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**DRAFT CONCEPT NOTE**

**FOR**

**THE THEME**

**“YEAR OF WOMEN EMPOWERMENT AND DEVELOPMENT  
TOWARDS AFRICA’S AGENDA 2063”**

**JANUARY- DECEMBER 2015**

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**DRAFT CONCEPT NOTE FOR THE THEME  
“YEAR OF WOMEN EMPOWERMENT AND DEVELOPMENT TOWARDS  
AFRICA’S AGENDA 2063”**

**JANUARY- DECEMBER 2015**

**I. INTRODUCTION**

1. The African Union Assembly of Heads of State and Government, during the 23rd Ordinary Session, held from 26 to 27 June 2014 in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, declared 2015 as the Year of Women Empowerment and Development towards Africa’s Agenda 2063, marking the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and its Platform for Action (1995) and the 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the African Women’s Decade (2010-2020).

2. Africa has noted that despite positive achievements registered recently in decision-making, women, as the largest proportion of our population; still remain vulnerable, at-risk and impoverished due to the challenges caused by social, economic, cultural and political marginalization, gender-based violence and discrimination against women, terrorism, conflict, and fundamentalism. Africa is committed to resolve and ending violence against women and girls, and improving access to, and control of, finances, land, education, health, information, services, sciences and technology and decision-making in political governance and business enterprises, consistent with AU Declaration on Agenda 2063 and continental, regional and national Gender Architectures.

3. After several years considering gender mainstreaming not as much more than a moral obligation, African countries made commitments to address gender equality based on international, continental, regional and national Normative Framework on Gender Equality and Women Empowerment (GEWE) namely:

- The Protocol to the African Charter on Human Rights and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa adopted by AU Member States in 2003 in Maputo and currently ratified by 37 States and the domestication of the Protocol still remains a challenge in the promotion and respect of women human rights;
- The Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa, adopted in 2004 in Addis Ababa, is a reporting framework on which Member States report annually to the AUC progress made on gender mainstreaming at national level. Since the adoption of the Solemn Declaration, the AU Commission has received reports from 48 Member States;
- The African Women Decade adopted in 2010 (2010-2020), on which the Commission is working on the drafting of the mid-term Review to highlight the achievements made on women's empowerment and challenges that

remain in the implementation of international, continental, regional and national instruments;

- Finally, the Fund for African Women also adopted in 2010 and serving as financial framework for the implementation of the Decade. Indeed, the Fund for African Women supports projects submitted by Governments and non-governmental organizations with the amount of 0,5% of Member States' contribution;
- The Africa's Agenda 2063 that highlights women empowerment and youth as aspiration 6 in the priorities of our development agenda 2063;
- In addition to the AU Normative Framework on Gender Equality and Women Empowerment, African countries are also governed by global initiatives like the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) in 1979, the Beijing Platform of Action (BPOA) in 1995, the sustainable Development Goals and UN Resolution 1325 among others international instruments.

**4.** Progress on Gender Equality in Africa continues to be seen in gender parity while slight changes are registered in other commitment areas. But large women and girls in Africa continued to be discriminated and violence against them has not reduced in any significant way.

**5.** Some Member States have adopted policies and taken measures to address violence perpetrated against women and girls but without proper follow-up and enforcement of law perpetrators usually go unpunished.

**6.** In some instances impunity also is a factor that contributed to the lack of action. Member states are encouraged to double their efforts at ending violence and discrimination against women whether it takes place in the context of law or in practice.

**7.** As part of its efforts to fulfill this mandate, the AUC created a Women Gender and Development Directorate (WGDD) under the Office of the Chairperson. WGDD is tasked to catalyse gender mainstreaming and empowering of women as a collaborative investment through institutional capacity building with AU Members State, RECs, AU Organs, AUC Departments, Gender machineries and Partners. African Union has also appointed a Special Envoy in January 2014 with the mandate to promote and protect the rights of women and in particular those affected by conflicts. Her appointment came to strengthen the resolve of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission "to ensure that the voices of women are heard much more clearly in conflict resolution and peace building".

**8.** Given the dynamic nature of gender relations and taking into account existing and emerging social, economic, political, religious, cultural and traditional concerns that have direct and indirect impact on gender and social development, the African Union has embarked upon reviewing and assessing its existing Gender Policies and Strategies.

The updated Policy Framework and Plan of Action will take stock of achievements, challenges and opportunities within Member States and at regional levels, to identify priority action areas focusing on practical solutions that are catalytic and transformational and setting the context for benchmarking Africa and comparing to other regions of the world.

