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REPORT OF THE 1ST ORDINARY SESSION OF THE STC
ON TRADE, INDUSTRY AND MINERALS (STC-TIM),
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA, 16 TO 24 MAY 2016

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**FIRST AU SPECIALIZED TECHNICAL
COMMITTEE ON TRADE, INDUSTRY
AND MINERALS
16th – 24th May 2016
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA**

**Doc: AU/DTI/STC-TMI/Rpt.Min/FINAL
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**Report of Ministers
23 -24 May, 2016**

**Report of Ministers
23rd – 24th May 2016**

Introduction

1. The first meeting of the Specialised Technical Committee on Trade, Industry and Minerals was held at Ministerial level on 23 – 24 May, 2016 at the AU Headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The main objective of the meeting was to adopt the Rules of Procedure of the STC on Trade, Industry and Minerals, to debate on the theme and to consider the items discussed by the Senior Officials. It was chaired by H.E. Mr. Tchiwaké Soumaila, State Minister of Industry of the Republic of Niger.

Attendance

2. The following Member States attended the meeting: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

3. The following Regional Economic Communities and partner organisations also participated: COMESA, EAC, ECCAS, ECOWAS, SADC, AfDB, UNECA, UNIDO and ARSO. The list of participants is attached as Annex 1.

Proceedings

Agenda Item 1: Opening of the Meeting

Statement by Dr. Jean Bakole, UNIDO Regional Director

4. Dr Jean Bakole, UNIDO Regional Director, underlined the pertinence of the Theme of this first STC on Trade, Industry and Minerals as it combines three determinant pillars in the process of economic structural transformation in the world and in particular in Africa. He then pointed out that Industrialization is the key pillar for the continent's sustainable structural transformation. Indeed, the promotion of Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development (ISID) constitutes UNIDO's response as a means to harness the full potential of industry's contribution to the achievement of sustainable development, and lasting prosperity for a growing share of the population. Dr. Bakole underlined that intra-regional trade in recent years has been instrumental in fostering

economic dynamism in some regions such as Asia-Pacific. Therefore, for greater regional integration, he urged African countries to adopt the right policies and to continue to demonstrate political will towards the reduction of tariffs between countries to enable movement of goods, labour and capital. In conclusion, he called on the international community to closely and collectively put in practice their engagement to empower Africa to step onto the industrialization ladder.

Statement by Dr. Stephen Karingi, Director of Trade and Regional Integration at the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa

5. On behalf of the Deputy Executive Secretary, Dr. Stephen Karingi addressed the meeting on the theme of “Promoting Regional Integration through Trade and Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development in Africa”. He highlighted the steady progress made towards the realization of the CFTA and emphasized its priority for the continent.

6. Dr. Karingi pointed out the benefits that will accrue from the realization of the CFTA as demonstrated by empirical studies done by the ECA as well as from trade in services for the African continent. In this regard, he acknowledged the contribution of the Tripartite and other RECs as building blocks of the CFTA through the gains made from recent trade liberalization efforts.

7. Dr. Karingi further highlighted the importance of industrialization to Africa’s regional integration through a commodity-led industrial strategy. He advocated for bringing forward investment and competition issues to the first phase of the CFTA negotiations as they complement the liberalization of trade in goods and services.

Opening remarks, by H.E. Mrs. Fatima Haram Acyl, Commissioner for Trade and Industry at the African Union Commission.

8. In her opening remarks, Her Excellency Mrs. Fatima Haram Acyl, the Commissioner for Trade and Industry at the African Union Commission, welcomed the Honorable Ministers of Trade, Industry and Mining to the Inaugural Meeting of the STC on Trade Industry and Minerals. She recalled the rationale behind the creation of this STC which is to make trade, industry and minerals policies work in a coherent manner in order to ensure Africa’s structural transformation as espoused in the African Union Agenda 2063.

9. The Commissioner commended the work done by the Senior Officials in assessing progress made on the Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA) negotiations, on the Pan-African Quality Infrastructure, the implementation of continental strategies in the sectors of Trade, Industry and Minerals, on customs and trade facilitation issues as they

prepared for the Ministers meeting. She also thanked Member States for the interest shown to host the African Minerals Development Centre (AMDC) and expressed the hope that the AMDC will find a home by the next Summit. The Commissioner then called on the Ministers to consider and adopt the Rules of Procedure of their STC, to acknowledge progress made in the development of the African Union Commodity Strategy and to give guidance on the way forward through the debate on the theme of the STC and the consideration of the proposals of the Senior Officials so as to develop recommendations for submission to the upcoming July 2016 Summit of Heads of State and Governments.

10. Commissioner Acyl particularly recalled the renewed commitment of the Heads of State and Government towards completing the CFTA negotiations by 2017. She called upon the Ministers to ensure the effective delivery of this target as it is crucial in demonstrating Africa's resolution and integrity to deliver on its development agenda.

