

AFRICAN UNION

الاتحاد الأفريقي



UNION AFRICAINE

UNIÃO AFRICANA

**The 3rd Specialized Technical Committee on
Finance, Monetary Affairs, Economic
Planning and Integration
Experts Meeting
4-6 March 2019
Yaoundé, Cameroon**

Eco/STC/MAEPI(III)/EXP/6.1

**DRAFT STATUTE OF THE AFRICAN UNION INSTITUTE FOR STATISTICS
(STATAFRIC)**

DRAFT
STATUTE OF THE AFRICAN UNION INSTITUTE FOR STATISTICS

PREAMBLE:

We, Member States of the African Union,

Guided by the objectives and principles enshrined in the Constitutive Act of the African Union;

Recalling Decision Assembly/AUDec.210 (XII) adopted by the Assembly of the Union in January 2009, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on the African Charter on Statistics as a regulatory framework for statistics development in the Continent;

Recalling Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.462 (XX) adopted by the Assembly of the Union in January 2013, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on the establishment of the African Union Institute for Statistics (STATFRIC) that will be based in Tunis, Republic of Tunisia and express gratitude to Tunisia for its commitment to cover operating costs at the stage of its inception;

Noting the review process of the Strategy of the Harmonization of Statistics in Africa (SHaSA) that responds to the continental development of statistics and implementation of the Agenda 2063;

Further Recalling Decision EX.CL/Dec.987(XXXII) in which the Executive Council, at its 32nd Ordinary Session held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 25 to 26 January 2018, endorsed the STC on Finance, Monetary Affairs, Economic Planning and Integration recommendations on the implementation of the Strategy for the Harmonization of Statistics in Africa (SHaSA 2), its plan of action, its financing plan and resources mobilization strategy;

CONVINCED of the importance of the establishment of the African Union Institute for Statistics and the role would play in promoting the production of official statistics of the African Union mainly by collecting, harmonizing and aggregating data published by the National Statistics Offices/Institutes of African countries in order to shed light on the decisions of African institutions and educate African citizens accordingly;

Determined to establish an African Union Institute for Statistics;

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1 **Definitions**

For the purpose of this Statute:

«**African Union**» or «**Union**» or «**AU**» means the African Union established by the Constitutive Act adopted on 11 July 2000 and which entered into force on 26 May 2001;

«**Assembly**» means the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union;

«**Board**» means the Governing Board of STATAFRIC;

«**Chairperson**» means the Chairperson of the Board of STATAFRIC;

«**CoDGs**» means Committee of Director-Generals of NSO/NSI;

«**Commission**» or «**AUC**» means the Commission of the African Union;

«**Constitutive Act**» means the Constitutive Act of the African Union;

«**Development Partners**» means the institutions and organizations that promote statistics and share the strategic objectives of STATAFRIC;

«**Executive Council**» means the Executive Council of Ministers of the Union;

«**Member States**» means Member States of the Union;

«**NSO/NSI**» means National Statistics Office/National Statistics Institute;

«**Policy Organs**» means the Assembly and Executive Council of the African Union;

«**RECs**» means the Regional Economic Communities;

«**Secretariat**» means the Secretariat of STATAFRIC;

«**STATAFRIC**» or «**the Institute**» means the African Union Institute for Statistics;

«**STATCOM-Africa**» means Statistical Commission for Africa;

«**Statute**» means the present Statute establishing STATAFRIC;

«**STC**» means the African Union Specialized Technical Committee on Finance, Monetary Affairs, Economic Planning and Integration.

«**Steering Committee**» means a body that provides technical advice to STATAFRIC;

Article 2
Establishment and Legal Status of STATAFRIC

1. STATAFRIC is hereby established as a Specialized Agency of the Union.
2. STATAFRIC shall have legal personality.

Article 3
Mandate of STATAFRIC

The mandate of STATAFRIC is to lead in the provision and promotion of harmonised quality statistical information and good practice in support and monitoring of the implementation of the Agenda 2063 for the integration and the development of Africa.