**9.** In order to fast-track the implementation of key achievements on the theme for 2015 and highlight success stories, the Commission is already intending to develop an AU Gender Matrix of data and indicators supported by the Gender Score Card jointly developed with the UNECA and will be presented during the 25th Summit..

**10.** The AU Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa as a reporting mechanism on progress made by Member States on Gender Equality and Women's empowerment constitutes also another opportunity for the Commission to monitor challenges and challenges on the implementation of the Year.

**11.** Finally the Mid-Term review of the African Women's Decade 2010-2020 which report will be presented during the 26 AU Summit in January will be done on questionnaires-based sent to Ministries of Gender & Women's Affairs.

## **II. RATIONALE**

**12.** Studies have shown that women constitute about half of Africa's poor by income and other measures related to GDP and social accounting. Women play critical productive roles that directly impact Africa's developmental opportunities, but those activities are un-accounted. Moreover, they face Gender-specific constraints faced by Africa's women, notably limited access and control to the productive resources and have critical implications for broad-based, socio- economic development in Africa.

**13.** Since the Fourth World Conference on Women Beijing, China in 1995, empowerment of women and specific attention to the girl child, have emerged as important factors in sustainable and accelerated development in developing countries. There is now full universal recognition that mainstreaming and increasing the role of women in the development process is essential to propelling economic growth rates to levels that support stability and broad-based expanded opportunities for current and future generations.

**14.** Addressing persistent and ever increasing burden of poverty on women is pivotal to the Beijing Platform for Action as a basis for broad-based, economic transformation. It is also recognized as a causative lever as a cross-cutting issue to achieve the Africa Union's Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods that is shaped by seven goals (3ATGs) and MDGs.

**15.** Adoption of the Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa (SDGEA) by AU Heads of State in 2004 is the landmark commitment by Africa's leaders to report on progress made in gender mainstreaming. Further, the AU created the Fund for African

Women (FAW) in 2010, with the intention of directly supporting and enhancing women's participation in the economic process as well as increasing African women's participation in economic decision making.

**16.** Key to operationalizing African leadership commitment to empowering women and promote gender equality, the African Women Decade (AWD) was adopted in 2009 with the overall theme: *Grassroots Approach to Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE)*.

**17.** The declaration of the year 2015 on a theme devoted exclusively to women's empowerment and development in Africa for the implementation of the Agenda 2063, reflects priority questions for Africa such as:

- a) What opportunities are presented by both the Africa Agenda 2063 and the Common African Position on Post-2015 Development Agenda, for women's empowerment and gender equality in Africa?
- b) How can women's contributions towards achieving the Africa Agenda 2063 vision and goals and existing declarations that are being operationalized to accountably integrate Africa, be formalized and accelerated?
- c) What strategies of information, communication, legislation underpinned advocacy and awareness will the AU establish to allow African women co-own the successes of AU Agenda 2063?

### **III. OBJECTIVES**

**18.** The overarching objective of the "Year of Women Empowerment" is to define strategic actions to fully support women capacity building and access to resources in order to ensure their full participation to political and economic decision making. This overall objective is supported by the adoption of six key priorities areas adopted during the Stakeholder's Consultation between AU ministers of Gender and Civil Society Organizations, Regional Economic Communities (RECs) with the support of AU Development Partners, held from 20 to 23 January 2015 at the margins of the 24th AU Summit, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

**19.** These 6 priorities areas are namely:

#### **PRIORITY 1            Enhancing Women's Access To Health**

With a specific goal to end Violence against Women and Girls & Protect their Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights.

The message addressed to AUC, AU organs, REC's and Member States is to:

*End impunity for sexual and gender-based violence against women and girls and invest in quality health services and facilities that are accessible to all women and girls, particularly those in rural areas.*

**PRIORITY II: Education, ICT, Science and Technology**

With a specific goal to- provide a qualitative Education for All Girls and No to Child Marriage with a Message to:

*End child marriage in Africa, invest in education for girls, particularly in science, technology, ICT, engineering and mathematics, and increase sanitation facilities for girls and the retention rate of girls in rural and urban areas.*

**PRIORITY III: Peace and Security**

With a specific goal to involve Women at the Peace Table to Silence the Guns by 2020 with a Message to:

*Recognize and amplify the role of women in early warning mechanisms to prevent violence, promote gender equality at the peace table, and invest in centres of excellence to build a critical mass of peace builders.*

**PRIORITY IV: Agriculture, Food Security and Environment**

With a specific goal to retire the hoe to the museum.

