Chad, Togo, Uganda, Zambia, Tanzania, and Democratic Republic of Congo.

IV. **SUMMARY OF KEY OUTCOMES OF THE FIRST ORDINARY SESSION OF THE STC:**

6. The following were the key outcomes of the meeting:

- i) The structure and the operation of the AU STC 8 agreed;
- ii) The programmes and activities of the AU STC 8 for the next two years agreed;
- iii) The Rules of Procedure of the AU- STC 8 finalised and recommended to the African Union Policy Organs for consideration and adoption;
- iv) The Substantive Bureau for the AU - STC 8 constituted for the next two years, November 2014-November 2016.

V. **DECISION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ON THE REPORT SUBMITTED ON OPERATIONALIZATION OF AU-STC 8 ON PUBLIC SERVICE, LOCAL GOVERNMENT, URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND DECENTRALIZATION IN JANUARY 2015- DOC. EX.CL/915 (XXVII)**

7. The following was decided:

REQUESTS the Commission to work with the STC in streamlining the proposals made regarding its internal working methods and procedures and submit any related budgetary and structural implications to their relevant PRC Sub-Committees (full decision in Annex 1).

VI. **THE SECOND ORDINARY SESSION OF THE AU-STC ON PUBLIC SERVICE, LOCAL GOVERNMENT, URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND DECENTRALIZATION**

8. The Second Ordinary Session of the African Union Specialized Technical Committee on Public Service, Local Government, Urban Development and Decentralization (AU STC 8) was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 07 to 09 December 2016. The main objectives of the meeting were to:

- a) To constitute a new Bureau of the STC 8 for a two-year period;

- b) To review progress made on the implementation of activities of the two-year work plan (2015-2016) of the STC 8 on Public Service, Local Government, Urban Development and Decentralization;
- c) To review progress made on the state of full operationalization of the STC8 'Secretariat such as its structure, human and financial resources;

9. The Meeting was attended by thirty-six (36) African Union member states, namely:

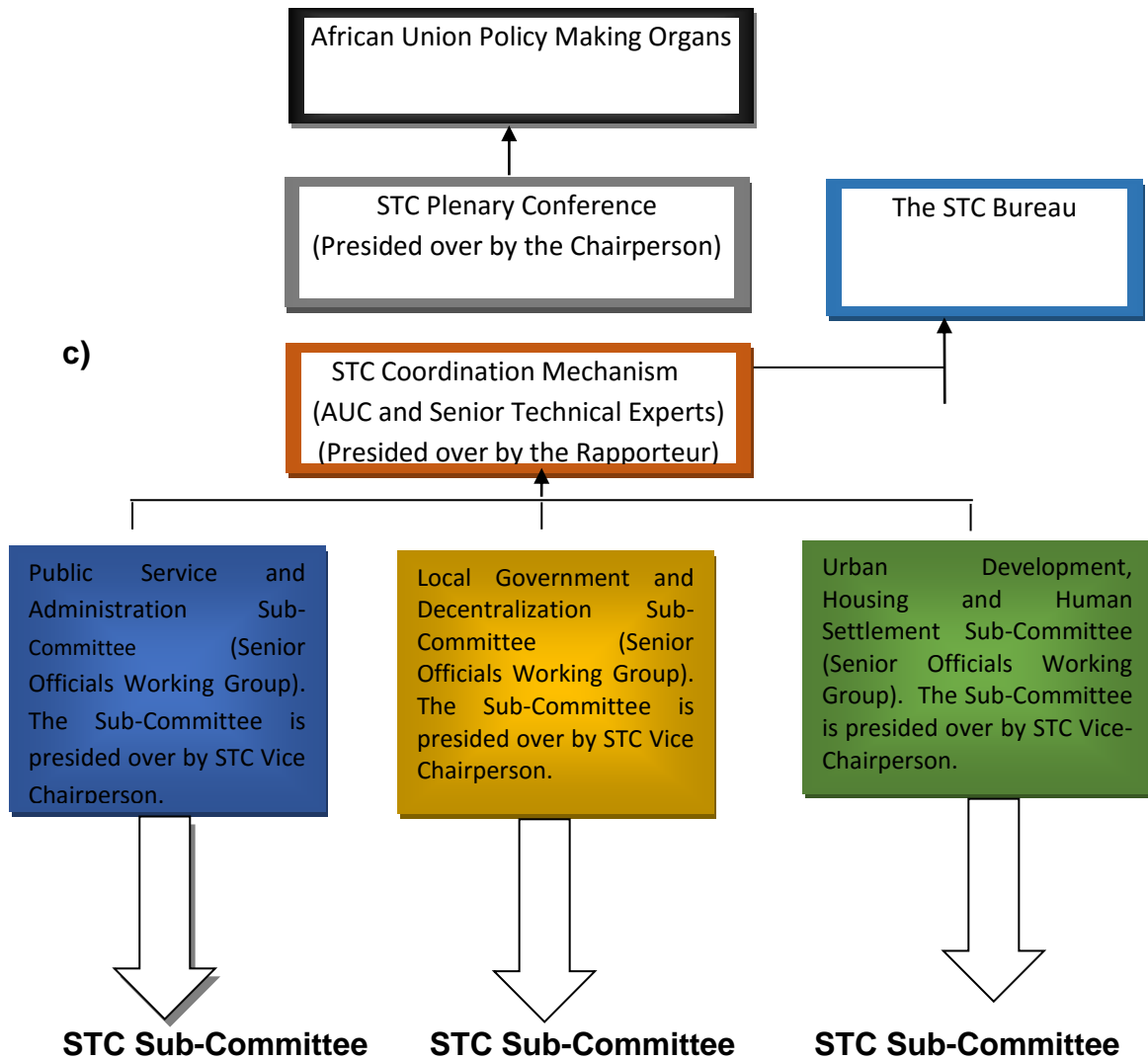
Algeria, Angola, Benin, Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, Eritrea, Ghana, Guinea, Niger, South Africa, Kenya, Malawi, Mauritania, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Republic of Congo, Senegal, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Seychelles, Central Africa Republic, Djibouti, Gabon, Equatorial Guinea, Libya, Democratic Republic of Congo, Tunisia, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Lesotho, Madagascar, Zambia, Uganda and Egypt.

