

Vision Statement for Egypt's Candidate for the Election to the Position of Deputy Chairperson of the African Union Commission

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“Accelerating efficient and effective delivery and ensuring accountability of the AUC to achieve the Africa We Want”

Africa stands at a pivotal moment in its history. Decades of development progress have been eroded by a tsunami of global shocks, depleting policy buffers, raising debt levels amid scarce and unaffordable financing. The continent faces unprecedented challenges: over half of the world's poor reside in Africa and 600 million Africans lack access to electricity. Yet, Africa holds immense potential, with a young population, 60% of the world's solar potential, substantial green mineral reserves, and the capacity to sequester a third of the world's carbon needs. Africa must tap into its most valuable and underutilized assets—women, youth, and the private sector—and leverage digitalization. Addressing these challenges and unleashing Africa's potential require collective and regional solutions, with the African Union at the core, enabling Africa to actively shape its destiny and assert its influence on the global stage.

My aspiration to serve as the Deputy Chairperson of the AUC is driven by my unwavering commitment to building a prosperous, integrated, and united Africa that best serves its citizens, supported by a more effective, efficient, and accountable African Union Commission that is Member States driven. My vision is deeply rooted in the aspirations and goals set forth in Agenda 2063 – The Africa We Want. To achieve these aspirations, I will focus on the following areas:

Accelerating Institutional Reforms and Strengthening Institutional Capacity

My aim is to accelerate the implementation of the institutional reforms mandated by the AU Heads of States decisions in a transparent manner and to ensure the AUC remains Member States led. Tackling concerns of inflated structures, dysfunctionality of initiatives and efforts, and the need for deeper AUC engagement with Member States will be my top priorities. Investing in capacity-building across all AU entities is key to strengthen their effectiveness, enhance their ability to deliver using internal resources, and effectively mobilize and manage resources. Working closely with Member States, I will reform recruitment, ensuring a transparent, competence-based process that fulfils countries' quotas and attracts top talent. By promoting continuous learning, strategic workforce planning, and regular performance reviews, we can address skill gaps and ensure our workforce is ready for future challenges while remaining motivated and competitive. I will work toward making the AUC a high-performance organization that delivers tangible results to Member States and African citizens.

Enhancing Utilization of Resources

My goal is to improve cost-effectiveness by rationalizing expenditure and redirecting resources for deeper impact. It is critical to optimize the use of existing resources and build strong synergies across departments and AU organs. To deliver better value for money for Member States, expenditure efficiency will be enhanced, making the best possible use of tight resources through prioritization, better modes of operation, and the effective use of technology. I am aware that the AU has real estate across Africa and around parts of the world that are currently not generating income. I will leverage these assets to generate permanent sources of AU income and reduce Member States' financial burden. Embracing digitalization and AI tools

will enhance efficiency, driving productivity to new heights. Deepening Member States scrutiny to the Commission will also be a key tool in such efforts as elaborated below.

Deepening Resource Mobilization

Deepening our resource mobilization is essential for achieving our ambitious goals. Recognizing the economic and financial challenges of Member States; I will work diligently to mobilize more voluntary resources from our Member States while diversifying funding sources through strategic partnerships with African and international financial institutions, NGOs, and private sector. Promoting public-private partnerships and innovative financing solutions will be key to our success. Moreover, I will aim to raise awareness among Member States and their citizens about the critical importance of financing the AU and its initiatives, fostering a sense of shared responsibility.

Strengthening Corporate Governance and Accountability

Strengthening corporate governance and accountability will be at the forefront of my efforts. Adopting international best practice accounting standards appropriate for the organization is a priority. Strengthening compliance with audit recommendations and ensuring proper follow-up of issues raised by Member States will be an integral part to my plan. Addressing procurement weaknesses and implementing robust financial and monitoring systems, along with regular internal and external audits will ensure transparency and accountability in the use of AU resources. Technology will be leveraged to streamline financial operations and enhance reporting and accountability mechanisms.

Fostering Stronger and Diversified Partnerships for Transformative Impact

My goal is to build strong and diversified partnerships, anchored on African ownership, for transformative impact. By fostering an ecosystem of strong collaborations with Regional Economic Communities, African financial institutions, the UN, and other partners, based on African priorities and needs, we will deliver scalable impact and raise essential resources. Maximizing synergies with partners will accelerate our progress toward Agenda 2063, and I will leverage my extensive network to strengthen both Pan-African and global partnerships, advocating for Africa's interests on the global stage and promoting African-led solutions to global challenges. I will engage Member States in shaping the partnership strategy to ensure African ownership.

Adopting a People-Centric Approach to Development

I aspire to an Africa whose development is people-driven, relying on the enormous potential of African People. My aim is to place women and youth at the center of AUC initiatives. To strengthen youth engagement with the AU and their ownership of Agenda 2063, we need innovative communication strategies tailored to their evolving expectations. The AUC has to lead by example in promoting inclusive policymaking, ensuring that the voices of women, youth, and marginalized communities are included. Building on my pioneering experience in mainstreaming gender, I will ensure that the AU policies and projects reflect gender considerations. I will also aim to strengthen AUC engagement with the diaspora and civil society and foster more systemic collaborations with parliaments, local authorities, and the private sector.

Together, we will create a resilient, inclusive, and impactful African Union, poised to navigate the complexities of our time while championing the aspirations of our people.