The message addressed to AUC, AU organs, REC's and Member States is to:

*Reduce physical burden on women farmers with technology innovation and increase farming-poultry-livestock-fishing yields, increase Climate Change response, while also reducing the number of hungry and undernourished in Africa and the world over.*

**PRIORITY V: Financial Inclusion & Economic Empowerment**

With a specific goal for the Establishment of a Bank for African Women

The message addressed to AUC, AU organs, REC's and Member States is to:

*Unleash the dynamism of African women by promoting women's entrepreneurship and board leadership, ownership and control of assets – including land, and women's agency in parallel with increased access to financial resources in rural and urban areas.*

## **PRIORITY VI: Women in Decision- making & Leadership**

With a specific goal to recognize women as key actors of the electoral & Judicial machineries

The message addressed to AUC, AU organs, REC's and Member States is to:

Mainstream Gender parity and participation of women in judicial processes and institutions, especially in governance and at decision-making levels, such as the Supreme Court, Constitutional Courts, and Regional Courts.

The implementation of these 6 Key priorities in 2015 and beyond will aim to

### **III.1 Specific objectives**

- a) Recall Heads of State and Government for full implementation of the five AU Gender Architecture namely, the Maputo Protocol (2003), the SGDEA (2004), the AU Gender Policy (2009), the African Women's Decade (2009) and the Fund for African Women (2010);
- b) Facilitate mutual learning and experience sharing among countries and regions, with a view to strengthening and deepening country and Regional Economic Community engagements and ownership of advancing women empowerment toward Agenda 2063;
- c) Facilitate dialogue, mutual learning and accountable enhancing of participation and representation of women in democratic plural governance, crisis prevention and recovery, as well as peace building process;
- d) Enhance women's participation to economic development and growth through capacity building, education and access and control to resources as well as information and technology.

## **IV. EXPECTED OUTCOMES**

- a) Reinforced political commitment by African Leaders, and all stakeholders for sustaining women's empowerment;
- b) Increased engagement and actions of all stakeholders on women empowerment, growth, investment, and development;
- c) Enhanced capacity and commitment of women to the self-driven impact;
- d) Improved platforms for multidisciplinary and multi-sectoral actions at national, regional and continental levels and;



- e) Policies and laws developed to facilitate Women access to land and credit

## **V. THEME AND SUB-THEMES**

**20.** The proposed theme is 2015 Year of Women Empowerment and Development Towards Africa's Agenda 2063.

### **V.1 Sub-Themes**

**21.** The sub-themes are the core eight focus areas of 50th Anniversary Solemn Declaration on Agenda 2063 which align the 10 sub-themes of the African Women's Decade 2010-2020. The area of women in mass communication is included as a sub-theme, recognizing that the media industry is critical to the transformation process. The following sub-themes can be addressed to add the value to the Agenda 2063:

- a) Women and Agriculture, Food Security and Environment;
- b) Women Economic Empowerment & entrepreneurship
- c) Women and Political Leadership, Governance and Democracy;
- d) Women and Peace and Security;
- e) Women and Education, Culture, Science and Technology;
- f) Women and Health;
- g) Women and regional integration
- h) Women's human rights and Gender-based violence (GBV can be social, economic, and/or political, with each contributing to violation of women's human rights.)
- i) Women and media: How to mainstream gender equality and women empowerment in African's media (getting the balance right: awareness).

## **VI. MAKING IT HAPPEN**

### **VI.1 Main Activities planned for the Summit preparation**

**22.** The Commission, under the leadership of the Commissioner of Economic Affairs, has set up a Task Force of all AUC Departments to elaborate a matrix of activities to be implemented during the year of 2015 and beyond, knowing that 2016 is also another year where women's rights will be addressed. The matrix is attached as annex 1 of this Theme Paper.

- a) An awareness and advocacy campaign, underpinned by HOS commitments and legislative action will be launched throughout the year targeting various audiences at continental, regional and national levels.
- b) Development of knowledge tools, brochures, publications, materials on women's empowerment and gender equality

### VII.1 Leadership, Organization and Management

23. Successful planning and implementation of the multi-dimensional, multi-sectoral **2015 AU Year of Women Empowerment and Development towards Africa's Agenda 2063** will be managed through key teams comprising:

- a) **Policy Advisory Group:** to provide overall policy advice and guidance on strategic, integrative and emerging policy issues on Women's Empowerment and development towards Africa's Agenda 2063;
- b) **Steering Group:** established by the Bureau of the Chairperson composed of different focal persons of AUC Departments and representatives of RECs presents at the Headquarters to provide overall guidance of the actions leading to, and during 2015;
- c) **Technical Oversight Group:** co-led by the Special Envoy for Women, Peace and Security and the Acting director of WGDD, will oversee the organization and planning of the activities leading up to, during, and after each of the key events;
- d) **Technical Management Group:** to ensure engagement and involvement of RECs in the planning and management of actions leading up to, during, and after the key events; and;
- e) An **Operational Secretariat:** composed of a team of 4-6 selected experts to provide technical support to all the relevant groups and conduct technical preparations for the meeting.

