



## **DRAFT CONCEPT NOTE**

**THE 5<sup>TH</sup> ORDINARY SESSION OF THE  
AFRICAN UNION SPECIALISED TECHNICAL COMMITTEE  
ON  
TRANSPORT AND ENERGY  
(STC-T&E)**

**April 27-30, 2026**

**Johannesburg, South Africa**

## I. BACKGROUND

1. The African Union Commission (AUC) is organising the 5<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the African Union (AU) Specialised Technical Committee on Transport and Energy (STC-T&E), which will be held from April 27- 30, 2026, in Johannesburg, South Africa.
2. The STC-T&E is the Ministerial decision-making organ of the AU responsible for providing policy and strategic oversight for continental integration in the infrastructure sectors of transport and energy. It was established along with other similar sectoral organs initially as the *Committee on Transport, Energy and Communications* under Article 25 of the African Economic Community Treaty (the Abuja Treaty) in 1994 and, subsequently, under Articles 14, 15, and 16 of the Constitutive Act of the African Union in 2000. It was reconfigured into the *STC on Transport, Transcontinental and Interregional Infrastructure, Energy and Tourism* (STC-TTIET) in 2009. Following the AU institutional reform process and the transfer of the Tourism function from the Department of Infrastructure and Energy (IED) to the Department of Economic Development, Tourism, Trade, Industry, and Mining (ETTİM), the STC was renamed as *STC on Transport and Energy* through a Decision of the AU Executive Council in February 2024.
3. In accordance with its Rules of Procedure, the STC meets in ordinary sessions biennially. In contrast, extraordinary sessions are convened on a need-basis to consider items requiring the urgent attention of the STC. The STC has held four ordinary and three extraordinary sessions since 2017.
4. The Bureau of the STC-T&E is constituted according to Rule 16 of the STC Rules of Procedure based on balanced sectoral representation, rotation and geographical distribution and serves for two years. The current Bureau was elected in September 2023 during the 4<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the STC-T&E and is made up of the following Member States:  
  
Chair: Ethiopia (Eastern Africa)  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Chair: Chad (Central Africa)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chair: Cote D'Ivoire (West Africa)  
3<sup>rd</sup> Vice-Chair: Egypt (Northern Africa)  
Rapporteur: Lesotho (Southern Africa)
5. The 5<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the STC-T&E is convened to elect a new bureau, in accordance with the rules of procedure, and to consider the progress made in implementing the Decisions of the 4<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session, held from September 12–15, 2023, in Zanzibar, Tanzania. Furthermore, the 5<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session will consider new initiatives under Energy, Transport, and PIDA (Programme for Infrastructure

Development in Africa), which are being implemented by the Infrastructure and Energy Department in collaboration with various partner institutions. The Republic of South Africa offered to host the 5th Ordinary Session.

## II. OBJECTIVES

6. The objective of the 5<sup>th</sup> Session of the STC-T&E is to consider the following items arising from the outcomes of its 4<sup>th</sup> ordinary session held on 12<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> September 2023 in Zanzibar, Tanzania and other emerging initiatives within the transport, energy and PIDA sectors, including;

7. **Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA):** This session will review progress in advancing continental infrastructure integration under the PIDA, including governance, implementation progress, financing mobilisation and strategic initiatives aimed at accelerating priority infrastructure projects across the continent.

- i) Consideration of the implementation status of the previous decisions of the STC (T&E) on PIDA
- ii) Establishment of the Heads of State Committee and designation of a Presidential Champion for the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA)
- iii) Updates on the process of the Mid-Term Review of PIDA PAP2
- iv) Consideration of sector-specific recommendations for mobilising climate finance for Energy and Transport projects
- v) Updates on the implementation of the Second Phase of the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA PAP2)
- vi) Updates on the outcomes of the Luanda Financing Summit (LFS) 2025
- vii) Updates on the Ubuntu Legacy Initiative
- viii) Consideration of the Action Plan for PIDA 2025–2027

8. **Transport and Mobility (T&M):** In a parallel thematic session, the meeting will review progress in implementing continental transport initiatives aimed at improving connectivity, efficiency, safety and sustainability across Africa’s multimodal transport systems, including aviation, railways, maritime and road transport.

