



**9th Joint Annual Meetings of the African Union Specialized Technical  
Committee on Finance, Monetary Affairs, Economic Planning and  
Integration and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa  
Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic  
Development  
March 31 – April 5th, 2016  
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**



1. The Joint STC – COM organized by the African Union Commission and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa is an annual event although it may have gone under a different name in the past (e.g. CAMEF). It is a forum for Minister of Finance, Planning and Economy and of Integration, to exchange views, share experiences and test ideas on relevant topical issues. Hon. Ministers also consider critical issues pertaining to the financial and macro – economic management, and socio – economic development and take decisions for forwarding to the higher bodies of the African Union. The theme of 2016 is “Towards An Integrated and Coherent Approach to Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation of Agenda 2063 and the SDGs”. There is a high similarity between the 20 goals of Agenda 2063 and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. This is so because the root source is the same, namely the African stakeholders. The Common African Position on Post 2015 Development Agenda (CAP), formulated after consultations with a broad array of African Stakeholders, heavily influenced the SDGs through the work of the Open Working Group and the formal intergovernmental negotiations. Agenda 2063 is also based on consultations with even broader spectrum of African stakeholders in addition to aligning with existing continental frameworks, initiatives, programmes, high level declarations; and study of 35 national plans and written submissions by 17 AU member states. Situational analysis and study of mega trends added value to the formulation of Agenda 2063.

2. Agenda 2063 has 20 goals, 41 priority areas and indicators are near completion. The 17 SDGs have 169 targets. All 17 SDGs are encapsulated in the 20 goals of Agenda 2063. Parameters of SDGs are social, economic and sustainability considerations. Agenda 2063 also covers social, economic and sustainability dimensions but goes beyond by also addressing political, cultural and other Africa specific developments.

3. This STC – COM is expected to bless the “...integrated and coherent approach to implementation, monitoring and evaluation of Agenda 2063 and SDGs” and issue of a single periodic progress report covering performance on both Agenda 2063 and SDGs in one go. This makes the work of AU member states and the RECs easy.

4. Both Agenda 2063 and SDGs will, through domestication, be assimilated or infused into the national plans as well as in RECs strategic plans. This facilitates implementation and M&E.

5. Participatory and inclusive formulation of Agenda 2063, domestication, capacity building strategy, risk management, thinking through means of implementation, devising communications strategy, assure greater chances of successful implementation of Agenda 2063.

6. Technical team led by AUC, composed of AUC, NPCA, AfDB, UNECA supported by the African Statisticians and RECs, will continue to followup on the implementation of Agenda 2063. This team will be reporting to the Coordination meeting comprising the AUC, NPCA, AfDB, UNECA and RECs Chief Executives. The latter is henceforth considered Agenda 2063 Technical Steering Committee feeding into the Ministerial Agenda 2063 Ministerial Committee and then to the Executive Council and the Summit.

7. There will be about 24 side events whose themes are closely related to theme of the Conference. Among them will be a Ministerial Roundtable addressing current financial and economic challenges facing most of African economies. The theme is: “ Addressing the Impact of Drought, Floods and Declining Commodity Prices in Africa: What Coping Strategies and Capacities are Required?”. It is co-organized by the African Union Commission (AUC) and the African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF). The causes of these “headwinds” are:

- a. Fall in demand for commodities leading to the drop in commodity prices;
- b. El nino effect manifesting itself in extended and severe drought in much of Africa and in some places floods;
- c. Strengthening of the USDollar.

Ministers will exchange views, share experiences and test ideas with regard to coping with the current situation. Management of humanitarian interventions, prudent and competent financial and macro – economic management and a move towards transformative and inclusive growth will be addressed. Agenda 2063 is the African transformation blue print which if implemented will yield shock-absorbing (=resilient) economies that also create jobs, are inclusive, ensuring equity and thus moving Africa towards poverty eradication and human development. Socio – economic development will be rapid, inclusive, resilient and sustainable. Agenda 2063 is the timely solution and will build economies that will obviate recurrence of the current challenges attributable to external shocks.

8. Issues such as progress on the regional integration front in Africa, assessing the status of statistics improvement in Africa, social development considerations and several pertinent sub – topics will be discussed over the next 6 days.

This is going to be a very productive and fulfilling STC – COM.