**Annexes**

**Annex 1: AUC Matrix on Coordination Activities to implement the 2015 theme on " Year of Women's Empowerment & Development towards Africa's Agenda 2063"**

Priority area	Proposed Activities	Main outputs	Proposed Budget	Budget Secured Yes/No	Tentative dates of the activity	Leading department	Involved department	Proposed joint activities	Achieved Tasks	Expected tangibles results	Remarks
Political empowerment, fair share of policy and decision making positions in society	Experience Training on Gender and Women in Leadership positions for sharing of experience" in governance (regional, national, local levels) of public policies.	Awareness created to other women on how to effectively lead and manage an organization, office, etc...	150,000 USD (Budget not available)	No	September	<b>Political Affairs</b>	WGDD Medical Services PSD BCP HRST			Capacity and skills of women increased in the areas of leadership and management, electoral process and good governance	Please do note that in as much the budget for these two activities are not available within the provisioned budget line of the DPA, it is believed that the essence of this Coordinating Committee is to assist and support different departments of the AUC in the attainment of their common goals for the year 2015 which is dully reflected through the AU theme for 2015..

Priority area	Proposed Activities	Main outputs	Proposed Budget	Budget Secured Yes/No	Tentative dates of the activity	Leading department	Involved department	Proposed joint activities	Achieved Tasks	Expected tangibles results	Remarks
	Training of women on electoral processes and good governance.	Improve and alleviate the competence of women in electoral processes and good governance.	200,000USD (Budget not available)	No	November		WGDD Medical Services PSD BCP HRST				As a start, in case the two meetings are not feasible due to budget constraints, it is imperative for one (1) of these meetings to be organized this year 2015 as we believe at the level of the DPA that the numerous elections on the African Continent this year 2015 whether it being Presidential , Legislative, Parliament arian, Senate, etc... is a



Priority area	Proposed Activities	Main outputs	Proposed Budget	Budget Secured Yes/No	Tentative dates of the activity	Leading department	Involved department	Proposed joint activities	Achieved Tasks	Expected tangibles results	Remarks
	Work with other stakeholders to develop protocol for reporting and dealing with GBV at workplace	Protocol for minimum package of sexual and reproductive health services for conflict and post conflict situation is developed /adapted in collaboration with member states.									
	<b>At continental level:</b> To contribute towards improving access to sexual and reproductive health services including family planning and treatment for STIs among women in conflict and post conflict situations through sharing of experiences and best practices, and development or adaptation of protocols for minimum package of sexual and reproductive health										
Human and Economic Rights of women	Design specific training programmes in the use of ICTs for women. - set up ICT capacity building centers in rural areas	facilitate access , participation and involvement of women in the information society sensitize rural women on the use of ICTS	Budget no available		2015-2017	<b>Infrastructure and Energy</b>	All the departments	provide low cost loans for teachers to purchase computers		Percentage of women able to use internet	

Priority area	Proposed Activities	Main outputs	Proposed Budget	Budget Secured Yes/No	Tentative dates of the activity	Leading department	Involved department	Proposed joint activities	Achieved Tasks	Expected tangibles results	Remarks
Economic empowerment and entrepreneurship for women					2015-2016		Trade and Industry	Sponsor women leaders who will inspire peers		Number of medium and small enterprises created .	
Equal access to all social services					2015-2020		All departments	Use the platform to benefit women from the online learning opportunities  Help Women bring lasting changes in their communities		The number of women which use the proposed services.  Social well-being and individual expression  The impact on the young girls	
Political empowerment, fair share of policy and decision making positions in society					2015-2017		Political Affairs Legal Counsel	Consider women inclusion in National strategies for ICTs.		Number of women who access to decision making positions in ICT sector	
Maternity health, family planning, and reproductive health					2015		Medical Services  Peace and Security			Percentage of women who benefit from e-health services	