- i) Consideration of the status of implementation of the previous decisions of the STC (T&E) on Transport and Mobility
- ii) Final Report on the Aviation Infrastructure Gap Analysis and proposed bankable aviation projects
- iii) Continental strategy on air cargo services and trade routes
- iv) Final report of the Continental Cost-Benefit Analysis (CBA) Study on Satellite-Based Augmentation System (SBAS)
- v) Updates on the Theme of the Year 2027
- vi) Consideration of the continental framework on the harmonisation of Taxes, charges

- vii) Consideration of the Revised AFCAC Constitution (Article 10)
- viii) Report on proposed strategy for recovery of the African airlines industry, building on experience from COVID-19
- ix) Consideration of the continental Strategy and roadmap on the Regional Safety Oversight Organisations (RSOOs)
- x) Proposal for the transformation of the African Association of Aviation Training Organisations (AATO)
- xi) Consideration of the implementation status of the previous decisions of the STC (T&E) on Railway Transport
- xii) Consideration of the final Report on the Continental Railway Sourcebook
- xiii) Consideration of the implementation status of the previous decisions of the STC (T&E) on Maritime Transport
- xiv) Final Report on Ports Digitalisation Study
- xv) Consideration and adoption of the Handbook/Guidelines on Green Ports in Africa
- xvi) Common African Strategy for Maritime Decarbonization and GHG Reduction
- xvii) Final Report on Catching up Digital Port Infrastructure for Africa (Road Map and Action Plan)
- xviii) Consideration of the AfRSO Work Programme
- xix) Consideration of the Pan-African Action Plan for Active Mobility (PAAPAM)
- xx) Consideration of the African E-Mobility Framework

9. **Energy:** The session will review progress in advancing Africa's continental energy agenda, including energy market integration, renewable energy development, clean energy transitions and improved energy data and governance systems.

- i) African Single Electricity Market (AfSEM)
- ii) Updates on Solar Mini grids
- iii) Updates on Grand-Inga
- iv) Updates on Green Hydrogen
- v) Programme on Renewable Energy for the Humanitarian Sector

10. **AFREC:** The meeting will review the progress of **AFREC continental energy strategic programmes** aimed at strengthening energy statistics, policy coordination and energy sector governance across the continent.

- i) AFRI Clean Fuel Specifications Roadmap for Africa
- ii) Strategic Framework for Cross-Border Skills Sharing in the African Energy Sector
- iii) Strategy for Harmonisation and Development of Energy Statistics in Africa (2026–2031)
- iv) Establish or Improve the National/Regional Energy Information System
- v) Study on the opportunity for the domestic market for Oil and Gas in East Africa
- vi) Status of the Implementation of AFREC Projects and Programmes
- vii) African Energy Transition Strategy and Action Plan (ETSAP)
- viii) African Energy Efficiency Facility

**11. Projects and programmes by partners:** The session will also review progress made by partner institutions in supporting Africa's energy development priorities and strengthening collaboration across continental initiatives.

**12. Crosscutting: Cross-cutting items will also be tabled for discussion during the meeting, including:**

- i) Consideration of the Draft Experts' Report
- ii) Consideration of the Draft Ministerial Declaration
- iii) Any Other Business

### **III. AGENDA**

- i) The Meeting will be organised in two sessions, starting with the Experts Session from 27 - 28 April 2026, followed by the Ministerial Session on 30 April 2026.
- ii) The Experts meeting will comprise a plenary opening session to discuss PIDA-related items, followed by parallel breakout sessions on transport and energy to consider sector-specific items.
- iii) The Ministers' meeting will be held entirely as a plenary session. A detailed agenda and work programme are annexed to this Concept Note.

### **IV. EXPECTED RESULTS**

The 5th Ordinary Session of the STC-T&E is expected to achieve the following results:

- i) Review and validation of progress made in implementing the Decisions adopted during the 4th Ordinary Session held in Zanzibar, Tanzania, in September 2023.
- ii) Election of a new Bureau of the STC-T&E in accordance with the Rules of Procedure.
- iii) Strategic guidance provided by Ministers on priority initiatives and programmes under Transport, Energy and PIDA.
- iv) Endorsement of key continental studies, strategies, frameworks and action plans across the transport and energy sectors.
- v) Strengthened coordination among AU Member States, Regional Economic Communities, continental institutions and development partners.
- vi) Adoption of the Experts' Report and the Ministerial Declaration outlining the policy directions and commitments arising from the 5th Ordinary Session.

### **V. VENUE AND DATES**

The meeting will be held in person **from 27 to 30 April 2026 in Johannesburg, South Africa.**

## VI. PARTICIPATION

In line with the rules of procedures of the STC-T&E, the participation will include:

- i) All AU Member States: Ministers and experts responsible for transport (i.e. Air, Road, Railway and Maritime Transport), and energy sectors;
- ii) Regional Economic Communities (RECs);
- iii) Continental Organisations: AUC, AUDA-NEPAD, AfDB and UNECA;
- iv) Specialised Agencies and Institutions; and
- v) Invited partner organisations.

Technical Documents for the meeting can be accessed via the following link: <https://portal.africa-union.org> using the credentials below:

**Username: AUMeeting**

**Password: GogreenIEN318**

## VII. CONTACT INFORMATION

For further information related to this meeting, the following staff can be contacted:

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