11. In closing, she renewed the African Union Commission's commitment to facilitate the work of Member States in the implementation of the broader AU agenda so as to ensure that Africa's agenda on structural transformation, peace and security and the establishment of one market is fulfilled. She wished the meeting fruitful deliberations.

Agenda Item 2: Adoption of Agenda

12. The meeting adopted its agenda after adding one item on the consideration of the draft Declaration of the STC on Trade, Industry and Minerals.

Agenda Item 3: Organisation of Work

13. The meeting adopted the programme of work proposed by the AU Commission.

Agenda Item 4: Adoption of Rules of Procedure of the STC on Trade, Industry and Minerals

14. The Legal Counsel of the African Union Commission presented the Rules of Procedure of the STC as reviewed by the Senior Officials. He clarified and elaborated on a number of provisions that were deemed contentious, stressing the need for consistency with the existing rules and practice of the African Union. In that regard, Member states pointed out that the existing rules and practices should have been disseminated to delegations prior to the meeting. A number of Member States reiterated concerns on some Articles contained in the Rules of Procedure and the need for more flexibility. The Rules of procedure were thereafter adopted with the understanding that the concerns related the issue of quorum, issues related to extraordinary sessions and

the need for consensus on substantive issues would be brought to the attention of the STC on Justice and Legal Affairs during its consideration of the Rules of Procedure of the STC on Trade, Industry and Minerals.

Agenda Item 5: Constitution of the Bureau

15. The STC endorsed the Bureau proposed by the Senior Officials as follows:

Chair	: Niger (West Africa);
1st Vice-Chair	: Egypt (North Africa);
2nd Vice-Chair	: Botswana (Southern Africa);
3rd Vice-Chair	: Chad (Central Africa);
Rapporteur	: Kenya (East Africa).

Agenda Item 6: Panel Discussion on the Theme “Promoting Regional Integration through Trade and Industrialization in Africa”

16. The 1st Meeting of the African Union Specialized Technical Committee on Trade, Industry and Minerals was dedicated to the theme “*Promoting Regional Integration through Trade and Industrialization in Africa*”. The theme was discussed by a panel composed of H.E. Mr Christopher Yaluma, Minister of Mines and Minerals Development of the Republic of Zambia, H.E. Mr. Adan Abdulla Mohamed, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Industry, Trade and Co-operatives of the Republic of Kenya, H.E. Mr. Mohsen Hassen, Minister of Trade of the Republic of Tunisia, Hon. Dr. Ekwow Spio-Garbrah, Minister of Trade and Industry of the Republic of Ghana and Hon. Dr. Gideon C. M Dlamini, Minister of Commerce, Industry and Trade of the Kingdom of Swaziland.

17. The panel was moderated by the Commissioner for Trade and Industry at the African Union Commission, H.E. Mrs. Fatima Haram Acyl. She introduced the theme by emphasizing that it was crafted in order to show the linkage among Trade, Industrial and Minerals policies for the achievement of regional Integration in Africa. The panel considered the theme, by among others, looking at the nexus between trade, Industrialization and regional integration in Africa and how the promotion of these three key development objectives can be strengthened. The panel also discussed the role and the position of the Continental Free trade Area, as well as the issues of financing and Regional Value Chains in promoting regional Integration.

18. In discussing the topic, the panellists highlighted the following:-

- i) The low rate of Intra-African Trade is caused by many factors such as poor infrastructure, weak productive capacities, non-tariff barriers, lack of access

to energy, and difficulties in the free movement of people. However, this should be viewed as an opportunity that Africa needs to explore;

- ii) Africa needs to leverage its abundant resources to strengthen its productive capacities through value addition and mineral beneficiation, since currently the continent has not gained much from its resources;
- iii) The Private Sector will be key in driving the CFTA; as such, policy makers should involve the private sector in the discussions related to trade and industrial policies as well as regional integration;
- iv) Africa needs to write its own narrative through quantitative studies on intra-African Trade as well as through data that show the various opportunities available in the Trade, industry and minerals sectors in the continent;
- v) Africa is not taking advantage of the ICT revolution to boost its trade and industrial sector. Trade information is not flowing smoothly among countries;
- vi) There is need for policy coherence and, where possible, harmonization at the national, regional, and continental levels in the areas of Trade, Industry and Mining by domesticating continental policy instruments such as the Africa Mining Vision;
- vii) Africa needs to exercise pan Africanism through deliberate efforts in promoting "**Made in Africa**" goods and services;
- viii) The business environment still needs to be improved if African countries want to attract more domestic and international investors;
- ix) The education system can be harnessed to promote African consciousness so as to foster regional integration; and
- x) There is need for Africa to celebrate the various milestones it has achieved in its growth and development path.