Priority area	Proposed Activities	Main outputs	Proposed Budget	Budget Secured Yes/No	Tentative dates of the activity	Leading department	Involved department	Proposed joint activities	Achieved Tasks	Expected tangibles results	Remarks
	Scholarships dedicated to training of women in aviation .	Positioning women at the management level team and promoting pilot women to captain category	-								
<b>To enhance capacity to support gender responsive agricultural investment</b>	<b>Activity 1</b> Build the capacity of 80 women and young women in sustainable agriculture and agribusiness WGDD, DIC, ICT, Human Resources & Technology in Songhai, Benin	Women/ young women farmers skilled in agribusiness	150000	Yes	July 2015	<b>BCP</b>	DREA, NEPAD, WGDD, DTI ICT	Training of women Farmer in agribusiness		80 plus women trained in agribusiness in Benin or any other identified place in the continent	
	<b>Activity2</b> Document&, publish successful models of ICT/SMS based access to extension and marketing information for women farmers including young women .	Improved access to ICT/SMS based extension services and markets for women young women farmers enhanced			April 2015- Dec2015( Ongoing activity		DREA ,NEPAD DIC ICT,WGDD	Documentatio n of experiences		130 women trained in 2014 in agribusiness linked to ICT/SMS based extension services and markets – reports on markets secured & services provided to the women farmers	

Priority area	Proposed Activities	Main outputs	Proposed Budget	Budget Secured Yes/No	Tentative dates of the activity	Leading department	Involved department	Proposed joint activities	Achieved Tasks	Expected tangibles results	Remarks
	<b>Activity 3</b> Document success stories of the women/young women farmers trained in 2014 in Kenya and Benin and other qualifying women from rural areas identified	Successful stories for women farmers documented & showcased to wider audience in Africa & beyond.			April 2015 – Dec 2015 Ongoing activity		DREA ,NEPAD DIC ICT,WGDD			Documentation of success stories for women including young women in agribusiness show cased at the June Summit and other platforms- increased visibility of AUC around the 2015 theme ,	
<b>Increase women and youth entrepreneurs ' access to financing, capacity building and business development services</b>	<b>Activity 1</b> Conduct a High level Women and gender Access to Land Policy Dialogue targeting traditional/community leaders , chiefs , policy makers , private sector etc.,	Land and Gender Women Policy paper produced and High level land policy dialogue held	330, 000	Yes	18-20 May 2015	<b>BCP</b>	WGDD , NEPAD, DREA , ECONOMIC AFFAIRS	WGDD DREA		Commitment by Member states to put in place gender sensitive and equitable land policy and legal frameworks to increase access and ownership of land to women young women	

Priority area	Proposed Activities	Main outputs	Proposed Budget	Budget Secured Yes/No	Tentative dates of the activity	Leading department	Involved department	Proposed joint activities	Achieved Tasks	Expected tangibles results	Remarks
	<b>Activity 2</b> Hold a High Level Roundtable dialogue on Financial Inclusion for women	High Level Roundtable , side events , conferences on financial inclusion targeting agriculture financing held – targeting private sector financial banking institutions agro-banks/funds policy makers , women farmers organizations etc.			April - June 2015 and beyond	<b>BCP</b>	WGDD , NEPAD, DREA , ECONOMIC AFFAIRS	WGDD-		Commitments towards practical mechanisms for financial inclusion targeting agriculture financing as a short term result tabled at the June Summit & medium- long term results to establish /review /update a Women's Special Fund .	
	<b>Activity 3</b> Document & disseminate best practices on female and male African leaders/champions in business	Successful stories of female and & male business leaders including young female leaders documented and disseminated			April –June 2015& beyond	<b>BCP</b>	WGDD , NEPAD, DREA , ECONOMIC AFFAIRS ,DIC	DIC		Business role models show cased to mentor women and young women entrepreneurs	
	<b>Activity 4</b> Hold Youth Business Linkages Forum and as part of follow up to training of 80 youth entrepreneurs in Kenya 2014 ,	women and youth entrepreneurs have increased knowledge and networking on access to finance, markets and business development services			May 2015(second week)	<b>BCP</b>	WGDD , NEPAD, DREA , ECONOMIC AFFAIRS	Youth Division – youth forum		100 Young Business Women Entrepreneurs hip trained in leadership ,business proposals development, access to finance and markets to be able to access finance &	

Priority area	Proposed Activities	Main outputs	Proposed Budget	Budget Secured Yes/No	Tentative dates of the activity	Leading department	Involved department	Proposed joint activities	Achieved Tasks	Expected tangibles results	Remarks
										markets etc.	
	<p><b>Activity 5</b></p> <p>Organize a Women 's Business Forum - back to back with the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the African Women Business Alliance</p>				27April -2 <sup>nd</sup> May 2015		WGDD , NEPAD, DREA , ECONOMIC AFFAIRS				
<p><b>To increase representation of women in elected political /leadership positions as well as in public boards, tribunals and commissions at the regional level</b></p>	<p><b>Activity 1:</b></p> <p>Provide awards for women leaders with distinction and male role models /gender champions, including female and male youth leaders,</p>	<p>Enhanced public awareness and debates around the principles of gender equality and women leadership to influence social norms, law, policies and practical measures to increase the participation of women in politics and decision making positions.</p>	700000	Yes	April- Dec	<b>BCP</b>	DPA WGDD DTI			A pool of role models and male champions promoting women empowerment in place.	