Article 4
Objectives

The objectives of STATAFRIC are to:

- 1) Provide to the african institutions the harminised and agregated statistical information needed to design, implement, monitor and evaluate African policies;
- 2) Develop and promote standards, nomenclatures, methods and procedures that allow the cost effective production and dissemination of harmonized, comparable and reliable statistics throughout the AU and beyond;
- 3) Promote the production of official statistics of the African Union mainly by collecting, gathering, harmonising and aggregating data published by the NSO/NSI of AU Member States for a better knowledge of Africa's social, financial, economic and demographic situation;
- 4) Steer the African Statistics System, strengthen cooperation among its partners, build capacity and ensure its leading role in official statistics in Africa.

Article 5
Functions of STATAFRIC

The following shall be functions of STATAFRIC :

1. Assemble timely, reliable and harmonised statistical information on all dimensions of political, economic, social, environmental and cultural development and integration of Africa including Agenda 2063 and Agenda 2030 for sustainable development indicators in order to shed light on the decisions of African institutions and educate African citizens accordingly;

2. Identify specific statistical data and indicators related to all AU and its organs' activities, formulate policies for statistical development and capacity building for the AU and its member states;
3. Coordinate, monitor and evaluate the implementation of the African Charter on Statistics, as regulatory continental framework for statistics development, and capacities building of the African Statistics System and its Statistical Peer Review Mechanism in collaboration with partners ;
4. Coordinate, monitor and evaluate the implementation of the second Strategy for the Harmonization of Statistics in Africa (SHaSA 2) and its various sectorial strategies; the work of the Specialized Technical Groups and prepare annual progress report for AU decision organs;
5. Develop and promote statistical standards and procedures, concepts and definitions, methods, scientific methodologies, nomenclatures and classifications;
6. Lead and coordinate the development and production of statistics within the African Statistics System in order to optimize existing statistical information and manage and consolidate stakeholder relations, partnerships, communication and technology;
7. Provide African Union, RECs, NGOs, universities, African research centres and other Pan-African organizations with quality statistics, vital for the elaboration, monitoring and evaluation of programmes and decision-making in Africa ;
8. Provide technical assistance to NSO/NSI of AU Member States and RECs, financial and non-financial institutions on establishing and operating the necessary regulatory frameworks on statistics, as well as in engaging with other stakeholders;
9. Organize technical assistance to countries upon request; promote South–South cooperation, particularly between NSOs on the continent; encourage the sharing of innovation and good practices, and experiences, etc.
10. Advocate for statistics and promote the decision-making culture based on statistical facts at all levels;
11. Provide technically and financially support AU Member States in the organization and execution of industrial, agricultural, land and population censuses and all other socio-economic and statistical surveys;
12. Carry out technical statistical audits with RECs and African countries to verify statistical operations, collection methodologies and instruments used, collection processes etc., certification of data with a view to guarantee the quality of the statistics produced on Africa, and the uniqueness of the sources given on the continent. It will also have to carry out organizational audits (peer evaluation of the NSS, etc.).

13. Put in place a system allowing the protection of the profession of African statistician
14. Build institutional and operational capacities of the African Statistics System.

Article 6
Governance and Management of STATAFRIC

The structure of STATAFRIC shall consist of:

1. Governing Board;
2. Steering Committee; and
3. Secretariat.

Article 7
The Governing Board

1. The Board shall be the deliberative organ of STATAFRIC;
2. The Board shall direct the overall policies of STATAFRIC and shall be responsible to the STC;
3. The Board shall meet once a year in ordinary session and may, subject to availability of resources, hold extra-ordinary sessions, when the need arises.

Article 8
Composition of the Governing Board

1. The Board shall be composed of fifteen (15) members, as follow:
 - a) Ten (10) Ministers of Finance, Monetary Affairs, Economic Planning and Integration or any other Ministers responsables for Statistics representing the five Regions of the AU, two (2) per region;
 - b) The Commissioner for Economic Affairs;
 - c) One (1) representative of the AUC Legal Counsel;
 - d) One (1) representative from RECs;
 - e) Two (2) representatives from Regional Organizations (African Development Bank and United Nations Economic Commission for Africa).
2. The Legal Counsel of the AU Commission or her/his representative shall attend the Board meetings to provide legal advice as may be required.
3. The Director of STATAFRIC shall serve as the Secretary of the Board.
4. The Board may invite such expertise as may be necessary to participate to its sessions.