19. From the above discussions, it was evident that Africa can promote Regional Integration through Trade and Industrialization by:

- i) Establishing mechanisms that can be coordinated at the Continental level through the African Union Commission which will ensure the effective participation of the private sector in Africa's development. Such measures should include:
 - a) Investment-oriented studies with pertinent data underlining Africa's potential in trade, Industry and Mining sectors;

- b) Information sharing platforms in order to make available business opportunities for the private sector and encourage exchange of experiences;
 - c) Mechanisms that will harness the power of ICT in promoting innovative ways of doing business such as through e-commerce, and e-payments; and
 - d) Ensuring that the investment climate is conducive for the private sector and dealing with non-tariff barriers in order to unleash the potential of cross border trade and to enhance the competitiveness of domestic firms.
- ii) Promoting the establishment and development of Special Economic Zones in African Union Member States as well as cross-border trade zones so as, using their competitive advantages and leveraging on technology, to support productive capacities, export competitiveness, Industrial development and regional value chains;
 - iii) Enhancing Africa's skills development to take advantage of its current position as the next growth frontier given its low labour cost so as to attract Foreign Direct Investment for its minerals and manufacturing sectors;
 - iv) Ensuring that African Union Member States use their education and procurement systems (Africa competitive bidding) and pan African incentive schemes to promote Pan Africanism which is vital for regional integration;
 - v) Ensuring that the African Union Member States invest in infrastructural development that is regional in nature in such areas as energy, railways and roads by utilizing pan African and regional development banks and institutions; and
 - vi) Establishing more pan African Institutions that are private sector-led and managed in critical areas that can support Industrialization, Commerce and regional integration such as aviation, shipping and financing.

20. In closing the panel discussions, the Moderator thanked the panellists for their availability and deep insights and observed that their implementation by all the relevant stakeholders will contribute to the achievement of Africa's Integration Agenda.

Agenda Item 7: Consideration of the Report of Senior Officials

21. The Ministers examined the recommendations of the Senior Officials and adopted them as follows:

A. Progress Report on the Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA) Negotiations

- i) Member States should continue to support the CFTA process by among others:-
 - a) Sensitizing the relevant stakeholders in their respective countries about the CFTA; and
 - b) Providing adequate resources to ensure inclusive participation by all stakeholders in the CFTA process.
- ii) The CFTA Negotiations should ensure that the industrial pillar is given equally due attention to enhance manufacturing of tradable goods within the Continent.

B. Progress Report on the Implementation of the Pan-African Quality Infrastructure (PAQI)

- i) The PAQI and the AUC-DTI should continue to undertake awareness raising efforts amongst stakeholders in Africa, in particular the private sector in order to enhance the acceptability and marketability of African products both within and outside of Africa, especially within the context of the CFTA;
- ii) The PAQI should work with the AUC-DTI, RECs and other partners to address the quality infrastructure gaps identified in the quality infrastructure stocktaking exercise;
- iii) Member States should simplify and harmonize their standards and quality requirements in order to increase trade, create employment and reduce poverty;
- iv) Those Member States that have not yet joined the Pan African Quality Infrastructure institutions should consider doing so in order to strengthen Africa's collective capacity to enhance its productive competitiveness and address technical barriers to trade; and

- v) The PAQI is urged to further support the CFTA process in line with the expressed needs of the Negotiating Forum through timely implementation of its CFTA work plan;
- vi) The private sector must be further mobilized in order to contain the certification costs; and
- vii) The use of the TradeCom II platform must be encouraged in order to build capacity in AU Member States.

C. Report on the Progress of Implementation of AIDA since CAMI-20

- i) Access to energy must be enhanced for productive purposes in order to facilitate increased industrial production as a prerequisite for trade;
- ii) UNIDO programmes on the reduction of mercury emissions in the artisanal and small scale mining sector should be extended to other countries in Africa in order to reduce the environmental and health hazards of mercury in the communities;
- iii) AUC, RECs and Member States should expedite their efforts in mobilising resources for effective implementation of AIDA as mandated by CAMI-20.

D. Consideration of the Matrix of Recommendations – CAMI, CAMOT, and CAMMRD

- i) The STC on Trade, Industry and Minerals should establish Sub Committees on Trade, Industry and Minerals issues; in this regard, the AUC should formulate draft terms of reference for the three sub-committees;
- ii) The AUC, RECs and Member States should find ways of mobilizing adequate resources for implementation of continental programs on Trade, Industry and Minerals;
- iii) The AUC, through the Africa Minerals Development Center (AMDC) should consider implementing programs for capacity building and for mineral resources development for Member States;
- iv) Member States should set aside a budget for industrial development in accordance with the commitment they made under the Lima Declaration for inclusive and sustainable Industrial development;

- v) AUC needs to take steps to establish a continental coordination mechanism among the major actors (AUC, UNIDO, ECA, AfDB) to support the implementation of AIDA;
- vi) Report of the Outcomes of the 7th Meeting of the AU Sub Committee of Directors General of Customs;
- vii) Member States, which have not yet done so, should consider automating respective Customs Administrations so as to enhance the efficiency of Customs which in turn could reduce goods clearance time, and also lower the cost of doing business in Africa;
- viii) Member States should prioritise, with the support of the AUC, interconnecting respective border agencies as well as with neighbouring countries, including One Stop Border Posts (OSBP) so as to facilitate legitimate trade.

