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**FIFTH ORDINARY SESSION OF THE SPECIALISED  
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT,  
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (STC-SDLE-5)  
29 JULY- 02 AUGUST 2024  
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA**

STC-SDLE-5/EXP/RPT

*Theme: "SOCIAL AGENDA 2063: PROMOTING SOCIAL AND SOLIDARITY ECONOMY  
ECOSYSTEMS"*

**REPORT OF THE EXPERTS' MEETING  
29 – 31 JULY 2024**

## REPORT OF THE EXPERTS' MEETING

### INTRODUCTION

1. The Experts' Meeting of the Fifth Ordinary Session of the Specialized Technical Committee on Social Development, Labour and Employment (STC-SDLE-5) was held from 29 - 31 July 2024. The theme of the meeting was "**Social Agenda 2063: Promoting Social and Solidarity Economy Ecosystems**".
2. The Experts' Meeting was held to consider the decision of the 41<sup>st</sup> Executive Council in 2022 on submitting or presenting documents from SDLE-STC-4 to other relevant STCs, African Union Child Safeguarding Policy; extension of the Strategic Plans for the AU Campaign to End Child Marriage and the AU Saleema Initiative on the Elimination of Female Genital Mutilation respectively; Declaration of the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on Female Genital Mutilation and its Roadmap; AU Accountability Framework for the Elimination of Harmful Practices; briefing on the OCSEA- Programmatic Response Plan for 2021- 2025 and the African Union Social and Solidarity Economy and Implementation Strategy (2023-2032); AU-ILO Youth Employment Strategy for Africa (YES-Africa); Regional Guides for Orientation Programmes for Labour Migration Between the East and Horn of Africa and the Gulf Countries; Fair and Ethical Recruitment Strategy for Africa; Terms of Reference of the African Labour and Employment Council (ALEC) and Report on Labour Migration.
3. The meeting discussed critical issues addressing the theme of the STC as follows:
  - a. **Social Development:** Ensuring the rights of children on the continent should be intensified as they are vulnerable to abuse and torture through early marriage and other harmful practices. Additionally, the social and economic inclusion of persons with disabilities, and ensuring that their rights are recognized and respected is indispensable for eradicating poverty and lack of accessibility to other services. This has been demonstrated through the adoption of the AU Disability Strategic Framework as well as the ongoing signing and ratification of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Africa. Further to this, the adoption of the Plan of Action to End Attacks and Other Human Rights Violations Targeting Persons with Albinism in Africa (2021–2031) and its Implementation Matrix, as well as the decision to appoint a Special Envoy on Albinism has ensured commitment to the rights and welfare of persons with albinism.
  - b. The adoption of the AU Social Agenda, Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Older Persons in Africa; the Protocol to the African Charter on the Rights of Citizens to Social Protection and Social Security; and other AU policy instruments ensure the inclusion of social development in the AU Agenda 2063 for 'the Africa We Want'.
  - c. **Labour and Employment:** Promoting youth employment and social solidarity economy, specifically through initiatives that balance socio-economic gains and environmental objectives while fostering solidarity, democracy and mutualism. The African Union has developed a Ten-Year Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) Strategy and its Implementation Plan (2023-2032). The Strategy presents a comprehensive policy framework to support African Union Regional Economic Communities and Member States in their endeavour to legitimize, support and expand the contributions of Social and Solidarity Economy in Africa.

- d. Promoting and protecting the rights of migrant workers through ensuring comprehensive orientation throughout the migration cycle, fair and ethical recruitment and establishing sustainable tripartite dialogue.

## **ATTENDANCE**

4. The Experts' Meeting was attended by delegates from the following AU Member States: Algeria, Angola, Botswana, Burundi, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Chad, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Eswatini, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Malawi, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Rwanda, Saharawi, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Tanzania, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.
5. The following AU Organs, Regional Economic Communities, Inter-Governmental and Non-Governmental Organizations and cooperating partners were represented: ACERWC, ARLAC, East African Community (EAC), Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), CENSAD, IGAD, SADC, African Regional Organisation of the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC-Africa), Business-Africa, Organisation of African Trade Union Unity (OATUU), Pan African Productivity Association (PAPA), Ethiopian National Association of the Blind (ENAB), International Labour Organisation (ILO), GIZ, Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, Catalyst 2030, World Vision, National Economic Development and Labor Council (NEDLAC), Ethiopian Diaspora Association, Plan International, UNESCO, UNDP, World Economic Forum, Africa Disabilities Forum, ICRC.