Article 9
Election and Term of Office

1. The ten members of the Board representing AU Member States shall be selected by their Regions.
2. The term of office of the ten (10) members of the Board representing AU Member States shall be two (2) years on rotational basis within the Region and non-renewable and guided by the principle of succession based on equitable regional and gender equality.
3. The Board shall elect, by a simple majority, for a two (2) years non-renewable term, a Chairperson of the Board from among the regional representatives of Member States, taking into account the Union's principle of regional rotation and gender equality.
4. The Board shall elect, by a simple majority, for a two (2) years non-renewable term, three (3) Vice Chairperson of the Board also from among the regional representatives of Member States, taking into account the Union's principle of regional rotation and gender equality.

Article 10
Functions of the Board

The functions of the Board shall be to:

1. Provide strategic guidance for the Secretariat, in accordance with AU policies and procedures, including implementation of policies, guidelines and strategic priorities of STATAFRIC upon their adoption by the AU Policy Organs;
2. Examine and consider STATAFRIC Action Plan, budgets, activity and reports, and recommend the same for approval;
3. Examine decision and/or proposals submitted by the Secretariat, and submit its recommendations to the STC;
4. Propose amendments to this Statute based on recommendations by the Secretariat;
5. Develop its internal guidelines and rules of procedures in line with the relevant AU legal instruments;
6. Assist the Secretariat in resource mobilization;
7. Establish strategic partnership with similar global institutions in accordance with AU rules and regulations;

8. Report to the Executive Council of the African Union through the Commission.
9. Elect its bureau in accordance with AU Rules;
10. The Bureau shall be composed as follows:
 - a) The Chairperson
 - b) Three (3) Vice Chairpersons; and
 - c) One (1) Rapporteur;
11. Decide on the venue of its meetings, and
12. Carry out any other functions assigned to it by the AU Policy Organs for the purpose of ensuring the implementation of the Statute and other relevant instruments or policies.

Article 11
Quorum and Decision Making Procedures of the Board

1. The quorum for the Board meetings and its decisions making procedures shall be adopted in the Rules of Procedure of the Board and that of the Steering Committee.
2. The board shall adopt its own Rules of Procedure and that of the Steering Committee.

Article 12
The Steering Committee

1. The Steering Committee of STATAFRIC shall be composed as follows:
 - a) The five (5) Members of the Bureau of the Governing Board;
 - b) Director of Economic Affairs
 - c) The five (5) Members of the Bureau of the Committee of Director Generals of NSO/NSI of Member States (CoDGs);
 - d) Representatives from RECs;
 - e) Two (2) representatives from Regional Organizations (African Development Bank, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, AFRISTAT);
 - f) One Representative from each Scientific and Research Institutions and Training Centres, Strategic Partners, International Organizations, Private Sector and Civil Society Organization;
 - g) The Executive Director of STATAFRIC; and
 - h) The Executive Director of PANASTAT.
2. The functions, frequency of meetings and the proceedings of the Steering Committee shall be provided in its Rules of Procedure.

3. The Steering Committee may invite any State, international, regional or sub-regional organization or institution which is not a member, to attend its meetings as Observer.

Article 13

Secretariat

1. The Secretariat, led by the Executive Director of STATAFRIC, shall be responsible for ensuring the implementation of the decisions of the Policy Organs of the Union, the STC and the board of STATAFRIC;
2. The Director of STATAFRIC shall be the Chief Executive Officer of STATAFRIC who shall be assisted by the necessary and proper staff.
3. The staff members of the Secretariat shall be recruited and shall hold positions in accordance with the African Union Staff Rules and Regulations.
4. The structure of the Secretariat shall be determined in accordance with the rules and procedures in force in the African Union.
5. The Secretariat shall:
 - a) Provide the efficient administrative and sectorial services to STATAFRIC;
 - b) Convene and servicing the meeting of the Board, the Steering Committee or other meetings of STATAFRIC;
 - c) Implement the decisions of the Board, and the Steering Committee;
 - d) Draw up the annual draft program of work for the consideration and approval of the Board and subsequently by the STC and AU Policy Organs;
 - e) Draft, circulate and file Minutes of meetings and all other records of STATAFRIC;
 - f) Prepare and submit annual activity and financial reports to the Board;
 - g) Carry out any other functions assigned to it by the Board, the Steering Committee of the relevant organs of the African Union.