E. Report on the Institutionalisation of the African Minerals Development Centre (AMDC)

- i) Member states should expedite the ratification of the Statute of the AMDC so that the AMDC becomes operational given that the current AMDC as a project hosted by UNECA will be ending in 2018.
- ii) A Sub-committee of Directors General of Geological Surveys which will act as a technical advisory body should be established and in this regard the AUC should formulate draft Terms of Reference;
- iii) Extra efforts should be deployed in order to increase the domestication of the Africa Mining Vision;
- iv) The AUC should support Member States in the adoption and implementation of country mining visions;
- v) Member States are urged to consider endorsing the Geological and Mineral information systems Strategy and its implementation structures as well as the African Minerals Governance Framework and its implementation structures as important implementation tools of the Africa Mining Vision; and

- vi) The AUC should continue its efforts towards the creation of an African minerals governance framework.

F. On the African Minerals Legislative Atlas (AMLA)

- i) Member states are requested to take note of the African Minerals Legislative Atlas (AMLA) as a tool on guiding Member States to develop, review and align their Mineral laws and regulations to the Africa Mining Vision.

G. ACP-EU Development Minerals Programme

- i) Member States and RECs should report on an annual or biennial basis, their progress in the implementation of the continental agenda on development minerals;
- ii) Member States and RECs should consider prioritizing development minerals;
- iii) Low Value Minerals and Materials (LVMM) should be referred to as Development Minerals in regional policy frameworks and national development strategies; and
- iv) Member States and RECs should put in place effective policies and programs that support women's effective participation in development minerals inter alia.

H. Progress Report on the Implementation of the Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Plan for Africa (PMPA)

- i) There is need for AUC to develop a strategy targeting the development of research and development, the access to technology and Innovation for African pharmaceutical industries. This strategy should also include issues related to competitiveness and quality as well as actions supporting Member States to take advantage of the TRIPS Agreement;
- ii) AUC should develop policies to fight against counterfeited medicines in collaboration with other national and international institutions;
- iii) AU Member States should develop regional development strategies for the pharmaceutical sector based on their comparative advantages;

- iv) The AUC in collaboration with UNECA and relevant institutions should carry out a study on the regional and continental pharmaceutical sector industrial profile and in this regard Member States are invited to provide comprehensive and quality data, and facilitate their collection for a complete sector analysis of the pharmaceutical sector;
- v) AUC, in collaboration with UNECA and relevant institutions, should carry out a study on the development of the indigenous pharmaceutical sector by learning from best practices in Africa and elsewhere;
- vi) There is a need for AUC to develop a strategy targeting the manufacturing of medicines against tropical diseases such as malaria.

I. Consideration of the Commodities Strategy

- i) Took note of the draft Commodity Strategy and recommended the adoption of the cross-cutting recommendations for commodity-based industrialization, and the management of commodities price volatility, in addition to adopting the implementation and monitoring framework contained in the summary document referenced AU/DTI/STC-TMI/DCS/SUMM.

J. Report of the Outcomes of the WTO 10th Ministerial Meeting

- i) To endorse the recommendations of the Retreat of the African Group of Ambassadors in Geneva;
- ii) Prepare a strategic paper for consideration by the STC Sub-Committee on Trade which may be scheduled back to back with the December CFTA Negotiating Forum and the AU Ministers of Trade Meeting; and
- iii) Prepare a strong Declaration on WTO issues, preceded by a review, to be considered by the January Summit of 2017 in preparation for the 11th WTO Ministerial Conference.

K. AGOA Mid Term review and the future of US-Africa Trade and Investment Relations

- i) The AUC in collaboration with UNECA and AfDB should undertake a study that will enable Africa to formulate a common approach to future Africa- US trade and investment relations including an analysis on the low utilization of

AGOA. The study, which should cover the entire continent, should be circulated to Member States by October for a draft proposal on future US-Africa trade and investment relations for consideration by the STC Sub-Committee on Trade which may be scheduled back to back with the December CFTA Negotiation Forum and the AU Ministers of Trade Meeting and to be agreed upon at the January 2017 Summit;

- ii) AGOA eligible countries should maximize the utilization of AGOA; and
- iii) Africa needs to start strategizing for the 2016 AGOA Forum.

Agenda Item 8: Official Launch of the TfA4Africa.Com Website

22. The Commissioner introduced the Electronic Platform (e-platform) of the Trade Facilitation 4 Africa, which is one of the outcomes of a Project undertaken by the Commission, with the support of United Kingdom's Department of International Development (DFID), and in collaboration with Saana Consulting, on the Post Bali Support to the African Union on implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement. She highlighted the electronic dashboard which shows at a glance how AU Member States are performing with regards to trade facilitation. She declared the platform officially launched and invited Member States to access it any time. The launch was followed by a brief overview of the e-platform.

Agenda Item 9: Any Other Business

23. No issue was raised under this item.

Agenda Item 10: Adoption of the Report of the Meeting of Ministers

24. The report was adopted without amendment.

Agenda Item 11: Closing of the Meeting

25. The Chair thanked the Ministers and all participants for their substantive contribution and brought the meeting to a close.