Priority area	Proposed Activities	Main outputs	Proposed Budget	Budget Secured Yes/No	Tentative dates of the activity	Leading department	Involved department	Proposed joint activities	Achieved Tasks	Expected tangibles results	Remarks
	<b>Activity 2:</b> Update regional profiling of women leaders across public and private spheres, and publish the data base	same as above			April – Dec		DPA WGDD Economic Affairs			Database of women leaders and professionals in place and disseminated to governments , RECS and the AUC for easy reference to increase representation of women in decision making positions	
	<b>Activity 3:</b> Identify 100 Most Influential Women leaders under 40 on the continent and partner them with women editors for continuous raising of their profiles	same as above			April –Dec	<b>BCP</b>	WGDD, DIC, ICT, Human Resources & Technology			100 young women leaders profiled increasing their visibility-mentorship of more young women	
	<b>Activity 4:</b> Facilitate roundtable discussions with women in academic institutions' decision making positions	increased awareness on the importance of having women in leadership positions in academic institutions			June 2015	<b>BCP</b>	WGDD DIC ICT Human Resources & Technology			position paper on women in decision making positions produced creating linkages between women in the academia and policy makers	

Priority area	Proposed Activities	Main outputs	Proposed Budget	Budget Secured Yes/No	Tentative dates of the activity	Leading department	Involved department	Proposed joint activities	Achieved Tasks	Expected tangibles results	Remarks
	<b>Activity 5:</b> Develop a policy paper on women in the judiciary and engage in policy dialogue to build consensus towards increasing the participation of women in judicial processes and institutions decision making	Policy paper on women in the judiciary developed			On going	<b>BCP</b>	WGDD, regional& continental Human Rights Courts/Tribunals	DPA		Position policy paper Member states , AUC, RECs to increase the participation of women in the judicial processes and institutions produced	
	<b>Activity 6:</b> Develop an issue paper / policy brief on participation of women in decision making positions in continental and regional governance institutions	Issue paper on the participation of women in continental and regional institutions developed			April – Dec	<b>BCP</b>		DPA		Commitments by Member states towards increasing the participation of women in the judicial processes and institutions	
	<b>Activity 7:</b> Facilitate south to south cooperation for countries which are due for elections in 2015, 2016 and 2017 to draw lessons from some best practices in Africa countries which have increased participation of women in Parliament	Eminent African women leaders including MPs and political leaders identified and supported to participate in solidarity missions to countries due for elections in 2015			April-Dec	<b>BCP</b>	Human Resources & Technology WGDD			Issue paper on the participation of women in decision making positions at continental and regional level (	



Priority area	Proposed Activities	Main outputs	Proposed Budget	Budget Secured Yes/No	Tentative dates of the activity	Leading department	Involved department	Proposed joint activities	Achieved Tasks	Expected tangibles results	Remarks
	<b>Activity 8:</b> publish a monthly/quarterly issue brief on the impact of each election on women participation and representation	Quarterly newsletter on women's political participation published			March –Side Event with Women MPs	BCP	DPA			AUC/RECS) submitted to the Head of State & Government , AUC & RECs administration structures to influence application of gender parity	
	<b>Activity 9:</b> Develop a strategic paper (s) on specific best practices in legislative and policy frameworks which have increased the participation of women in public elective bodies including participation of women in local government				April – Dec	BCP	DPA			Countries due for elections in 2015, 2016 and 2017 provided with technical assistance to ensure increased participation of women in politics and decision making	
	<b>Activity</b> Hold high level continental policy dialogue with female and male top political party leaders and other stakeholders on women's political empowerment				March- Dec  15- 16 April 2015- local government component	BCP	DPA, WGDD			Increased awareness on the trends in participation of women in elections as voters and candidates / monitoring /tracking system established	