VII. SUMMARY OF KEY OUTCOMES OF THE SECOND ORDINARY SESSION OF THE STC 8:

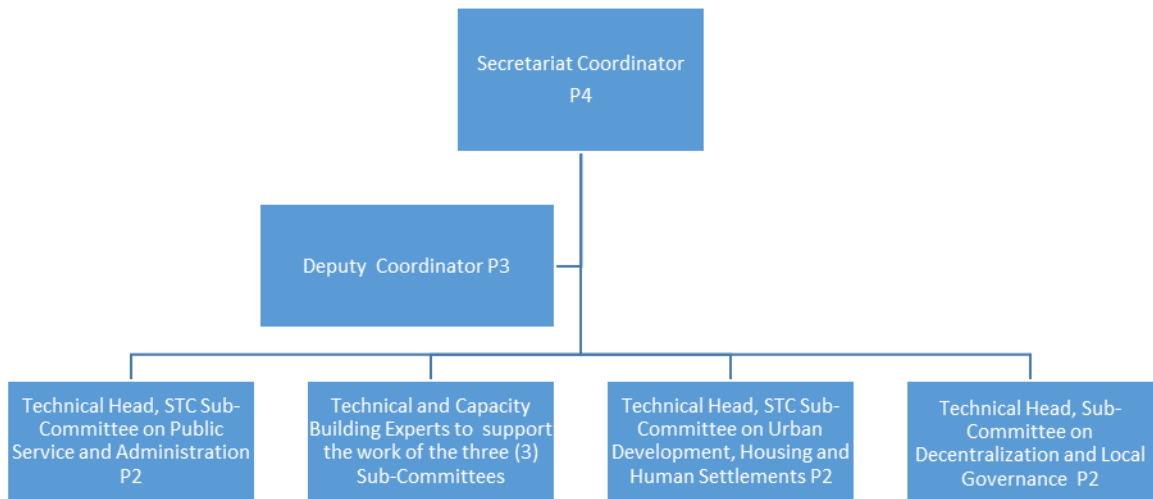
10. The following were the key outcomes of the meeting:

- a) The structure and the operation of the AU STC 8 in place;
- b) The Substantive Bureau for the AU - STC 8 for the next two years (2017 – 2018).