## **AGENDA ITEM 1: OPENING CEREMONY**

6. In his welcome remarks, the outgoing Chairperson of the Fourth African Union Specialized Technical Committee on Social Development, Labour and Employment, Mr Hillary Busing, of the Republic of Uganda, recalled that the theme of the Fifth STC SDLE "Social Agenda 2063 and promoting Social and Solidarity Economy Ecosystems", presents a crucial opportunity for advancing decent work and social justice in Africa. The SSE includes cooperatives, associations, and social enterprises that operate based on voluntary cooperation and mutual aid. He noted that the following achievements have been recorded in the period of Uganda's Chair through various initiatives and flagship programmes:
  - a. The AU-ILO-IOM-ECA Joint Labour Migration Governance Programme for Regional Integration and Development in Africa (JLMP) which is strengthening the governance of labour migration in the continent.
  - b. The launch of the "Doha Dialogue" on Labour Migration to enhance labour mobility governance and protect migrant workers' rights between the Gulf Cooperation Countries and the African Union.
  - c. The implementation of Ten-Year Action Plan on the Eradication of Child Labour, Forced Labour, Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery in Africa
7. On behalf of the Organization of African Trade Union Unity (OATUU), Mr. Arezki Mezhoud, emphasized the need to strengthen tripartite partnerships to achieve the African Union's Agenda 2063 objectives and address regional and international challenges. He highlighted the session's theme, which focuses on tackling inequalities, poverty, environmental

degradation, instability, and conflicts through a development approach based on moral values. He stressed the importance of social dialogue, the role of trade unions, and creating an inclusive democratic environment to ensure participation from all societal actors. Mezhoud pointed out the potential of the social and solidarity economy in achieving these goals amid the impacts of liberal globalization on African workers. He called for reliance on African values and realities for development, continuing the legacy of the institution's founders.

8. On behalf of Business Africa, Ms. Jacqueline Mugo highlighted Africa's opportunities, such as its youthful population, rich resources, and potential as a major global market by 2050. She called for bold and strategic leadership to capitalize on these opportunities and stressed the importance of walking the talk and implementing strategies and frameworks. She underlined Business Africa and the business community's commitment to supporting various initiatives, including labor migration management, skills development, business growth, social protection, intra-Africa trade, free movement, good governance, and infrastructural development. She emphasized that growing businesses and enterprises is key to lifting Africans out of poverty and ensuring dignity and respect.
  
9. In her opening Statement, the Acting Director of the Directorate Social Development, Sport and Culture, of the Department of Health, Humanitarian Affairs, and Social Development African Union Commission, Ms Angela Martins, welcomed everyone to the African Union Commission and to the Experts' Meeting of the STC SDLE-5. The Acting Director stressed that the theme of the meeting: **“Social Agenda 2063: Promoting Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) Ecosystems”** is in line with global agendas and conference themes on inclusive development, social transformation and abolishment of extreme poverty in the light of the effects of inequality and climate change. She highlighted the importance of SSE, which aims to improve community development, job creation, access to health and education, food security, gender equality, and support for vulnerable groups.

**AGENDA ITEM 2: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND PROGRAMME OF WORK**

10. The meeting adopted the Agenda and Programme of Work for the meeting with amendments.

**AGENDA ITEM 3: PRELIMINARY ELECTION OF THE STC-SDLE-5 BUREAU**

11. In conformity with the Rules of Procedure for composition of the Specialized Technical Committee on Social Development, Labour and Employment (STC- SDLE) and following due consultations amongst Member States and social partners while also considering the need for tripartite involvement, experts provisionally elected the following Bureau for the Fifth Ordinary Session of this STC:

Chairperson	Government	Central Africa	Chad
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Chairperson	Government	Southern Africa	Zambia
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Chairperson	Employers	North Africa	Libya
3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice Chairperson	Workers	West Africa	Liberia
Rapporteur	Government	East Africa	Uganda