Priority area	Proposed Activities	Main outputs	Proposed Budget	Budget Secured Yes/No	Tentative dates of the activity	Leading department	Involved department	Proposed joint activities	Achieved Tasks	Expected tangibles results	Remarks
	<b>Activity</b> Develop capacity building programme on women leadership & elections				March and on going	BCP	DPA WGDD			Model laws/policies on women's political empowerment in place	
	<b>Activity</b> Conduct high level missions to countries due for elections in 2015 to engage with women candidates, political parties, media on issues of women's representation in politics	Strategic paper on legislative & policy frameworks which have increased participation of women in politics and decision making positions developed			April-Dec		DPA			<p>50 Experts validate research paper on women in Local Government in Africa</p> <p>Practical measures to increase women's participation in politics identified and submitted to policy makers</p> <p>At least 500 women trained in leadership, governance , media engagement</p> <p>Exchange , study tours undertaken to exchange knowledge on women 's participation in parliament Newsletter on women's participation in elections and politics published quarterly</p>	

Priority area	Proposed Activities	Main outputs	Proposed Budget	Budget Secured Yes/No	Tentative dates of the activity	Leading department	Involved department	Proposed joint activities	Achieved Tasks	Expected tangibles results	Remarks
Improved Women socio-economic and political development	Activity 1 Hold a Pre-Summit as Stakeholder's Consultation on the AU 2015 theme "Year of Women Empowerment Development towards Africa Agenda 2063"	Building partnership between AUC, Member States, RECs, CSO's & Development partners.	\$300,000		21-23 January 2015	WGDD	DIC DTI, DREA , NEPAD, DEA , SPPRME	BCP Gender Project	Activity done	<p>A The Communiqué of the Stakeholders' Consultation is adopted by Ministers of Gender &amp; Women's Affairs , RECs, CSO's &amp; development Partners submitted to the Heads of State and Government for consideration</p> <p>B The strategy Framework for implementation composed of 6 Priorities on theme for 2015 is adopted and owned by the Stakeholders</p> <p>d) Networking between Ministers of Gender, RECs and CSO's is strengthened</p>	The Directorate of Gender has undertaken this activity with the financial support of AU Development because its budget was not released

Priority area	Proposed Activities	Main outputs	Proposed Budget	Budget Secured Yes/No	Tentative dates of the activity	Leading department	Involved department	Proposed joint activities	Achieved Tasks	Expected tangibles results	Remarks
	<b>Activity 2</b> Conduct training for identified AUC staff in gender responsive planning and budgeting	Capacity building of AUC, AU organs, RECs and MS, to mainstream gender	\$30,000	No		<b>WGDD</b>	WGDD DTI NEPAD,DREA	BCP Gender Project		Identified AUC Departments/st aff trained in Gender and Economics Policy Management Initiative ( GEPMI)  GEPMI tools re-packaged to AUC and REC Context	
	<b>Activity 3 Mid-Term</b> Review s on the implementation of the African Women Decade (2010-2020)	Gender Mainstreaming to achieve Equality and Women's Empowerment in Africa	\$31,920	yes	May 2015	<b>WGDD</b>		Financial support of the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan		Mid-Term Review Report of African Women's Decade developed	
	<b>Activity 4</b> prepare the synthesis report of Member States that have submitted their national reports on the Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa	Gender Mainstreaming to achieve Equality and Women's Empowerment in Africa	\$15,000	yes	May 2015	<b>WGDD</b>		Financial support of the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan	Ongoing, Consultant recruited	Consolidated/S ynthesized report on the SDGEA for submission to the Heads of State & Government  Best practices and progress made on Gender Equality & Women Empowerment shared by Countries	

Priority area	Proposed Activities	Main outputs	Proposed Budget	Budget Secured Yes/No	Tentative dates of the activity	Leading department	Involved department	Proposed joint activities	Achieved Tasks	Expected tangibles results	Remarks
	Activity 5 S <sup>nd</sup> AU High Level Panel on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment	Gender mainstreaming into CAADP & financial inclusion enhanced	\$308,362	partially	10-12 June 2015	WGDD	DREA UNDP Gender project under the BOC PSD	High Level Panel on Financial Inclusion of Women in Agribusiness	Preparation ongoing or done ??	Academia , Researchers, Scholars, Ministers of Gender, CSO's to share best practices and success stories on financial inclusion of women in agribusiness  One the 6 key areas priorities namely financial inclusion and women's economic empowerment is discussed by stakeholders and academics. A Call for Action on financial inclusion of women in agribusiness is adopted  Academia , Researchers, Scholars to input into the discussion on the AU Theme for 2015 and used the High Level Panel on GEWE as their Platform provided by the AU according to the AU HOSG	

