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CONCEPT NOTE

**THE AU-RECs-UNECA-AFDB-NEPAD-ACBF JOINT EXPERT
COORDINATION MEETING, NAIROBI, KENYA
10th to 12th JULY 2017**

I. INTRODUCTION:

1. The Commission is planning to hold the Joint AU-RECs-UNECA-AFDB-NEPAD-ACBF Expert Coordination Meeting within the framework of the Protocol on Relations between the AU and the RECs signed in 2008 which indicates that at least two meetings should be held every year. The last Joint Expert Coordination Meeting was held in Nairobi, Kenya in December 2016. This year's meeting is being proposed for 10th to 12th July 2017. In this respect, this Concept Note will cover the following:

- Objectives of the Coordination Meeting
- Items proposed for discussion
- Work Programme
- Expected Outcomes
- Facilitation
- Participation
- Budget
- Coordination & Logistics

II. OBJECTIVES OF THE COORDINATION MEETING

2. It is to be recalled that previous coordination meetings aimed at assessing the progress on regional integration by respective stakeholders were held on 30 December 2016, 11 March 2016, 11 May 2015 and 12 December 2014. The next Joint Expert Coordination (JEC) meeting planned for 10th July 2017 is expected to be a technical assessment on the implementation of the integration agenda, share challenges, perspectives and solutions. The recommendations of this meeting will be discussed at the Joint Chief Executives Coordination Meeting of the AU-RECs-UNECA-AFDB-NEPAD-ACBF to be held at the end of the year 2017.

The JEC meeting will also provide an opportunity for the Chief Executives of the AU, RECs, UNECA, AfDB and other strategic institutions to discuss the regional dimensions of the Ten-Year implementation Plan of Agenda 2063, Flagship projects, roles and capacities, and other important issues.

III. Items proposed for Discussion

3. Items for discussion would include;

i. Agenda 2063

- *The progress taken by RECs on the implementation of Agenda 2063/Vision 2030.*
- *Review which flagship programmes have been implemented by RECs.*

ii. Regional Integration

- *The Status of Integration in Africa*
- *Feasibility of the Integration Process*
- *Steps to be taken to ensure its smooth implementation of the Minimum Integration Programme.*

iii. Specific Challenges faced by RECs.

- *The reality within the implementation process.*

IV. Expected Outcomes

4. Key outcomes of the Coordination Meeting would include:

- A draft of recommendations and decisions which will be discussed at the next Specialized Technical Committee on Finance, Monetary Affairs, Economic Planning and Integration for decision making.
- Establish consensus on Africa's process of integration.
- Review progress made by RECs in the integration process and their respective challenges and propose some solutions.

V. Facilitation & Moderation

5. The AUC and NEPAD will chair and facilitate the Meeting.

6. Each session will be moderated by a representative of the RECs as indicated in the programme.

VI. Participation

7. The List of participants would include the Experts from of the AUC, NEPAD, ACBF, ECA, AfDB and Government Officials in charge of Integration from the host country of the meeting.

VII. Budget:

8. The Coordination Meeting will be funded from a Budget code **READ00763**.

VIII. Coordination & Logistics

The Department of Economic Affairs would ensure overall coordination of the Meeting to also include:

- The preparation of reports and conclusions of the various sessions.
- Compilation, translation and distribution of the finalized working documents.
- All logistical arrangements.
- Ensuring that Interpretation in at least two AU working languages namely: English and French is provided.