



**AUC Department of Economic Affairs and the OECD  
Development Centre**

**Draft Concept Note**

**Launch of the *African Development Dynamics 2019* and  
*Domestic Resource Mobilization: fighting against  
Corruption and Illicit Financial Flows* reports**

**Date: 05 November 2019**

**Location: Plenary Hall,  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs Madagascar  
Antananarivo, Madagascar**

**October 2019**

## **I. Introduction**

The African Union Commission (AUC) in collaboration with the OECD Development Centre is launching the second edition of the *Africa's Development Dynamics* flagship report. The first edition of this African Union Commission's annual economic report was published in July 2018. With the international recognition and appreciation of the first edition, this report has proven to play an important role in furthering the discussions and encouraging policy reforms to fast track the continental integration agenda and the socio-economic transformation of Africa.

This 2019 edition focuses on "*Achieving Productive Transformation*" in Africa. It proposes policies for building the organisational, productive and technological capabilities of Africa's firms to perform at their best and diffuse those results throughout the rest of the economy for the benefit of society. This achievement is particularly relevant to the African Union vision for an integrated and prosperous continent as outlined in its Agenda 2063 development plan. The recent launch of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), a flagship project of Agenda 2063, at the AU Heads of States and Governments Summit held in July 2019 in Niamey, Niger, offers African firms new opportunities of a 1.2 billion strong continental market. It is important to equip them with the necessary tools and policies to encourage productive transformation by delivering in a competitive landscape to fuel economic development, create jobs, fight poverty and advance prosperity.

Africa's private sector today is a mix of successful "champions", promising start-ups, and a diverse spectrum of smaller businesses. Some 22% of working-age people in Africa are starting new businesses making Africa's rate the world's highest compared to Asia (13%) and Latin America (19%). Still, African firms will need all the capacity and tools to compete in the AfCFTA and be the engines for the continent's productive transformation.

This report emphasises the need for Africa to accelerate its productive transformation to create quality jobs, grow their businesses from lagging firms to leading firms producing more and better products in order to compete in the upcoming new open market of the AfCFTA. To achieve this goal, the report puts forward three key policy priorities: (1) developing strategic clusters of firms; (2) facilitating regional productive networks and (3) enhancing firms' abilities to thrive in new markets.

At this same event, the African Union Commission (AUC) will also launch a new report titled *Domestic Resource Mobilization: Fighting against Corruption and Illicit Financial Flows*. This publication contributes to the AUC's efforts to raise awareness on the impacts of Corruption and Illicit Financial Flows on the continent. Although it is difficult to quantify the amounts loss due to Illicit Financial Flows and Corruption, statistics estimate that between \$50 and 80 billion USD are lost annually and these figures seem to be on an upward trajectory. This amount is higher than the annual Official Development Assistance (ODA) that the continent receives.

Addressing this issue of Corruption and Illicit Financial Flows has been a priority area for the African Union Commission. The theme of the AUC for the year 2018 was "Winning the Fight against Corruption: A Sustainable Path to Africa's Transformation". A High-Level Panel was also commissioned in 2011 by the Joint Annual Meetings of the African Union Specialized Technical Committee (STC) on Finance, Monetary Affairs, Economic Planning and Integration and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development (COM) and resulted in the Mbeki Panel Report in 2015.

This publication is another initiative taken by the Commission to encourage better practices and address the issue of IFFs and Corruption. The report is divided into two parts providing (1) analytical perspectives on the issue and (2) country cases across the continent with specific actions that are being taken by AU Member States, to mobilize domestic resource and fight against corruption and IFFs.

## **II. Rationale of the Launch**

The launch of the *Africa's Development Dynamics Report 2019* and *Domestic Resource Mobilization: Fighting against Corruption and Illicit Financial Flows* publications, aims to fuel debate between High Level African Union Members State officials, African and international citizens and partners, business people and researchers. It also undertakes to bring an African contribution to fair and sustainable models of development, and to play a part in the development of a new kind of international co-operation more focused on mutual learning and the co-construction of public policies that improves the well-being of the population and the prosperity of the African continent.

### **III. DATE AND VENUE**

The launch will take place on 05 November, 2019 at the Plenary Hall of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Antananarivo, Madagascar.

### **IV. FORMAT OF THE EVENT**

There will be a general introduction of the report by the Commissioner of Economic Affairs, H.E. Prof. Victor Harison, followed by interventions by Mr. Mario Pezzini, OECD Development Centre Director & Special Advisor to the OECD Secretary General on Development. Panel discussions and Q&A will follow after the presentations.

### **V. PARTICIPATION**

Expected participants to the launch include Ministers of Economy and Finance, Trade and Industry, Commissioners, OECD, ACBF, AUDA/NEPAD and Regional and International Organisations. Journalists from different African countries are expected to attend as well as AUC partners- United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, World Bank, other United Nations Agencies, Private Sector and Civil Society Organisations.

### **VI. CONTACTS**

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## **Preliminary agenda**

**Event 1: Report on Domestic Resource Mobilization: fighting against Corruption and Illicit Financial Flows Report**

**Moderator: Dr Dossina Yeo, Head of Economic Policy and Research**

**Presentation of *Africa's Development Dynamics 2019: Achieving Productive Transformation* (18:20-18:40)**

**H.E. Prof. Victor Harison**, Commissioner for Economic Affairs, African Union Commission (09:00-9:10)

**Panel Discussions** (09:10-10:00)

**Prof. Emmanuel Nnadozie**, Executive Secretary, African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF) (10 mns) (tbc)

**Dr. Ibrahim Assane Mayaki**, CEO, AUDA-NEPAD (10 mns) (tbc)

**Mr. Jean Louis Andriamifidy**, Member of the African Union Advisory Board on Corruption (10 mns) (tbc)

**Hon. Janat Mukwaya**, Minister of Gender, Labour and Social Development, Republic of Uganda (TBC) (Uganda) (10 mns) (tbc)

**Q/A** (20 mns)

**Closing remarks** (10 mns)

**Prof. Victor Harison**, Commissioner for Economic Affairs, African Union Commission

## **Event 2: Africa's Development Dynamics Report: Achieving Productive Transformation**

### **Introductory remarks**

**Prof. Victor Harison**, Commissioner for Economic Affairs, African Union Commission (10:30-10:40)

### **Presentation of *Africa's Development Dynamics 2019: Achieving Productive Transformation*** (10:40-11:00)

**Mr. Mario Pezzini**, Director, OECD Development Centre and Special Advisor to the OECD Secretary General on Development (10:40-11:00)

### **Panel Discussions**

**Hon. Richard Randriamandranto**, Minister of Finance and Economy (Madagascar (10mns) (tbc)

**Hon. Robert Ahomka-Lindsay**, Deputy Minister of Industry, Ministry of Trade and Industry (Ghana) ( 10mns) (tbc)

**Mrs. Ahunna Eziakonwa**, Under-Secretary General of United Nations and Director UNDP Regional Bureau For Africa ( 10mns) (tbc)

**Q/A (15 mns)**

### **Closing remarks**

**Mr. Mario Pezzini**, Director, OECD Development Centre and Special Advisor to the OECD Secretary General on Development (2 mns)

**H.E. Prof. Victor Harison**, Commissioner for Economic Affairs, African Union Commission ( 2mns)