EX.CL/972(XXIX)
Annex 1

**RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE SPECIALIZED TECHNICAL
COMMITTEE ON TRADE, INDUSTRY AND MINERALS**

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RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE SPECIALIZED TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON TRADE, INDUSTRY AND MINERALS

GENERAL PROVISIONS

The Executive Council,

HAVING REGARD to the Constitutive Act of the African Union, and in particular Articles 14, 15 and 16;

RECALLING the provisions of Article 25 of the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community;

HAVING REGARD to Decisions Assembly/Dec. 227 (XII) and Assembly/Dec.365 (XVII) on Specialized Technical Committees;

HAS ADOPTED THESE RULES OF PROCEDURE:

RULE 1 **Definitions**

In these Rules:

- (a) “**Assembly**” means the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union;
- (b) “**Bureau**” means the Bureau of the Specialized Technical Committee on Trade, Industry and Minerals
- (c) “**Chairperson**” means the Chairperson of the Specialized Technical Committee on Trade, Industry and Minerals;
- (d) “**Commission**” means the Secretariat of the African Union;
- (e) “**Constitutive Act**” means the Constitutive Act of the African Union;
- (f) “**Executive Council**” means the Executive Council of Ministers of the African Union;
- (g) “**Member State**” means a Member State of the African Union;
- (h) “**Minerals**” means solid, gas and liquid natural resources;
- (i) “**Observer**” means any person or institution including civil society invited to attend a session of the Specialized Technical Committee on Trade, Industry and Minerals without a right to vote;
- (j) “**Rapporteur**” means the Rapporteur of the Specialized Technical Committee on Trade, Industry and Minerals;
- (k) “**Sanctions**” means the sanctions imposed by the Union under Articles 23 and 30 of the Constitutive Act;
- (l) “**STC**” means a Specialized Technical Committee of the African Union;

- (m) “**Union**” means the African Union established by the Constitutive Act;
- (n) “**Vice-Chairpersons**” unless specified otherwise, mean the Vice-Chairpersons of the STC on Trade, Industry and Minerals.

RULE 2

Status

The STC on Trade, Industry and Minerals is an Organ of the Union in accordance with Article 5 (1) (g) of the Constitutive Act. It shall be responsible to the Executive Council.

RULE 3

Composition

1. The STC on Trade, Industry and Minerals shall be composed of Ministers in charge of Trade, Industry and Minerals from African Union Member States.
2. The session of the STC on Trade, Industry and Minerals is preceded and prepared by a meeting of Senior Officials from Member States responsible for sectors falling within the areas of competence of the STC on Trade, Industry and Minerals. The meeting of Senior Officials shall be governed, *mutatis mutandis*, by relevant provisions of these Rules.

RULE 4

Accreditation

Delegations of Member States to sessions of the STC on Trade, Industry and Minerals shall be duly accredited representatives of Member States.

RULE 5

Powers and Functions

1. In addition to the functions provided for in Article 15 of the Constitutive Act of the Union, the STC on Trade, Industry and Minerals shall:
 - i) Formulate recommendations on continental trade, industry and mineral resources policies;
 - ii) Take stock, review and assess developments in the trade, industry and mineral resources sectors;

- iii) Coordinate the harmonisation of policies affecting trade, industry and mineral resources;
 - iv) Develop programmes and projects aimed at achieving the goals of enhanced intra-African trade and integration as envisioned in the Abuja Treaty Establishing the African Union;
 - v) Develop programmes and projects aimed at achieving the objectives of the Africa Mining Vision;
 - vi) Develop programmes and projects aimed at achieving the objectives of the Industrial development of Africa contained in the Action Plan For The Accelerated Industrial Development Of Africa (AIDA);
 - vii) Develop common views, positions and strategies for Africa's engagement in international trade, industry and minerals negotiations;
 - viii) provide guidance on the development of common strategies for engaging with cooperating and development partners;
 - ix) ensure effective co-ordination of the respective sectoral policies processes to achieve streamlined policy framework for achieving the overall goals of enhanced intra-African trade, rapid industrialization, ocean development, diversification and value addition, mineral beneficiation, competitiveness for sustainable economic growth and development;
 - x) provide guidance on the effective co-ordination of activities between the continental, regional and national levels;
 - xi) provide guidance on the establishment, where necessary, of specific mechanisms for the attainment of specific tasks and activities in the respective sectoral areas, or from cross-sectoral perspectives;
 - xii) carry out any other functions assigned to it by the Executive Council or the Assembly;
2. The STC on Trade, Industry and Minerals may set up Sub-committees and temporary working groups, as it deems necessary;
3. The functioning, mandate, composition of such Sub-committees and temporary working groups shall be determined by the STC on Trade, Industry and Minerals.

4. The STC shall receive progress reports from Member States on the domestication of policy provisions adopted by the African Union policy organs in the domain of Trade, Industry and Minerals.