<b>AGENDA ITEM 4: REPORT OF THE OUTGOING STC-SDLE-4 BUREAU</b>
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12. The outgoing Chairperson of the Experts' Meeting, Mr Hillary Businge, of the Ministry of Labour of the Republic of Uganda, thanked the participants and the AU Commission for maximum support rendered to Uganda over the past two years.
13. He outlined some of the achievements recorded in the Social Development and Labour and Employment sectors as well as some challenges encountered. These accomplishments include significant progress on ending harmful practices and promoting child protection, increased ratifications of the policy framework and plan of action on aging and the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Africa. Additionally, the process is ongoing for the launch of the African Social Security and Cooperation Forum (ASSCCF) as an important platform for post-Covid-19 response and recovery strategy. Other notable achievements include the launch of the Africa-GCC, Lebanon and Jordan Dialogue on labour migration, the developed the continental Fair and Ethical Recruitment Strategy, the facilitation of national and regional labour migration policies, the promotion of decent jobs and the implementation of the Protocol on Social Protection and Social Security.

<b>AGENDA ITEM 5: PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION OF THE THEME: "SOCIAL AGENDA 2063: PROMOTING SOCIAL AND SOLIDARITY ECONOMY ECOSYSTEMS".</b>
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14. The representative of the African Union Commission together with the representative of the International Labour Organization (ILO) presented the theme of the STC to highlight recent developments in the promotion of the social and solidarity economy in Africa. The presentation was followed by some discussions.
15. After some deliberations, the Experts' Meeting delegates recommended:

*To Member States:*

- i) Synergize all mechanisms to contribute to creating an enabling environment for the SSE and identify the measures to be taken to promote the SSE at national level.
- ii) Develop legal framework and legislation on SSE and further integrate the SSE into development frameworks.
- iii) Leverage on best practices from Member States who have established legal frameworks and laws on SSE.
- iv) Leverage SSE for social inclusion and promotion of employment especially for youth.
- v) Mobilize resources to finance the promotion and advancement of SSE.

*To the AUC:*

- vi) Provide technical assistance to establish more conceptual understanding of the SSE in Member States.

<b>AGENDA ITEM 6: UPDATES ON THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL-FORTY-FIRST ORDINARY SESSION DECISION ON THE STC-SDLE-4</b>
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16. The representative from the African Union Commission presented the decision of the Forty-first Ordinary Session of the Executive Council (EX.CL /Dec. 1168- 1188(XLI)) which took place from 14-15 July 2022 in Lusaka, Zambia that recommended for the following to be submitted to the relevant STCs for consideration:

- 1) Draft AU Accountability Framework to End Harmful Practices;
- 2) Draft Guidelines on the Development of a Model Migrant Welfare Programme/System;
- 3) AU Strategy and Plan of Action on Ending Online Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (OCSEA);
- 4) Five-Year Strategy of the AU Campaign to End Child Marriage in Africa;
- 5) Declaration in the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers.

17. After deliberations, the Experts recommended that:

- i) That the STC SDLE is the relevant STC to deal with the above-mentioned issues, hence, its decisions from STC SDLE-4 stands.

<b>AGENDA ITEM 7: FEEDBACK FROM PARALLEL SESSIONS</b>
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**A. SECTORIAL SESSIONS OUTCOMES – SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

18. The Sectorial Session on Social Development was chaired by the Chairperson of the provisionally elected Bureau of the STC-SDLE-5.

**ENDING HARMFUL PRACTICES**

19. The representative of the African Union Commission presented the following items for discussion:

- I. **The AU Declaration and Roadmap of the 2nd International Conference on Female Genital Mutilation (ICFGM2):** This presentation emphasized the African Union's commitment to eradicating FGM. The roadmap outlined strategic actions, including capacity building, awareness campaigns, the establishment of strong legal frameworks, and mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation.
- II. **Online Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Strategy and Plan of Action (2021-2025):** The presentation on the Online Child Exploitation and Abuse Strategy and Plan of Action (2021-2025) detailed the African Union's approach to addressing online child exploitation through prevention, protection, prosecution, and partnership.
- III. **AU Harmful Practices Accountability Framework:** The following way-forward actions on the Accountability Framework were presented as follow-up actions on the implementation of the framework:
  - a) Enhance Technology Utilization to digitize and improve the efficiency of reporting processes for harmful practices.

