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## Industrializing Africa through sustainable Regional Value Chains development under the AfCFTA

Implications for policies at national, regional and continental levels

High-level Ministerial Dialogue with policymakers and industry specialists

Date: 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021

12:00 - 13:30hrs EAT

Annotated Provisional Agenda

### Moderation

The session will be moderated by *Dr. Patrick NDZANA OLOMO, Economist- Principal Policy Officer at the AUC*. His role will consist on introducing panelists by presenting their short bios.

#### 1. Opening (5 minutes)

H.E. *Mr. Albert Muchanga, Commissioner ETIM, AUC* will deliver opening and welcome remarks to the session and give a broad perspective on the theme of the session. He will inform the meeting on the current Departmental drive towards “moving Africa to higher levels of inclusive sustainable development anchored on mobilization of the African private sector to drive growth of manufacturing across the continent and elimination of illicit financial flows from Africa as well as deepening Africa’s economic integration within the framework of implementing the African Union Agenda 2063”. Priority will be given to current initiatives aiming at supporting structural changes in African economies through sustainable RVCs and industrialization.

#### 2. Keynote Presentation (10 minutes)

Under this agenda item, participants will be edified on the theme “Industrializing Africa through sustainable RVC and integration in GVC in the post COVID-19 era by *Dr. Patrick NDZANA OLOMO*. The presentation will aim at giving an overview of the need for Africa to refocus attention on RVC strengthening/development and GVC with a view of building better economies in the post COVID-19 era and harnessing the tremendous potential of the AfCFTA. Key highlights will include: (i) Developing RVCs is crucial to the structural transformation of African economies, food and pharmaceutical security, sustained poverty reduction and integration of Africa in the global economy. (ii) this shift requires policies that address the overall challenges to increasing and sustaining growth and productivity as well as innovative strategies that promote competitiveness, quality and linkages with other sectors at national, regional and global levels.

#### Presentation: Developing automotive RVC in Africa. (5 minutes)

This presentation will aim at giving a brief overview of the current efforts by the AUC, the African Association of Automotive Manufacturers (AAAM) and other pan-African institutions to develop a sustainable automotive value chain in Africa. The presentation will be given by *Mr. Dave Coffey, Association of Automotive Manufacturers*.

#### 3. Panel discussion:

Tentative list of Panelists: (40 minutes)

1. **H.E. DODO NDOKE Gabriel**, Minister of Mines, Industries and Technological Development, Republic of Cameroon presentation will aim at highlighting the role of technological development in the process of building sustainable regional value chains and industrialization in Africa. He will slightly elaborate on the Cameroonian experience in support of industrialization and RVCs in central Africa.
2. **Mrs Nevin Gamea**, Minister of Trade and Industry, Arab Republic of Egypt will elaborate on the Egyptian experience in industrial development and inform the meeting about the current efforts to strengthen industrial development.
3. **H.E. Adolf Mkenda**, Minister of Agriculture, United Republic of Tanzania will focus on the crucial role of agriculture as a lever of agro-industrial development and food security. He will elaborate in the policies needed for developing Africa's agriculture through a RVCs approach. The aim is to curtail food imports that costs US\$110 billion to African countries per annum.
4. **H.E. Hon. Dr. Owusu Afriyie Akoto**, Minister of Food and Agriculture, Republic of Ghana will elaborate on the great potential for developing African economies through the development of agribusiness, particularly agro-processing. He will present agriculture as a facilitator of industrial growth and manufacturing as well as job creation through its strong multiplier effects. He will also present agriculture as a means to reduce dependence on primary commodity exports and promote accelerated and sustained growth.
5. **H.E. Mme Amah Marie TEHOUA**, Minister of Industry and Private Sector Promotion, Côte d'Ivoire will address the session on the role of the private sector in accelerating RVCs and industrial development. She will give guidance on the policies needed to strengthen the private sector role in Africa's RVCs and industrial development.
6. **H.E. Mr. Onkokame Kitso Mokaila**, Minister of Minerals, Energy and Water Resources, Botswana will voice the imperative need for African countries to embrace a commodity-based industrialization with the aim of taking advantage of their rich resource endowment.
7. **Ambassador Gilberto Da Piedade VERRISSIMO**, President of the Commission of ECCAS will highlight the role of regional economic communities in designing and implementing sustainable policies for regional value chains and industrial development.
8. **Mr. K. Sherif**, Vice Presidency, Regional Development, Integration, and Business Delivery, AfDB will elaborate on the need for domestic financing mechanism and sound monitoring and evaluation processes to build sustainable RVC linked to GVC.
9. **Ragnheiður Elín Árnadóttir**, Director OECD Development Center will voice the need for unlocking and strengthened the potential of international cooperation to support Africa's RVC and industrial agenda. She will also call for a strengthened international support aiming at delivering on the promises to Africa during and after the COVID-19 pandemic for stronger economic recovery.

#### 4. Questions and Answers session (30 minutes): Interaction with Ministers and participants

The Q&A session will give an opportunity to ministers and panelists to exchange views on how to better strengthen existing and developing new RVC and to industrialize Africa in the context of the AfCFTA and build better resilient economies in the post-pandemic era.



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**Wrap-up and closing (5 minutes)**

H.E. Mr. Albert Muchanga, Commissioner ETIM will make brief closing remarks summarizing the main outcomes of the deliberations and declare the meeting closed.