RULE 6

Venue

1. The Ordinary Sessions of the STC on Trade, Industry and Minerals shall be held at the Headquarters of the Union unless a Member State offers to host any such session.
2. In the event the session is held outside the Headquarters of the Union, the host Member State shall be responsible for all extra expenses incurred by the Commission as a result of holding the session outside the Headquarters.
3. In conformity with Rule 5 (3) of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly, Member States offering to host sessions of the STC on Trade, Industry and Minerals shall not be Member States that are under sanctions and shall be required to meet pre-determined criteria, including adequate logistical facilities and a conducive political atmosphere.
4. Where two (2) or more Member States offer to host a session, the STC on Trade, Industry and Minerals shall decide on the venue by simple majority.
5. Where a Member State that had offered to host a session of the STC on Trade, Industry and Minerals is unable to do so, the session shall be held at the Headquarters of the Union, unless a new offer is received and accepted by Member States.

RULE 7

Convening of Sessions

The Commission shall be responsible for convening and servicing all the meetings of the STC on Trade, Industry and Minerals.

RULE 8

Quorum

1. The quorum for a Ministerial session of the STC on Trade, Industry and Minerals shall be two-thirds majority of the Member States eligible to vote.

2. The quorum for meetings of Senior Officials, Sub-committees or temporary working groups of the STC on Trade, Industry and Minerals shall be a simple majority.
3. Where a quorum is not reached, the meeting shall be constituted into a consultative forum and recommendations made therefore shall be presented in a duly constituted meeting.

RULE 9
Ordinary Sessions

The STC on Trade, Industry and Minerals shall meet once every two (2) years.

RULE 10
Agenda of Ordinary Sessions

1. The STC on Trade, Industry and Minerals shall adopt its Agenda at the opening of each session.
2. The Provisional Agenda of an ordinary session shall be drawn up by the Commission in consultation with the Bureau of the STC on Trade, Industry and Minerals and may include item(s) proposed by Member States. The Commission shall communicate the provisional agenda and the working documents to Member States at least thirty (30) days before the opening of the session.

RULE 11
Other Agenda Items

Any additional agenda item, which a Member State wishes to raise at a session of the STC on Trade, Industry and Minerals, shall only be considered under the agenda item "Any Other Business". Such agenda items shall be for information only and not subject to debate or decision.

RULE 12
Extraordinary Sessions

1. The STC on Trade, Industry and Minerals may meet in an extraordinary session, subject to availability of funds at the request of :
 - a) the policy organs of the union,
 - b) The STC on specialized technical committee on trade, industry and minerals.

- c) The bureau in consultation with the commission , on urgent matters; or
 - d) Any national delegation from member state, upon approval by a two-thirds [simple] majority of the member states.
2. The extraordinary sessions shall be held in conformity with Rule 6 above.

RULE 13

Agenda of Extraordinary Sessions

1. The Commission shall communicate the Provisional Agenda and working documents of an extraordinary session to Member States at least fifteen (15) days before the opening of the session.
2. The Agenda of an extraordinary session shall comprise only of the item(s) requiring the urgent attention of the STC on Trade, Industry and Minerals.

RULE 14

Open and Closed Sessions

All the sessions of the STC on Trade, Industry and Minerals shall be closed. It may, however, decide by simple majority whether any of its sessions shall be open.

RULE 15

Working Languages

The working languages of the STC on Trade, Industry and Minerals shall be those of the Union.

RULE 16

Bureau

1. The STC on Trade, Industry and Minerals shall, on the basis of rotation and geographical distribution, elect, after due consultations, a Chairperson and other members of the Bureau, namely, three (3) Vice-Chairpersons as well as a Rapporteur.
2. The Members of the Bureau shall hold office for a period of two (2) years.
3. The Bureau will meet at least once every year.

RULE 17

Duties of the Chairperson and other members of the Bureau

1. The Chairperson shall:

- a) Preside over all the proceedings of the Ordinary and Extraordinary sessions;
 - b) Confirm that a quorum is attained before the commencement of a session
 - c) open and close the sessions;
 - d) submit for approval the records of the sessions;
 - e) guide the proceedings;
 - f) submit to a vote matters under discussion and announce the results of the vote taken;
 - g) rule on points of order.
2. The Chairperson shall ensure order and decorum during the proceedings of the sessions.
 3. In the absence of the Chairperson or in case of a vacancy, the vice-Chairpersons or the rapporteur in order of their election shall act as the chairperson.
 4. The Chairperson shall attend the sessions of the Executive Council and the annual meeting of the Bureaus of all STCs.
 5. The Rapporteur shall assist in the preparation of reports and recommendations as well as presenting them to the plenary for adoption.

RULE 18

Attendance and Participation

1. In accordance with Rule 4, the Ministers in charge of Trade, Industry, and Minerals shall attend and participate personally in the sessions. In the event that they are not in a position to attend personally, duly accredited representatives shall represent them.
2. The Representatives of the Organs of the Union and Regional Economic Communities (RECs) shall be invited to attend the sessions of the STC on Trade, Industry and Minerals.
3. The STC on Trade, Industry and Minerals may invite, as Observer, any person or institution to attend its sessions.