VIII. STRUCTURE OF THE AU-STC 8 ON PUBLIC SERVICE, LOCAL GOVERNMENT, URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND DECENTRALISATION:



IX. PROPOSED SECRETARIAT ORGANOGRAM FOR THE AU-STC 8 ON PUBLIC SERVICE, LOCAL GOVERNMENT, URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND DECENTRALIZATION:



ROPOSED STRUCTURE AND POSITIONS AND PROVISIONAL BUDGET OF THE AU-STC8 SECRETARIAT INSIDE THE DPA (2018)

No	Positions	Grade Levels	Unit Cost (USD)	Total Costs (USD)
1	Secretariat Coordinator	P4	7,824.74	93,896.88
2	Deputy Coordinator	P3	5,906.53	70,878.36
3	Technical Head, STC Sub-Committee on Public Service and Administration	P2	5,144.89	61,738.68
4	Technical Head, STC Sub-Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Human Settlements	P2	5,144.89	61,738.68
5	Technical Head, STC Sub-Committee on Decentralization and Local Governance P2	P2	5,144.89	61,738.68
	Total		26,091.26	313,095.12

X. KEY EXPECTATIONS FROM THE AFRICAN UNION COMMISSION:

1. The above mentioned budget of the AU-STC8 Secretariat for first year (2018) is expected to be borne by the African Union as from 2018. the table below summarize the breakdown of one year operational budget for the AU-STC8 Secretariat.
2. Incorporate the staff of the Secretariats of the three former conferences (CAMPS, AMCOD and AMCHUD) into the structure of the African Union Commission and called upon the Department of Political Affairs (DPA) to facilitate the necessary administrative processes to give effect to this recommendation by the Executive Council - **EX.CL/915 (XXVII)**.
3. Make adequate budgetary provision for the work of the AU-STC 8 on Public Service, Local Government, Urban Development and Decentralization.
4. Report on the operationalization of the AU-STC 8 to the African Union Policy Making Organs in accordance with the African Union decision.

XI. BUDGET AND FINANCE OF THE AU-STC 8:

- a) Recommend that the African Union should make adequate provisions from 2018 and onwards to finance the AU-STC 8 activities as 2017 Budget has been finalized;
- b) The Bureau and the Secretariat of the AU-STC 8 to convene donors/ partners' meeting to solicit their support to the STC 8 programs and activities;
- c) Call on Member States to mobilize requisite resources for the effective implementation of the AU-STC 8 programs and activities and to contribute financially on this course by sending their contributions to the Special AU-STC 8 Account so as to enable its smooth functioning.

XII. The Bureau Members for the period (2017 – 2018) of the AU-STC 8 are:

POSITION	COUNTRY	REGION	SECTOR
Chairperson	Benin	West Africa	Decentralization and Local Governance
1 st Vice Chair	Lesotho	South Africa	Housing and Urban Development
2 nd Vice Chair	Mauritania	North Africa	Decentralization and Local Governance
3 rd Vice Chair	Kenya	East Africa	Public Service and Administration
Rapporteur	Burundi	Central Africa	Decentralization and Local Governance

XIII. AGREED FUNCTIONS OF THE BUREAU OF THE AU STC NO. 8:

- i) Facilitate effective implementation of the AU-STC 8 programmes and activities;
- ii) Supervise the Secretariat of the AU-STC 8;
- iii) Represent the AU-STC 8 at the African Union Policy making level where and when necessary;
- iv) Follow up on the decisions/recommendations taken during the Second Ordinary Session of the AU-STC 8 held on 07 – 09 December 2016;
- v) Facilitate interaction between the AU STC 8 and the other AU STCs on common areas of interest.

XIV. CHALLENGES FACE BY THE AU-STC 8 FROM 2015 TO 2016:

- a) Lack of Human Resource capacity to effectively carry out the mandate reflected in its two-year (2015-16) work plan;
- b) Insufficient funds to sustain the momentum of the AU-STC 8 Secretariat to carry out its programs perfectly in order to attain its desired goal;
- c) Minimal cooperation/collaboration between the AUC and Member States especially in terms of identifying National Focal Points for the STC 8 and to Second Personnel to support the work of the STC 8.