- b) Seek to have the elimination of harmful practices designated as the theme of the Year of the African Union by 2030, following AU procedures.
- c) Organize Collaborative Efforts to facilitate joint meetings, missions, and briefings among various AU organs and Member States
- d) Strengthen Regional Partnerships

**IV. The Extension of the Strategy of the AU Campaign to End Child Marriage and the AU Saleema Initiative on the Elimination of Female Genital Mutilation from 2024 to 2030.**

Following deliberations, the delegates at the Experts Meeting committed to several actions:

- a) **Inclusion** of ILO Convention 190 in the roadmap for the implementation of the ICFGM2 declaration.
- b) **Emphasise** on the need for cultural and mindset changes, especially in countries with a high prevalence of FGM.
- c) **Call** for country-level implementation and accountability in addition to expanding awareness-raising efforts at a wider level, including promoting free education to tackle harmful practices.
- d) **Improve** preventive measures, focusing on changing mindsets and targeting influential societal figures such as traditional, religious, and community leaders.
- e) **Establish Legal Frameworks and Education** to protect girls while investing in education to improve human capital.
- f) **Enhance Data Collection and Information Sharing**
- g) **Provide Strategic Technical Support** to Member States experiencing conflicts through specialized interventions aimed at mitigating gender-based violence, with a particular focus on harmful practices such as FGM and Child Marriage

20. Following deliberations, the Experts recommended the following documents for extension and for endorsement by the Ministers: the OCSEA Strategy and Plan of Action; the AU Saleema Initiative on the Elimination of Female Genital Mutilation; the AU Campaign to End Child Marriage; the Declaration of the 2nd International Conference on FGM, in addition to the roadmap on the Declaration of the 2nd International Conference on FGM and the way-forward actions on the AU Accountability Framework on Ending Harmful Practices.

21. The experts further recommended an Africa Day on Ending Female Genital Mutilation and Child Marriage.

**SOCIAL WELFARE, AGEING AND DISABILITY**

22. The Representative of the African Union provided an overview on the following Protocols to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights concerning

- a) The Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Africa. The representative indicated that 15 Member States have ratified, bringing it into force
- b) The Rights of Older Persons in Africa. The representative indicated that 14 Member States have ratified, with one additional country required for the Protocol to come into force.
- c) The Rights of Citizens to Social Protection and Social Security.

23. The Representative of the African Union presented on the:

- a) AU Plan of Action and Implementation Strategy aimed at Ending Attacks and Other Human Rights Violations Targeting Persons with Albinism in Africa (2021-2031).
- b) Appointment of the Special Envoy on Albinism. The representative indicated that two (2) Member States have expressed interest in the appointment of the Special Envoy
- c) AU Policy on the Family in Africa.
- d) Common African Position on Ageing
- e) AU Strategic Framework on Disability
- f) Policy Framework and Plan of Action on Ageing
- g) Social Agenda 2063

**24.** Following deliberations, the delegates at the Experts' Meeting committed to several actions:

- a) The AUC to continue advocacy and knowledge-sharing missions to encourage Member States to sign and ratify the Protocols.
- b) Stakeholders engaged with or individuals impacted by issues concerning persons with disabilities, older persons, persons with albinism, and the AU Social Agenda 2063 must raise awareness regarding relevant laws and policies, as well as the Plan of Action on the Family in Africa.
- c) Emphasized the importance of signing and ratifying the Protocol on the Rights of Older Persons, Persons with Disabilities, and the Protocol on Social Protection and Social Security. In addition, the AUC to continue to engage Member States to enhance their understanding of the varying ratification processes across different countries.

**25.** Following deliberations, Experts recommended that the Ministers endorse enhanced advocacy and technical assistance for the signing and ratifying of the instruments for the Protocols on the Rights of Older Persons, Persons with Disabilities, in addition to the Protocol on Social Protection and Social Security which has only been signed by two countries.

### **CHILD SAFEGUARDING POLICY**

**26.** A representative of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child made a presentation on the Child Safeguarding Policy.

