



African Union

DRAFT

CONCEPT NOTE

**Specialized Technical Committee on Transport, Transcontinental and
Interregional Infrastructure, Energy and Tourism (STC-TTIET)**

SUB-COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORT

FIRST ORDINARY SESSION

**Addis Ababa
6-8 December 2017**

I. BACKGROUND

The African Union Commission (AUC) plans to host the First Ordinary Session of the Sub-Committee on Transport of the AU Specialized Technical Committee (STC) on Transport, Transcontinental and Interregional Infrastructure, Energy and Tourism (STC-TTIIET). The STC-TTIIET held its first ordinary Session in March 2017 in Lomé, Togo and in accordance with its Rules of Procedure, adopted the creation of three sub-committees on: (a) Transport, (b) Tourism, and (c) Energy. The STC-TTIIET also adopted plans of actions for the various sub-sectors. The outcomes of the Lomé STC-TTIIET were considered by the AU summit in July 2017, with request for the AUC to implement the recommendations of the Lomé STC-TTIIET meeting [Ex.CL (1024(XXXI))].

In that regard, the Bureau of the STC-TTIIET held its first meeting in Addis Ababa on 25 and 26 July 2017 to consider mechanisms for operationalization of the sub-committees of the STC-TTIIET.

The Transport sub-sector covers the fields of air transport, road, railway and maritime transport. The sub-sector has a number of ongoing projects relevant to the continental agenda of development and regional integration. In particular, there are two priority transport flagship projects of the AU Agenda 2063 which are: establishment of a **Single African Air Transport Market (SAATM)** and development of an **African Integrated High-Speed Railway Network (AIHSRN)**. Furthermore, under the Priority Action Plan of the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA-PAP) the AUC is pursuing some notable projects including the development of SMART corridors, enhancing ports efficiency and ensuring a seamless Single African Aviation Sky through the modernisation of current air navigational systems. As well, the AUC has been requested by the Summit organs to elaborate a continental Transport Policy framework.

In that context, the major role of the Sub-Committee on Transport is to facilitate, monitor and evaluate the implementation of these vital continental projects including ensuring availability of adequate financial and human resources. One of the major outcomes scheduled in the very near future is the official launching of the Single African Air Transport Market on the margins of the Summit of Heads of State and Government in 2018.

According to the Rules of Procedure of the STC-TTIIET, the Bureau of the Sub-Committee on Transport will be constituted by the same Member States as those in the Bureau of the STC-TTIIET. Hence, the Bureau of the Transport Sub-Committee will be as follows: Chairperson, Togo (West Africa), 1st Vice-Chairperson, Mauritania (North Africa), 2nd Vice-Chairperson, Zimbabwe (Southern Africa), 3rd Vice-Chairperson, Ethiopia (East Africa), and Rapporteur, Congo (Central Africa).

This Concept Note describes the first meeting of the sub-Committee on Transport which will take place on 6 – 8 December 2017 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. This meeting will be held alongside the Third Ministerial Working Group (MWG) Meeting on the establishment of the Single African Air Transport Market which will take place from 5 to 8 December 2017 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The launch of Single African Air Transport Market (SAATM) is also a key agenda item of the Sub-Committee on Transport. Therefore, the programmes of the two meetings will converge at appropriate sessions in order to enable the Ministers from the twenty countries (22) of the SAATM countries to share information with their colleagues and work together for a successful launch of the SAATM.

II. OBJECTIVES OF THE MEETING OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORT

The overall objective of the meeting of the Sub-Committee on Transport is to review the outcomes of the July 2017 AU Summit and adopt a mechanism for implementation, follow-up, monitoring and evaluation of the sub-sector action plans covering air, road, railway and Maritime transport. Being its first meeting, the STC Sub-Committee on Transport will also designate its experts' working

groups and task teams in accordance with the Rules of Procedure of the STC-TTIIET. Finally, the meeting will adopt a mechanism for follow-up, monitoring and evaluation of the sub-sector action plans covering air, road, railway and maritime transport.

III. AGENDA

This main agenda items of the meeting are:

- Consideration of the outcome of the July 2017 Summit and review of action plans;
- Set up the Bureau of the Sub-Committee in accordance with the Rules of Procedure of the STC-TTIIET;
- Adopt the 2017-2019 work plan of the Sub-Committee
- Set up experts' Working Groups and Task Teams;
- Consider the draft Continental Transport Policy Document;
- Adopt a mechanism for monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the sub-sector action plans.

IV. EXPECTED RESULTS

The expected results relate to the items outlined on the meeting agenda. The main outcomes will include the 2017-2019 work plan as well as the mechanisms for facilitating implementation as well as monitoring and evaluation of the plans of action of the air, maritime, railway and road transport action plans. The meeting will finally adopt its report and final communique enumerating all the key agreed actions.

V. PARTICIPATION

Participants to this meeting will be Ministers and experts from the Ministries responsible for Air, Road, Railway and Maritime Transport of all the African Union Member States, the Regional Economic Communities (RECs), the Regional Development Banks and Financial Institutions, the specialized organizations (NEPAD, SSATP, UNECA, WB), Academia, Private Sector and Civil Society. In addition, representatives from the Development partners and International organizations involved in the transport sub-sector will be invited.

VI. VENUE AND DATES

The First Ordinary Session meeting of the Sub-Committee on Transport will be held in Addis Ababa, on the 6-8 December 2017.

VII. CONTACT INFORMATION

For further information relating to this Meeting, you can contract the following Staff:

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