DRAFT
**DECISION ON THE AU-STC 8 ON PUBLIC, LOCAL GOVERNMENT,
URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND DECENTRALIZATION
(FINANCIAL AND STRUCTURAL IMPLICATIONS)**
Doc. EX.CL/1044(XXXII)

The Executive Council,

1. **RECALLING** its JANUARY 2015 Decision (DOC. EX.CL/915 (XXVII)) requesting the Commission to work with the STC 8 in streamlining the proposals made regarding its internal working methods and procedures and submit any related budgetary and structural implications to their relevant PRC Sub-Committees;
2. **TAKES NOTE** of the report of the Second Ordinary Session of the African Union Specialized Technical Committee on Public Service, Local Government, Urban development and Decentralization as well as the progress on its operationalization;
3. **COMMENDS** the Commission and the Republic of Congo for its leadership in the progress made on the implementation of activities of the STC 8 and the level of its operationalization from 2015 – 2016;
4. **TAKES NOTE** of the prevailing challenges in Public Service, Local Government, Decentralization and Urban Development;
5. **ENCOURAGE** Member States to fund the activities and programs of the AU-STC 8 on Public Service, Local Government, Urban Development and Decentralization and those in a position to do so to second Competent and Experienced staff to the African Union Commission to strengthen the human resource capacity of the STC Secretariat;
6. **RECOMMENDS:**
 - i) That the Commission hence forth makes available adequate budget for the STC 8 operations and programs as from January 2019;
 - ii) To call Member States to fund the activities and programs of the AU-STC 8 on Public Service, Local Government, Urban Development and Decentralization and those in a position to do so to second Competent and Experienced staff to the African Union Commission to strengthen the human resource capacity of the STC Secretariat;
 - iii) The adoption of the Proposed AU-STC 8 Secretariat Structure and its integration within the African Union Commission and the Commission to make provision in its 2018 Budget for its operation within the African Union Commission;

- iv) That qualified and interested Staff members of the following erstwhile Ministerial Conferences currently serving under the STC 8 (AU-CAMPS, AMCHUD and AMCOD) be consider for interview.

DRAFT
**DECISION ON THE AU-STC 8 ON PUBLIC, LOCAL GOVERNMENT,
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The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the report of the Second Ordinary Session of the African Union Specialized Technical Committee on Public Service, Local Government, Urban development and Decentralization as well as the progress on its operationalization;
2. **ACKNOWLEDGE** progress so far made by the STC 8 in implementing its work programme and activities;
3. **COMMENDS** the Commission and the Republic of Congo for its leadership in the progress made on the implementation of activities of the STC 8 and the level of its operationalization from 2015 – 2016;
4. **COGNIZANT** of the significance of the AU-STC No. 8 towards the achievement of the common African position on Post-2015 Development Agenda, Common African Position on the Third United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) and Africa Agenda 2063;
5. **TAKES NOTE** of the prevailing challenges in Public Service, Local Government, Decentralization and Urban Development;
6. **DECIDES to:**
 - i) **Request** the Commission hence forth makes available adequate budget for the STC 8 operations and programs as from January 2019;
 - ii) **Call upon** Member States to fund the activities and programs of the AU-STC 8 on Public Service, Local Government, Urban Development and Decentralization and those in a position to do so to second Competent and Experienced staff to the African Union Commission to strengthen the human resource capacity of the STC Secretariat;
 - iii) **Adopt** the Proposed AU-STC 8 Secretariat Structure and its integration within the African Union Commission and the Commission to make provision in its 2018 Budget for its operation within the African Union Commission;
 - iv) **Request** the Commission to consider for interview qualified and interested Staff members of the following erstwhile Ministerial Conferences currently serving under the STC 8 (AU-CAMPS, AMCHUD and AMCOD).

2018-01-26

Report of the African Union Commission on the Operationalization of the AU-Specialized Technical Committee (AU-STC 8) on Public Service, Local Government, Urban Development and Decentralization

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