Priority area	Proposed Activities	Main outputs	Proposed Budget	Budget Secured Yes/No	Tentative dates of the activity	Leading department	Involved department	Proposed joint activities	Achieved Tasks	Expected tangibles results	Remarks
	<b>Activity 6</b> Annual AU Course on Gender Responsive Economic Policy Making in Africa at national level	Capacity building of AUC, AU organs, RECs and MS, to mainstream gender	\$130,000	yes	July 2015	WGDD	DIC, UNDP Gender project under the BOC, WGDD			At least 25 nationals from identified country are trained on Gender Economic Course	
	<b>Activity 7</b> Annual AU Course on Gender Responsive Economic Policy Making in Africa at Regional level	Capacity building of AUC, AU organs, RECs and MS, to mainstream gender	\$90,000	no	November 2015	WGDD	BCP Gender project			At least 25 MS trained on Gender Economic Course	
	<b>Activity 8</b> Development of a documentary for June Summit	Gender Mainstreaming to achieve Equality and Women's Empowerment in Africa			May 2015	WGDD	DIC, UNDP Gender project under the BOC, WGDD	A documentary of 3mn showing the AUC Chairperson's message on the year for 2015 and 10 Mn documentary on national best practices on each of the 6 priorities.	Ongoing or DONE ??		
	<b>Activity 9</b> Development of Walk the talk news letter and IEC tools for the Summit	Gender Mainstreaming to achieve Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE) in Africa			May 2015	WGDD	UNDP Gender project under the BOC	UNWOMEN	Ongoing or DONE?	best practices in the implementation of commitments on GEWE are documented and disseminated	

Priority area	Proposed Activities	Main outputs	Proposed Budget	Budget Secured Yes/No	Tentative dates of the activity	Leading department	Involved department	Proposed joint activities	Achieved Tasks	Expected tangibles results	Remarks
	<b>Activity 10</b> Development of a IEC tools on Women's rights	Gender Mainstreaming to achieve Equality and Women's Empowerment in Africa			October	WGDD	DPA	Stakeholders' Consultation on year for 2016		A strategy to prepare the year of 2016 on human's rights focused on wome's rights developed	
	<b>Activity 11</b> Gender Sensitization Workshops and capacity building	AUC, AU organs, RECs and MS capacity built to mainstream gender	\$14,280	no	14-16 December 2015	WGDD	SPPMR on Agenda 2063 UNDP project under BOC	Technical Meeting on recommendat ion of AU Assembly on the theme for 2015 discussed in June 2015		Theme for 2015 implemented owned & implemented by all AU Member States, RECS, CSO's Partners.	
	<b>Activity 12</b> Inter-Departmental discuss on gender mainstreaming between WGDD and other Departments	AUC staff capacity built to mainstream gender	\$15,720	no	17-18 December 2015	WGDD	All Departments AUC	AUC Staff Retreat on GEWE		AUC log frame developed with Gender sensitive Indicators	
	<b>Activity 13</b> Meetings of the funds steering committee for the Fund for African Women.	MS Projects proposals reviewed and analysed by the Steering Committee	35,500	yes	May 2015	WGDD	HRST DIE	Development of Call for Proposal	ongoing	At least 54 projects approved for funding	
	<b>Activity 14</b> Implementation of the theme on Education, Science and Technology under Fund for African Women	MS Projects proposals reviewed and analysed by the Steering Committee	\$450,000	yes		WGDD	HRST DIE		on-going	At least 54 projects funded under Education, Science and Technology theme are implemented	
	<b>Activity 15</b> Congress with Business women and CSO	Women entrepreneur's capacity built to develop business plans and run businesses	70.000	yes	28 May – 2nd June 2015	WGDD	DEA DTI Trade and Industry BCP-Partnership		on-going	At least 60 women entrepreneurs are covered by AUC attend the business forum	

Priority area	Proposed Activities	Main outputs	Proposed Budget	Budget Secured Yes/No	Tentative dates of the activity	Leading department	Involved department	Proposed joint activities	Achieved Tasks	Expected tangibles results	Remarks
	<b>Activity 16</b> Development of Gender Indicators and Database	AU Gender Observatory established	18,000	no		WGDD	All Departments, RECS			Gender Indicators database developed	
	<b>Activity 17</b> Development of practical Tools for women socio-economic and political empowerment for AUC, other Organs, RECs, and MS	AU Gender Policy harmonized & implemented in regional and national gender policies	67,230	no		WGDD	All Departments, RECS			Gender Mainstreaming Tools and Guidelines developed	



2015

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