Article 14

Submission of Reports

The Secretariat shall submit yearly report to the Board on:

- a) its activities;
- b) the financial management of the Institute;
- c) implementation of decisions of the Board.

Article 15

Working Languages

The working languages of the Institute shall be the AU working languages.

Article 16
Financial Arrangement of STATAFRIC

1. The budget of STATAFRIC shall be born from the African Union and shall be within the AU Budget.
2. For purposes of attaining its objectives, STATAFRIC shall have its own operational and programme budget;
3. In addition to the regular AU budget, other sources of funding STATAFRIC may include:
 - a) Voluntary contributions from Member States and partners;
 - b) Contribution from Development Partners of the Union and the Commission;
 - c) Contribution from Private Sector;
 - d) National and regional financial institutions and other financing mechanisms;
 - e) Contribution from foreign governments, non-governmental organisations and other entities willing to support the Institute;
 - f) Any other sources of funding in accordance with AU Rules.
4. The budget calendar of the Institute shall be that of the Union.
5. The Institute shall prepare and submit its budget to the relevant Policy Organs of the AU for approval.

Article 17
Flag, Anthem and Logo

1. STATAFRIC flag and anthem shall be that of the Union;
2. STATAFRIC may adopt the AU logo or its own logo.

Article 18
Cooperation with Member States, AU Organs and Institutions

STATAFRIC shall cooperate with Member States, organs and institutions of the AU on any subject matter related to its objectives and functions.

Article 19
Relation with Strategic Partners and other Organisations

1. In the fulfillment of its mandate, STATAFRIC shall cooperate and work closely with the Strategic partners such UNECA, AfDB, Eurostat and any other relevant organization;
2. STATAFRIC may establish relations and collaborate with similar intergovernmental and international organizations that will enhance its capacity to deliver on its mandate.

Article 20
Terms and Conditions of Service of Staff Members

The terms and conditions of service of the staff members of STATAFRIC shall be governed by the African Union Staff Rules and Regulations.

Article 21
Membership

STATAFRIC shall be composed of NSO/NSI of AU Member States.

Article 22
Headquarters of STATAFRIC

1. The Headquarters of STATAFRIC shall be in Tunis, the Republic of Tunisia in accordance with the decision of the Assembly.
2. The Secretariat of STATAFRIC shall be located at the above seat of the Institute.

Article 23
Privileges and Immunities

1. The STATAFRIC and its staff shall enjoy the privileges and immunities stipulated in the OAU General Convention on Privileges and Immunities and the Vienna Convention on the Diplomatic Relations.
2. The Host Agreement concluded between the AUC and the host Country of the Institute shall govern the relations between the STATAFRIC and the host country.

Article 24
Transitional Arrangements

Following the adoption of the present Statute by the Assembly of the Union, the Chairperson of the Commission shall:

- a) take the necessary measures to establish an Interim Secretariat; and

- b) appoint the required staff in order to facilitate the speedy establishment of STATAFRIC in accordance with the present Statute and subject to the endorsement by the relevant Policy Organs of the AU.

Article 25
Role of Department of Economic Affairs

The Department of Economic Affairs, as the policy Department on the subject matter, shall ensure synergy between STATAFRIC and the Commission.

Article 26
Amendments

1. The present Statute may be amended upon the recommendation of the STC.
2. The amendments shall enter into force upon adoption by the Assembly of the Union.

Article 27
Entry into Force

The present Statute shall enter into force upon its adoption by the Assembly of the Union.