RULE 19

Majority required for decisions

1. The STC on Trade, Industry and Minerals shall take all its decisions by consensus or, failing which, by a two-thirds majority of the Member States eligible to vote.
2. Decisions on questions of procedure shall be taken by a simple majority of Member States eligible to vote.
3. Decisions on whether or not a question is one of procedure shall also be determined by a simple majority of Member States eligible to vote.
4. Abstentions by Member States eligible to vote shall not prevent the adoption by the STC on Trade, Industry and Minerals of decisions by consensus.

RULE 20

Adoption of Decisions

1. A proposed decision or an amendment (s) thereof may at any time, prior to it being submitted to a vote, be withdrawn by the initiator.
2. Any other Member State may reintroduce the proposed decision or amendment that has been withdrawn.

RULE 21

Point of Order

1. During deliberations on any matter, a Member State may raise a point of order. The Chairperson, in accordance with these Rules, shall immediately decide on the point of order.
2. The Member State concerned may appeal against the ruling of the Chairperson. The ruling shall immediately be put to a vote and decided upon by simple majority.
3. In raising a point of order, the Member State concerned shall not speak on the substance of the issue under discussion.

RULE 22

List of Speakers and Use of the Floor

1. The Chairperson shall, subject to Article 23 of the Constitutive Act, during the debate, grant the use of the floor in the order in which the speakers indicate their intention.

2. A delegation or other invitee shall not have the floor without the consent of the Chairperson.
3. The Chairperson may, during the debate:
 - a) read out the list of speakers and declare the list closed;
 - b) call to order any speaker whose statement deviates from the issue under discussion;
 - c) accord the right of reply to any delegation where in his/her opinion a statement made after the list is closed justifies the right of reply; and
 - d) limit the time allowed to each delegation irrespective of the issue under discussion, subject to sub Rule 4 of this Rule.
4. The Chairperson shall, on procedural questions, limit each intervention to a maximum of three (3) minutes.

RULE 23
Closure of Debate

When a matter has been sufficiently discussed, the Chairperson shall close the debate at his/her discretion.

RULE 24
Suspension or Adjournment of the Meeting

During the discussion of any matter, a Member State may move for the suspension or adjournment of the meeting. No discussion on such motions shall be permitted. The Chairperson shall immediately put such motion to a vote.

RULE 25
Order of Procedural Motions

Subject to Rule 21, the following motions shall have precedence in the order listed below, over all other proposals or motions before the meeting:

- a) suspend the meeting;
- b) adjourn the meeting;
- c) Adjourn the debate on the item under discussion;
- d) Close the debate on the item under discussion.

RULE 26
Voting Rights

1. Each eligible Member State shall have one vote.
2. Member States, subject to sanctions under Article 23 of the Constitutive Act, shall not have the right to a vote.

RULE 27
Vote on Decisions

After the debate has been closed, the Chairperson shall immediately put to a vote the proposal with all the amendments. The vote shall not be interrupted except on a point of order related to the manner in which the vote is being taken.

RULE 28
Vote on Amendments

1. A proposal shall be considered as an amendment to a text if it adds or removes there from.
2. The Chairperson shall put all amendments to vote when there is no consensus.

RULE 29
Methods of Voting

The Methods of Voting shall be determined by the STC on Trade, Industry and Minerals.

RULE 30
Reports and Recommendation

The STC on Trade, Industry and Minerals shall submit reports and recommendations arising from its deliberations to the Executive Council for consideration.

RULE 31
Implementation

The STC on Trade, Industry and Minerals may lay down guidelines and supplementary measures to give effect to these Rules.

RULE 32
Amendments

The STC on Trade, Industry and Minerals may propose to the Executive Council amendments to these Rules.

RULE 33
Entry into Force

These Rules shall enter into force upon their approval by the Executive Council.

Adopted by the.....Ordinary Session of the Executive Council, held...

EX.CL/972(XXIX)
Annex 2

**MINISTERIAL DECLARATION OF THE STC ON
TRADE, INDUSTRY AND MINERALS**

AFRICAN UNION

الاتحاد الأفريقي



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**1st AU SPECIALIZED TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
ON TRADE, INDUSTRY AND MINERALS
16TH – 24TH MAY 2016
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA**

Doc: AU/DTI/STC-TIMMI/DECL. FINAL

Original: English

**MINISTERIAL DECLARATION OF THE STC ON
TRADE, INDUSTRY AND MINERALS**

MINISTERIAL DECLARATION

We, Ministers of Trade, Industry and Mineral Resources of the African Union Member States, meeting on 23th - 24th May 2016 at the inaugural Session of the **1st AU Specialized Technical Committee** on Trade, Industry and Mineral Resources, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia;

