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**5TH ORDINARY SESSION OF THE AFRICAN UNION
CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS OF SPORT
22-26 JULY 2013
ABIDJAN, COTE D'IVOIRE**

DRAFT CONCEPT NOTE

***THEME: "Harnessing the Power of Sport to Contribute to the Broader Government
Development Agenda"***

DRAFT CONCEPT NOTE

A. BACKGROUND

1. The 4th Session of the AU Conference of Ministers of Sport (CAMS4) took place in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia 17-21 October 2011 with the theme “**Consolidating Africa’s Renaissance through Sport**”. The Conference took far reaching decisions including the adoption of a new Architecture for Sport in Africa, the dissolution of the Supreme Council for Sport in Africa (SCSA) and the organization and management of the African Games, while vesting the ownership of the Games in the African Union. The decisions of the Fourth Session of the AU Conference of Ministers of Sport were subsequently endorsed by the Executive Council decision EX.CL/Dec.680 (XX) of January 2012.

2. The theme of the CAMS5 is, “**Harnessing the power of Sport to contribute to the broader government development agendas**”. The theme, which is a logical follow-up to that of the Fourth Session, is developed out of the growing evidence and recognition that well designed sport-based initiatives that incorporate the best values of sport, can be a cross-cutting, powerful, but high impact tool to achieve broader government development agendas.

3. Sport for Development and Peace has experienced a rapid increase in profile within the global development discourse over the last decade, and while the African Union has been at the forefront to of these advocacy efforts, this profile has not translated substantively into broader policy frameworks or scalable programming.

4. In advancing the African Union development agenda on sport for development, the Commission has developed the Policy Framework for Sustainable Development of Sport in Africa (2008-2018) and the Architecture for Sport in Africa as a guide for African governments seeking to strengthen sport contribution to development and peace as recommended by the CAMS3 and CAMS4. The two policy documents present direction and guidance to actualize Africa’s commitment to sport development and sport for development and to give due recognition to the central role that governments and non-government actors play in sports.

B. OBJECTIVES OF THE CONFERENCE

5. The 5th Session of the Conference of AU Ministers of Sport will provide a forum for Ministers and Experts from Member States, ANOCA, AASC, Sports Confederations and other stakeholders in the African Sport Movement to share experiences and learn from each other on harnessing the power of sport to contribute to national development agenda. The conference will also provide a forum for discussion of concrete measures and steps for the implementation of the new Architecture for Sport in Africa.

6. Further, following the submission by the Republic of Congo, SCSA President-in-Office requesting the AU Commission to make necessary interventions to enable ANOCA organize the 2015 African Games in Congo, the Conference will also be expected to come up with a decisive position and provide practical guidance on the way forward on the Games.

C. SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES OF THE CONFERENCE

7. The specific objectives of the conference include:

- How to harness and integrate the tremendous power of sport into broader national and international development and peace strategies
- How to actualize Africa's commitment to sport development and development through sport and to give due recognition to the central role that governments and non-government actors play in sports.
- Examining the declining performance of most African teams at major international sports events and measures required to improve performance
- How to ensure an inclusive sport development through the contribution and participation of Women and People with Disabilities at sports events and in sport administration?

C. AGENDA ITEMS

8. The Conference will consider the following agenda items:

- i. Report of the H.E. the AU Commission Chairperson on the implementation of the Decisions of the 4th Session of the AU Conference of Ministers of Sport;
- ii. Briefings will be presented on, inter alia, on the London 2012 Olympic Games by ANOCA, preparations for the 2015 African Games by Congo and the 2013 Sport Programme of the AU Commission, for information and support purposes;
- iii. The Report of the Planning Workshop of the Sport Development Regions, ANOCA, AASC, AWISA and APC;
- iv. The Report and recommendations of the Symposium on the Performance of African Countries at the Olympic Games and other International Sports Events.

D. FORMAT OF THE CONFERENCE

9. The Conference will be organized in two phases:

- a) Experts' Meeting 22-23 July 2013
- b) Ministers' Meeting, 26 July 2013

E. Symposium on the performance of African Countries at the Olympic Games and other international sports events-24 July 2013

10. Concerned about the continued poor performance of most African teams at major international sports events, a symposium bringing together Ministers of Sport, Experts ANOCA, AASC, Sports Confederations and stakeholders will be held on the 20 March to have a deeper reflection on Africa's performance and find the way forward;

F. OUTCOME OF THE CONFERENCE

- The 5th Session of the AU Conference Ministers of Sport is expected to be as highly interactive and constructive as earlier Sessions in view of the items to be discussed, and directives to be offered in particular regarding the implementation

of the new Sport Architecture and the way forward on the dissolution of the Supreme Council for Sport in Africa following the failure to dissolve the SCSA as recommended by the Fourth Session of the AU Conference of Ministers of Sport and endorsed by the Executive Council decision EX.CL/Dec.680 (XX) of January 2012. To achieve the expected outcome the Ministers will be expected to come up with a decisive position and provide practical guidance on the way forward;

- Concrete measures and roadmap to improve the performance of African teams at international sport events including the participation of women and persons with disabilities would be provided ;
- Measures to harness and integrate the tremendous power of sport into broader national and international development and peace strategies

G. DOCUMENTS

11. In addition to the relevant documents emanating from the AU Assembly and Executive Council meetings of January 2010, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, which are available on the AU Website (www.africa-union.int), reports and other documentation will be circulated during the Conference, in accordance with the draft Agenda items. Documents will also be posted on the mentioned AU website.

G. ORGANISATIONAL MATTERS

12. The Commission of the African Union will be responsible for the invitations to Member States and the preparations of the Agenda, Programme and documents will be done in consultation with the Bureau of the 4th Session of the AU Conference of Ministers in Charge of Sport. Translation and interpretation services, as well as secretarial support, will be availed for the Conference by the country and AUC.

H. PARTICIPANTS

13. Participants will include: Ministers in Charge of Sport and Experts/Officials from AU Member States, the AU Commission, AU Organs, International and Continental Sport Organizations, International Organizations and Agencies, and Regional Economic Communities.

I. FURTHER INFORMATION

14. Contact person for any further information on the Conference:

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