

AFRICAN UNION

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EXTRA ORDINARY SESSION  
OF THE AFRICAN MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON  
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (AMCOST V)  
16<sup>TH</sup> TO 18<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2014  
BRAZZAVILLE, REPUBLIC OF CONGO

## DECISIONS OF THE MINISTERIAL SESSION

## INTRODUCTION

The Extra Ordinary Session of the Fifth African Ministerial Conference on Science and Technology (AMCOST V) was held from 16th -18th April 2014. The Ministerial Session was held on the 18<sup>th</sup> of April 2014, and was preceded by the Experts/Senior Officials' Session on the 16<sup>th</sup> and the 17<sup>th</sup> of April 2014. The Meeting was hosted by the Republic of Congo in Brazzaville to discuss STISA 2024 and the following issues:

- African Union Agenda 2063;
- Draft Statute of the African, Scientific Research and Innovation Council (ASRIC);
- Draft Statute of the African Observatory for STI;
- Draft Statute of the Pan African Intellectual Property Organization (PAIPO);
- Specialized Technical Committees (STCs); and
- Draft African Space Policy

## DECISIONS

The Extra Ordinary Session of the Fifth African Ministerial Conference on Science, and Technology considered the report of the Experts/Senior Officials' Session and adopted it with the following decisions:

### 1. SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION STRATEGY FOR AFRICA – 2024 (STISA 2024)

- 1.1 **ENDORSES** the Draft STISA-2024 taking into account the recommendation of the Taskforce that should be incorporated into the final Strategy;
- 1.2 **URGES** AUC and NEPAD AGENCY to incorporate the recommendations of the Taskforce into the Strategy;
- 1.3 **CALLS UPON** Member States, Regional Economic Communities, and other stakeholders to integrate STISA-2024 in their STI development agendas, ensure its implementation, and popularization in the continent;
- 1.4 **REQUESTS** the Commission and NEPAD Agency (NPCA) to put in place the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) mechanisms to measure the progress of the implementation of the STISA-2024;
- 1.5 **ENDEAVOURS** to strengthen and enhance STI cooperation in the continent;
- 1.6 **FURTHER CALLS UPON** the AUC and NEPAD Agency to provide assistance and technical support to Member States in STI policy development

**1.7 COMMENDS** the efforts of the High Level Panel and the Working Group that reviewed the CPA and developed the draft STISA 2024;

## **2. STATUTES OF PAN AFRICAN STI INSTITUTIONS**

### **2.1 AFRICAN OBSERVATORY FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION (AOSTI)**

**2.1.1 ENDORSES** the Draft Statutes of AOSTI taking into account recommendations made by Member States;

**2.1.2 REQUESTS** the **Commission** to take the necessary action to submit it for consideration and adoption by the AU Policy Organs;

**2.1.3 EXPRESSES APPRECIATION** to the Republic of Equatorial Guinea for hosting and supporting the AOSTI in Malabo;

**2.1.4 CALLS UPON** Member States and Regional Economic Communities to support the programmes of AOSTI and make use of its product and services;

### **2.2 PAN AFRICAN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION (PAIPO)**

**2.2.1 ENDORSES** the Draft Statutes of PAIPO taking into consideration the input provided by Member States;

**2.2.2 WELCOMES** the offer by the Republic of Tunisia to host PAIPO and **CALL UPON** the Heads of States and Governments to confirm Tunisia as the host country;

**2.2.3 RECOGNIZES** ARIPO and OAPI as building blocks for the creation of a single Pan African Intellectual Property Organization and **WELCOME** their support in the implementation of the Heads of State and Government decision ASSEMBLY/AU/DEC.138 (VIII) to establish PAIPO;

### **2.3 AFRICAN, SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND INNOVATION COUNCIL (ASRIC)**

**2.3.1 ENDORSES** the Draft statute of ASRIC taking into consideration the inputs provided by Member States;

**2.3.2 RECOMMENDS** that all the Statues of the three institutions be finalized taking into consideration the inputs made by Member States;

