



United Nations Economic Commission for Africa

Sub-Regional Office for Eastern Africa (SRO-EA)

20th Session Intergovernmental Committee of Experts *Institutions, Decentralization and Structural transformation in Eastern Africa* Nairobi, 8-11 February 2016

What is ICE?

The Intergovernmental Committee of Experts (ICE) is the annual meeting of the UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA). It is held annually to discuss key issues and challenges pertaining to the economic and social development of the sub-region with the view to making appropriate recommendations to address them.

The principle that guides the ICE discussions is that countries of the same region must determine their transformative agenda focusing on structural change and putting great emphasis on “Africa First” and through unpacking the elements of the “African Moment”.

Indeed, The vision of an African renaissance and a continent on the rise is not a mirage. It is real. Africans must seek growth that is primarily anchored on their priorities and that is capable of delivering structural transformation.

Who organises the ICE?

The Host country jointly with UN Economic Commission for Africa through its Sub-Regional Office for Eastern Africa (SRO-EA) organizes the ICE meeting. SRO-EA is based in Kigali and covers 14 countries: Rwanda and covers Burundi, Comoros, D.R Congo, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Kenya, Madagascar, Rwanda, Seychelles, Somalia, South Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda.

Who are the participants of the ICE?

Senior Government Officials of the above-mentioned fourteen member States served by the office as well as Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and Intergovernmental Organizations (IGOs) of the sub-region, development partners, research centres, media practitioners, private sector and civil society organisations and seasoned experts of structural transformation.

What is the focus of 2016 ICE meeting?

The 8-11 February 2016 ICE meeting will focus on the theme of '*Institutions, Decentralisation and Structural Transformation in Eastern Africa.*'

This 20th ICE will examine the role of institutions in promoting equitable growth in Eastern Africa. This will include a review of mechanisms that ensure the formulation of shared visions, enshrine good governance, strengthen public participation in decision-making and build social capital and cohesive pacts for transformational change.

Why Nairobi meeting is not just another meeting?

The relevance and effectiveness of decentralised political systems of governance as a means to building strong institutions, balancing Regional, national and local interests, enhancing social equity and national unity for development, legitimising markets and generating a "fair deal" for all will be assessed.

The uniqueness of Nairobi meeting will be the regional perspective of the decentralization and structural transformation. Case studies from Africa and beyond will expose the potential and limitations of decentralisation processes in the context of strategic planning, decision-making, management and allocation of resources, delivery of services, and programme implementation.

For any further information:

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