Independent Expert Meeting on Finance, Monetary Affairs, Economic Planning and Integration

9-10 April 2018

Africa Union Commission Head Quarters

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
AGENDA

DAY 1: Monday, 9th April
Venue: AUC Head Quarters, Addis Ababa

8.00 – 8.30 Registration & Coffee

8.30 – 9.00 Welcome and Opening

- Dr. Rene Kouassi, AUC Director for Economic Affairs
- Mr. Florian Koch, Director, AU Cooperation, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung
- Dr. Abdul Kamara, Ethiopia Country Office, African Development Bank

09.00 – 10.30 Session I: Tax policy, administration and public financial management

Moderator: Prof. Prosper Ngowi, Head of Department of Short Courses, Research and Consultancy, Mzumbe University, Dar Es Salaam

Panelist:
- Dr. Nara Monkam, Research Director, African Tax Administration Forum (ATAF)
- Nelly Businge, Financing for Development/Tax Justice Programme Officer, Southern and Eastern African Trade, Information and Negotiations Institute (SEATINI)

Guiding Questions:
1. What are the key cross-cutting structural bottlenecks, that characterize the continent fiscal policies and undermine effective DRM?
2. How significant is the challenge of institutional capacity and what is being done to address the existing capacity gaps in tax policy and administration?
3. What has worked and are there examples of successful case studies of a solution that have contributed to improved efficiency, compliance, and balanced tax mix?
4. What can be done to improve and increase collaboration and coordination among key institutions to support effective DRM?

10.30 – 11.00 Tea/Coffee break

11.00 – 12.30 Session II: Mobilizing private investment in public projects

Moderator: Willy Ngandu, Senior Portfolio Officer, African Development Bank

Panelist:
- Fanwell Bokosi, Executive Director, African Forum and Network on Debt and Development (AFRODAD)
- Faith Lumonya, Trade and Investment Program Officer, Southern and Eastern African Trade, Information and Negotiations Institute (SEATINI)

Guiding Questions:
1. Is there a potential for private saving to expand?
2. What are the basic impediments for low private savings?
3. What are the basic preconditions for scaling up private savings?
4. What are the basic lessons from African and Asian countries regarding the reform for an enhanced private saving?
12.30 – 14.00  Lunch

14.00 – 15.30  Session III: Strengthening the financial system for development

Moderator: Dr. Dereje Alemayehu, Executive Coordinator, Global Alliance for Tax Justice (GATJ)

Panelist:
- Manuel Montes, Permanent Observer and Senior Advisor on Finance and Development, South Centre
- Kryticous Patrick Nshindano, Executive Director, Civil Society for Poverty Reduction Zambia (CSPR)

Guiding Questions:
1. What are the vulnerabilities affecting the financial system?
2. How to improve saving and credit management?
3. How the existing and savings instruments could be strengthened and the potential to introduce new saving instruments?
4. The role of capital market development and integration.
5. What role does technology play in the financial system and what are the regulation issues involved?

15.30 – 16.00  Tea/Coffee break

16.00 – 17.30  Session IV: Domestic policies for tackling corruption

Moderator: Daniel Oberko, Tax Justice Organiser, Public Service International (PSI)

Panelist:
- Dr. Paul Jourdan, African Resource-Based Development Consultant
- Deus M Kibamba, Executive Director, Tanzania Citizens’ Information Bureau (TCIB) & African Center for International Affairs (ACIA)

Guiding Questions:
1. What policies are needed to be put in place for the fight against corruption?
2. What should be done to strengthen and protect the key institutions for curbing corruption?
3. Talk about a Special Court on corruption cases: Is there a need for new anti-corruption institutions?
4. How much can (new) Media play a role in fighting corruption in this era of the internet? Any best practices (case studies) to learn from?
5. To what extent can public education assist in the fight against corruption?
DAY 2: Tuesday, 10th April
Venue: AUC Head Quarters, Addis Ababa

08.30 – 10.00 Session V: International co-operation on tackling corruption

Moderator: Caroline Othim, Campaigns and Policy Coordinator, Africa, Global Alliance for Tax Justice (GATJ)

Panelist:
- Donald Deya, Chief Executive Officer, Pan African Lawyers Union (PALU)
- Selemani Kinyunyu, Senior Policy Officer (Political & Legal Matters), African Union Advisory Board on Corruption

Guiding Question:
1. What does the corruption cooperation landscape look like?
2. What are the key challenges to international cooperation?
3. How can international cooperation be simplified and sped up?

10.00 – 10.30 Tea/Coffee break

10.30 – 12.00 Session VI: Tackling tax-related illicit financial flows

Moderator: Alvin Mosioma, Executive Director, Tax Justice Network Africa (TJNA)

Panelist:
- Dr. Dereje Alemayehu, Executive Coordinator, Global Alliance for Tax Justice (GATJ)
- Attiya Waris, Senior Lecturer Faculty of Law, University of Nairobi and Member of BEPS Monitoring Group
- Varsha Singh, Deputy Head Global Relations and Development, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

Guiding Questions:
1. What has been the key successes and failures in the continent’s effort to tackle IFF?
2. What are the recent key global development in the Anti-IFF agenda and what are their implications to Africa?
3. How far is the continent in implementing the recommendations of the HLP and what are the bottlenecks undermining these efforts (Successful case studies)?
4. What can be done to increase Africa’s role and voice in the global anti-IFF reform agenda?

12.00 – 13.30 Lunch
13.30 – 15.00  **Session VII: Anti-money laundering, counter financing of terrorism and tackling trade mis-invoicing**

**Moderator:** Selemani Kinyunyu, Senior Policy Officer (Political & Legal Matters), African Union Advisory Board on Corruption

**Panelist:**
- Catherine Anderson, Team Lead for Governance for Development, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
- Bernd Schlenther, Technical Expert, African Tax Administration Forum (ATAF)

**Guiding Questions:**
1. Why is trade in goods and services vulnerable to money laundering, terrorist financing and trade mispricing?
2. What is the pervasiveness of trade mis-invoicing in Africa?
3. What can individual countries and their regional and international partners do to tackle trade mis-invoicing and combat money laundering in the supply chain?
4. How can AML/CFT laws assist tax and customs authorities in tackling trade mis-invoicing?

15.00 – 16.00  **Session VIII: Concluding session: Presentation of key recommendations**