**2.3.3 URGES** the Commission to circulate all the revised Statutes of the three institutions to the Member States.

### **3. INITIATIVES BY MEMBER STATES**

- 3.1 WELCOMES** the proposal of Republic of Congo to organize in Brazzaville every two years an International Salon on Invention and Innovation under the auspices of the African Union
- 3.2 CALLS UP** the AU Heads of State and Government to endorse this initiative;
- 3.3 REQUESTS** the AUC to work with the Republic of Congo to prepare the terms of reference for the implementation of the International Salon Initiative and submit them for consideration by the AU January 2015 Summit;
- 3.4 INVITES** the Commission to work with the host country to take the necessary steps to organize the first International Salon;
- 3.5 FURTHER WELCOMES** the proposal to host a high level Ethics and Bioethics Forum in Brazzaville ;
- 3.6 COMMENDS** the progress made by the Republic of Congo, the African Union commission and the African Academy of science in the implementation of the Denis Sassou N'GUESSO Innovation Prize.

### **4. AFRICAN SPACE POLICY**

- 4.1 TAKES NOTE** on the progress made in the development of the space policy and requests the working group and AUC to expedite the process in the finalization of the policy for submission through the AU policy organs.

### **5. SPECIALIZED TECHNICAL COMMITTEE STC**

- 5.1 MANDATES** the AMCOST V Bureau and the Commission to prepare the transition from AMCOST to STC.

### **6. VENUE AND DATE OF THE BUREAU OF AMCOST V**

- 6.1 WELCOMES** the offer by the Republic of Sudan to host the 2nd Bureau of AMCOST V in September 2014 in Khartoum and further requests the Commission to carry out the necessary consultation with the host country and inform AMCOST Members on time;

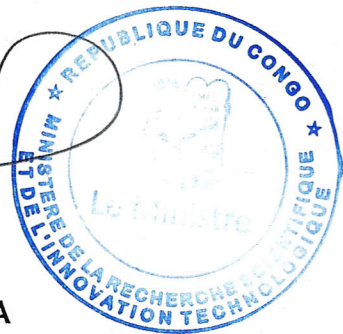
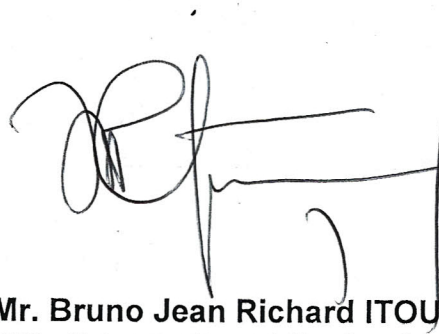
### **7. APPRECIATION**

- 7.1 EXPRESSES** its appreciation to the Government and the people of the Republic of Congo, and in particular H.E. President Denis Sassou Nguesso; The hospitality of H.E. Mr. Bruno Jean Richard ITOUA, Minister of Scientific

Research and Technological Innovation of the Republic of Congo is highly acknowledged;

- 7.2 APPRECIATES** the offer by the Government of the Republic of Sudan to host the 2<sup>nd</sup> Bureau of AMCOST V in September 2014;
- 7.3 COMMENDS** the role of Development Partners in supporting the African Union STI programmes and **INVITES** them to continue supporting Africa's STI development agenda;
- 7.4 ACKNOWLEDGES** the Commission for the efforts to make this Extra Ordinary Conference of AMCOST V a success and **FURTHER REQUEST** the Commission to avail the meetings documents in good time in future.

Adopted on the 18<sup>th</sup> of April 2014, Brazzaville, Republic of Congo



**H.E. Mr. Bruno Jean Richard ITOUA**  
**Minister of Scientific Research and Technology Innovation**  
**of the Republic of Congo**  
**Chairman of AMCOST V**