Recalling the AU Assembly Decisions ((Assembly/AU/Dec.227(XII) and Assembly/AU/Dec.365(XVII)) of 2009 and 2011, which adopted the configuration of the Specialized Technical Committees (STCs) as well as their modalities of operationalization as Organs of the Union, respectively, in accordance with Article 5 (1) (g) of the Constitutive Act;

Taking note that the STCs are responsible for preparing projects and programmes in their areas of competence, and supervising and ensuring implementation of decisions taken by the Organs of the Union;

Aware that the Ministers of Trade, Industry and Minerals are constituted in one STC because of the centrality of mineral resources to industrialization and improved trade and development in Africa;

Reaffirming Africa's commitment to boosting intra-African trade through the establishment of the Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA) that will foster integration through trade liberalization, industrialization and infrastructure development, in order to ensure economic growth and provide equitable and balanced development;

Recognizing the key role of industrialization in the process of structural transformation through promoting investment in manufacturing, beneficiation and value addition of raw materials in a way that reinforces regional and continental value chains;

Further recognizing the importance of the implementation of the Africa Mining Vision and its Action Plan in the sustainable development of African Minerals, and the role it plays in industrialization, the creation of jobs, reduction of poverty and enhancement of national development;

Hereby:

Adopt the Rules of Procedure of our STC, which stipulate our mandate as an Organ of the African Union.

Reaffirm our commitment for the three Ministries, namely, Trade, Industry and Mineral Resources to define a targeted joint work programme to enhance industrialization and value addition.

Take Note of the Report and progress made on the CFTA Negotiations, which is aimed at boosting intra-African trade and integrating Africa's markets, in line with the objectives and principles enshrined in the Abuja Treaty.

Take note that Industrial development is at the core of Agenda 2063 and **commit** to fast-tracking the implementation of the Accelerated Industrial development of Africa (AIDA) Action Plan.

Further Take Note of the Reports on the implementation of the Pan African Quality Infrastructure (PAQI) and the Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Plan for Africa (PMPA); and their importance in enhancing of competitiveness and market access for African products.

Welcome and take Note of the Reports on the Institutionalization of the African Minerals Development Centre (AMDC) and the Domestication of the Africa Mining Vision (AMV) by Member States; in this regard, **urge** our Member States to expeditiously ratify the AMDC Statute and speedily domesticate the AMV in order to ensure efficient management of the resources for social and economic structural transformation.

Further take note of the African Minerals Legislative Atlas (AMLA) as an effective tool on guiding member states to review, develop, harmonize and align their Mineral resources laws and regulations to the Africa Mining Vision.

Take Note of the launch of the TFA4Africa website and the work of the AU Commission and its partners in regards to advocating for the implementation of the measures under the Trade Facilitation Cluster of the Action Plan for Boosting Intra African Trade (BIAT) and the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement.

Acknowledge the progress made on the implementation of our Arusha Declaration and Plan of Action on African Commodities since its adoption in 2005. In this regard, **Take Note** of the draft Commodity Strategy and **Recommend** the adoption of the cross-cutting recommendations for commodity- based industrialization, and the management of commodities price volatility; also **recommend** the adoption of the implementation and monitoring framework.

Recognise the Geological and Mineral Information systems Strategy and its implementation structures and recognize progress towards the development of the African Minerals Governance Framework; in this regard, **encourage** all African Union Member States to commit towards effective domestication and implementation of this initiative.

Recommend the establishment of relevant sub-committees including that of Directors General of Geological Surveys.

Take Note of the Recommendations of the 7th Meeting of the African Union Sub Committee of Directors General of Customs which was organized under the theme “Coordinated Border Management - Enhancing Security and Trade Facilitation”; in this regard, **Encourage** further work on One Stop Border Posts and Interconnectivity of Customs Administrations;

Welcome the hosting of the 10th WTO Ministerial Conference, which took place in Nairobi, Kenya, in December 2015, but note with concern the resistance of some developed countries in the continuation of the Doha Development Agenda (DDA) in line with its development mandate. **We reaffirm** that Africa remains committed to the conclusion of the DDA, which can bring significant development benefits to the African people. **We call upon** all African Union Member States to continue to consolidate their common position and speak with one voice on all multilateral trade negotiations;

Request the AUC to undertake a needs assessment informed by the work programme to be developed by the STC on Trade, Industry and Minerals and increase the high political advocacy for accelerated implementation of the Accelerated Industrial Development of Africa (AIDA) by assigning a prominent industrialist as a special envoy for African Industrial development.

Also Call Upon the High Level African Trade Committee (HATC) to consider undertaking a review of its terms of reference in order to give Industry the requisite level of importance.

Taking note that 2019 will be the 10th anniversary of the adoption of the AIDA Framework by the African Union Assembly of Heads of States and Governments, **Request** that 2019 be declared as the Year of ***“Africa’s Structural Transformation through Industrialization and Mineral Resources Development.”***

2016

Report of the 1st ordinary session of the STC on trade, industry and minerals (STC-TIM), Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 16 to 24 may 2016

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