- a. Under Decision Ex.CL/Dec.1201(XLII), the Executive Council requested the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child develop a Child Safeguarding Policy. The Child Safeguarding policy aims to capacitate and support staff to prevent child harm; provide clear guidelines for reporting concerns, put in place procedures for handling misconduct and empower communities and children to report violations. The Policy seeks to safeguard the protection of the child in the best way possible. It is guided by the principles of the best interests of the child, non-discrimination and equal protection for all children, promotion of the right to life, survival, and development, and encouragement of safe child participation.
- b. The paragraph under the scope of application "Where there is conflict or disparities between local laws and this Policy, this Policy will take precedence to the extent that it provides more protection than local laws, without violating them" has been amended



to read "The Policy seeks to provide guidance to safeguard the protection of the child in the best way possible."

- c. Following the amendments, the technical experts at the STC-SDLE 5 recommended that the ministers endorse the Child Safeguarding policy framework.

## **SECTORIAL SESSIONS OUTCOMES – LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

27. The Sectorial Session on Labour and Employment was chaired by the Expert from the Government of Zambia, in his capacity as First Vice person of the newly provisionally elected Bureau of the STC-SDLE-5.

### **African Union Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) Strategy and Implementation Plan (2023-2032)**

28. The representative of the African Union Commission presented the African Union Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) Strategy and Implementation Plan (2023-2032)

29. Following deliberations, the Experts' Meeting recommended the following:

- a) AUC facilitates the development of a coordination and monitoring mechanism on SSEs
- b) AUC to lead the establishment of an observatory to track the progress of SSE initiatives at national level, when the moratorium on the establishment of new structures is lifted.
- c) AUC/ILO support to Member States in developing a sustainable financing mechanism including domestic and external sources,
- d) Provision of technical assistance to Member States on the SSE Strategy
- e) AUC in collaboration with ILO to mobilize resources for the implementation of the strategy.
- f) Ministers to endorse the Draft African Union Social and Solidarity Economy Strategy and Implementation Plan (2023-2032).

### **AU/ILO Youth Employment Strategy for Africa (YES-Africa)**

30. The representative of the African Union Commission and the International Labour Organization presented the AU/ILO Youth Employment Strategy for Africa.

31. Following deliberations, the Experts' Meeting made the following recommendations:

- a) AUC to implement a tripartite approach to achieve the objectives of YES-Africa
- b) African Union to support Member States to establish/strengthen integrated labour market information systems for skills anticipation, matching and forecasting future skills needs including harmonization of skills qualification frameworks.
- c) Member States to strengthen public private partnership for job creation, decent jobs and upskilling of the youth to meet labour market demands.
- d) AUC in collaboration with ILO to mobilize resources for the implementation of the strategy.
- e) Ministers to endorse the Draft AU/ILO Youth Employment Strategy for Africa (YES-Africa)

### **Fair and Ethical Recruitment (FER) Strategy for Africa**

32. The representative of the African Union Commission presented the Fair and Ethical Recruitment Strategy for Africa.
33. Following deliberations, the following recommendations were made:
- a) AUC and Member States to incorporate the experiences of the diaspora in refining recruitment strategies and establishing protection mechanisms for migrants.
  - b) Member States to pay attention to addressing specific vulnerabilities of migrant domestic workers
  - c) Member States to leverage existing mechanisms for portability of social security benefits for migrant workers.
  - d) The implementation of the Strategy to consider specificities in national legislations which may contradict some provisions in the Strategy.
  - e) African Union to clearly reflect how the FER Strategy aligns with the AfCFTA and the AU Protocol on Free Movement
  - f) Ministers to endorse the Fair and Ethical Recruitment Strategy for Africa

### **African Labour and Employment Council (ALEC)**

34. The representative of the African Union Commission presented the objectives of the Labour and Employment Council, which is an expansion of the existing Labour Advisory Committee which was established in 2015 as a regional platform for dialogue and provides advice on labour migration laws, policies, and practices across Africa.
35. Following deliberations, the Experts' Meeting recommended the Ministers to endorse in principle the expanded mandate of LMAC into a tripartite plus (social partners, civil societies and diaspora organizations) format African Labour and Employment Council (ALEC) and develop terms of reference for ALEC.

