



MEDIA ADVISORY

AU Conference of Ministers Responsible for Mineral Resources Development

Theme : "Leveraging the Africa Mining Vision for Africa's Renaissance towards broader ownership".

INVITATION TO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MEDIA

- What:** The 3rd Ordinary Session of AU Conference of Ministers Responsible for Mineral Resources Development.
- When:** The conference will be held into two phases:
 Experts meeting: 13th -15th December 2013
 Ministerial meeting: 16th -17th December 2013
- Where:** Maputo, Mozambique (International Conference Centre Joaquim Chissano)
- Who:** Jointly organized by the Department of Trade and Industry of the African Union Commission (AUC), and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), in collaboration with the Republic of Mozambique.
- Objective:** The purpose of this Ministerial Conference is to bring together AU Ministers Responsible for Mineral Resources Development, African experts in mining and natural resources development to brainstorm together on how African countries could design and implement effective strategies and policies of Mineral Resources through the African Mining Vision.
- The specific objectives of the Third AU conference of Ministers Responsible for Mineral Resources Development will include:
- Propose to African leaders approaches and policy options on the execution of the Action Plan for Africa Mining Vision (AMV) with the aim to promote sustainable development in Africa in line with 2015 Development Agenda and 2063 Africa's agenda;
 - Reflect on the adequacy, relevancy and gaps in the Business Plan for the African Mineral Development Center (AMDC) as an institutional framework which seeks to support the implementation of the AMV;
 - Enhance ownership and participation of Member States and Regional Economic Communities in the implementation of the Action Plan for AMV and enhance the understanding of its implications on Africa's mineral development
 - Launch the African Mineral Development Centre as a project; and

- Consider modalities to strengthen forward planning and information exchange on the Action Plan for AMV among Member states and stakeholders;

Participants: African Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Mineral Resources Development, AUC, Regional Economic Communities (RECs), UN Agencies, Development Partners, African Private Sector, Chambers of Mines and Industry, NGOs, and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs).

Background:

The Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Mineral Resources Development (CAMRMRD) has taken deliberate steps to address challenges in the mineral sector, inter alia, the formulation of the Africa Mining Vision (AMV) and its Action Plan and endorsement to establish an African Minerals Development Centre (AMDC) to provide strategic technical support capacity for implementing the Action Plan for AMV.

In October 2008, the first Session of AU Ministers Responsible for Mineral Resources Development, held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, considered the AMV as a strategic framework for the management of Africa's mineral resources in order to promote growth, poverty reduction and sustainable development in Africa. The AU Heads of State and government, at their assembly in Addis in February 2009, welcomed the AMV and requested the "AU Ministers in charge of Mineral Resources Development to develop a concrete action plan for its realization".

In December 2011, the Second AU Conference of Ministers Responsible for Mineral Resources Development, held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, approved the Action Plan for the implementation of AMV, and through their Declaration on Building a sustainable future for Africa's extractive industry – from Vision to Action, endorsed it as the "continental tool for guiding the prudent, transparent and efficient development and management of Africa's mineral resources". The Ministers further endorsed the proposal to establish a Mineral Development Centre to provide strategic technical support capacity to AU/NEPAD, Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and Member States for the implementation of the Action Plan and hence the AMV. Following this directive, the AU Commission in close collaboration with Member States of the Second Bureau of CAMRMRD, UNECA and other development partners have developed a Draft Business Plan for the establishment of African Mineral Development Center (AMDC).

Journalists are invited to cover the event from 13-17 December 2013 in Maputo, the Republic of Mozambique.

The draft work programme is attached:

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