### **Establishment of the Africa-GCC, Lebanon and Jordan Dialogue on Labour Migration (Doha Dialogue)**

36. The representative of the African Union Commission presented an update on establishment of the Africa- GCC, Lebanon and Jordan Dialogue on Labour Migration (Doha Dialogue)
37. Following deliberations, the Experts' Meeting appreciated the launch of the dialogue and made the following recommendations:
- a) The dialogue to incorporate other thematic areas like skills development and mutual recognition of skills and qualifications, portability of social security.
  - b) Tripartism to be clearly reflected in the dialogue and to consider establishing similar dialogue with other regions such as Europe
  - c) Doha dialogue to consider ways to synergise with similar initiatives like the Abu Dhabi Dialogue
  - d) Ministers to endorse the establishment of the Africa-GCC, Lebanon and Jordan Dialogue on Labour Migration (Doha Dialogue).

<b>BRIEFINGS ON LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT</b>
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**Progress Report on Labour Migration**

38. The representative of the African Union Commission presented a Progress Report on the implementation of the AU-ILO-IOM-ECA Joint Programme on Labour Migration Management for Development and Integration (JLMP).
39. Following deliberations, the Experts' Meeting took note of the progress made and recommended that the African Union extend the JLMP to other Member States based on lessons learned. For sustainability, the African Union requested Member States to complement donor funding by allocating resources to the programme.

**Regional Guidelines for Orientation Programmes for Labour Migration Between the East and Horn of Africa and the Gulf Countries.**

40. The representative of the African Union Commission presented the Regional Guides for Orientation Programmes for Labour Migration Between the East and Horn of Africa and the Gulf Countries
41. Following deliberations, the Experts' Meeting took note of the orientation guides and recommended that Member States facilitate institutional arrangements to enhance the use of such materials.

<b>AGENDA ITEM 8: CONSIDERATION OF THE AGENDA AND WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE MINISTERS' MEETING</b>
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42. The Ministerial Programme of Work was presented to delegates and the representation to the meeting was confirmed.

<b>AGENDA ITEM 9: DATE AND VENUE OF THE 6<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE SPECIALISED TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT</b>
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43. The Experts' Meeting recommended to convene the next Ordinary Session of the 6<sup>TH</sup> Meeting of the Specialised Technical Committee on Social Development, Labour and Employment in 2026 on a date and venue to be decided, with the Government of Namibia proposing to host.

<b>AGENDA ITEM 10: BRIEFING BY GENEVA AFRICA GROUP</b>
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44. The representative from the African Union Geneva Office, presented updates from accomplished and planned activities related to ILO in Geneva which include those related to youth employment, international labour standards, labour and employment. It was recommended that Member States efficiently identify and harmonise their positions prior to global meetings and be more involved in the management of candidatures for Geneva-based positions. It was also recommended that the representation of African regions be strengthened through deployment of a coordinators.

**AGENDA ITEM 11: COMPLIANCE OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURES OF THE STC SDLE**

45. On the implementation and Compliance of the Rules of Procedures of the STC, the Meeting recommended the following:
- a) All Member States to ensure effective tripartite representation (governments, workers and employers) in future STC SDLE sessions, in line with rules of procedure and international labour standards.
  - b) The African Union Commission to establish a dedicated team within the Secretariat for verifications of Member States delegation prior to the meeting and present a credentials report in future sessions.
  - c) Social partners also requested to be effectively consulted in the constitution of the Bureau.
  - d) Participants recommended better streamlining of national, regional and continental processes, for effective monitoring and implementation of commitments.

**AGENDA ITEM 12: ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

46. There were no items discussed under this segment.

**AGENDA ITEM 13: ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE EXPERTS' MEETING**

47. The Meeting adopted the Report of the Experts' Meeting with amendments, and requested the AU Commission to translate and make it ready for the Ministerial Meeting. The reports of the two parallel sessions on Social Development, Labour and Employment are addendums to this report for reference.

**CLOSING REMARKS**

48. In his closing remarks, Mr. Mahamout Moussa, Director General of Labour Administration, Chad in his capacity as the Chairperson, thanked Experts for their contributions and reminded about the unique tripartite nature of the STC SDLE, hence urged all decisions to be taken in an inclusive manner. He appreciated the frank and open discussions as well as the expertise of the participants. He called on Member States to ensure efficient and effective implementation of the commitments agreed on. He declared the meeting officially closed.