



# African Union–United Nations Framework for the Implementation of Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

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# Contents

I.	Introduction		
	A.	Background1	
	Β.	Rationale for cooperation	
II.	Partnership principles and objectives		
	Α.	Guiding principles	1
	Β.	Objectives	ļ
III.	Essential thematic areas of the Development Framework		j
	A.	Advocacy and awareness-raising of the joint implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063	
	B.	Coherent integration of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 into national development frameworks	,
	C.	Capacity for analytical work and research to enhance evidence-based policymaking 7	
	D.	Data ecosystems of member States and regional economic communities for effective performance tracking, follow-up and evidence-based policymaking	1
	E.	Integrated monitoring, evaluation and reporting frameworks	;
	F.	Trade and the regional integration agenda	)
	G.	Nexus between peace and security, human rights and development	)
	H.	Africa's global representation and voice	)
	I.	Integrated financing mechanisms	
IV.	Implementation mechanisms and processes		
V.	Conclusion		

### I. Introduction

#### A. Background

1. The African Union is an intergovernmental organization established in 2001,<sup>1</sup> with the vision of ensuring an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa, driven by its own citizens and representing a dynamic force in the global arena. The Assembly of Heads of State and Government is the supreme organ of the African Union, with the African Union Commission providing executive and secretariat functions. The African Union coordinates its development agenda through a continental approach to emerging economic and development issues facing Africa as a whole. Its mission is underscored by the imperative of promoting Africa's political and socioeconomic integration and development. The areas of work of the Commission cover eight themes of critical importance to Africa's development and transformation: peace and security; political affairs; trade and industry; infrastructure and energy; social affairs; rural economy and agriculture; human resources, science and technology; and economic affairs.

2. The United Nations is an intergovernmental organization founded in 1945. Its mission and work are guided by the purposes and principles contained in its founding Charter. Its objectives include maintaining international peace and security, promoting human rights, fostering social and economic development, protecting the environment and providing humanitarian aid in case of famine, natural disasters and armed conflict. The organization also provides a forum for its members to express their views through the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council, the high-level political forum on sustainable development and other bodies and committees. By enabling dialogue between its Member States and by hosting negotiations, the United Nations is a platform for Governments to find agreement and solve problems together. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development underscores the vision of Member States to establish a world that cares for people, the planet, prosperity and partnerships.

3. At its twenty-fourth Ordinary Assembly, held in Addis Ababa on 30 and 31 January 2015, the African Union Assembly of Heads of State and Government adopted Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want as a strategic framework for Africa's inclusive growth and sustainable development and to optimize the use of the continent's resources for the benefit of all Africans. In June 2015, the General Assembly adopted the First Ten-Year Implementation Plan (2014-2023) of Agenda 2063, in which flagship projects, priority areas and policy measures to support the implementation of the continental development framework were outlined. In September 2015, the General Assembly adopted the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals contained therein. The 2030 Agenda is a global framework for achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, with a vision of leaving no one behind.

4. In the light of the comparative advantages and mandates and integrated nature of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063, the African Union and the United Nations wish to strengthen their partnership for cooperation to implement activities and programmes for Africa's inclusive, broad-based and sustainable development. They are implementing

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Its predecessor was the Organization of African Unity, which was established in 1963.

reforms to promote efficiency and effectiveness and to be fit for purpose to facilitate the implementation of the two Agendas.

5. In the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063, the people-centred and integrated nature of inclusive growth and sustainable development and shared common priorities for Africa's transformation are underscored. They provide a foundation for the design, implementation and monitoring of Africa's long-term development agenda, underpinned by the three dimensions of sustainable development.

6. In the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (General Assembly resolution 69/313), which is a key means of implementing the 2030 Agenda, Heads of State and Government and high representatives of international organizations affirmed their commitment to addressing the challenge of development financing and creating an enabling environment for sustainable development. In addition, the African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development agreed to adopt a single monitoring and evaluation framework and a common reporting architecture to reduce duplication and promote the coherent and integrated implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063.

7. The implementation of the Paris Agreement constitutes an integral element of implementing the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063. It is recognized in both documents that climate change represents an urgent threat to human societies and the planet, and thus, requires an ambitious international response, including stronger and wider cooperation by all countries in Africa.

8. The importance of a peaceful, stable and secure environment and respect for human rights in order for sustainable development to be realized is recognized in the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063. In this context, on 19 April 2017, the African Union and the United Nations signed the Joint African Union-United Nations Framework for Enhanced Partnership in Peace and Security as a basis for collaboration through regular consultations and joint mechanisms. Its implementation has already gained traction and is promoting coherence, efficiency and effectiveness in the coordination of peace and security interventions in Africa. The African Union-United Nations Framework for the Implementation of Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda (hereinafter "Development Framework") will therefore benefit from the synergies between peace and security, respect for and promotion of human rights and development.

9. The lessons drawn from the Millennium Development Goals underscored the importance of strong and accountable institutions in the implementation, monitoring and reporting of the international development agenda.<sup>2</sup> The unfinished business of achieving the Goals and the broader scope and interrelatedness of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 call for stronger institutional and partner coordination, the leveraging of resources and synergies and enhanced policy coherence in order to improve efficiency and effectiveness.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Economic Commission for Africa and others, *MDGs to Agenda 2063/SDGs Transition Report 2016: Towards an Integrated and Coherent Approach to Sustainable Development in Africa* (Addis Ababa, 2016); Jeffrey D. Sachs, "From Millennium Development Goals to sustainable development goals," *The Lancet*, vol. 379, No. 9832.

### B. Rationale for cooperation

10. Under the Development Framework, the conditions for cooperation between the African Union and the United Nations to promote inclusive growth for Africa's sustainable development and transformation are set out. They will undertake joint activities and programmes for the effective implementation, tracking and monitoring of and reporting on the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063.

11. The activities and programmes prioritized under the Development Framework shall, subject to their relevant mandates and the availability of funds and resources, be included in the relevant workplans of the African Union and the United Nations and implemented in accordance with their rules and procedures, especially the mandatory review processes.

12. The Chairperson of the African Union Commission and the Secretary-General endorse the Development Framework as the foundation for stronger coordination to achieve the mutual strategic intents of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063. It will help to maximize the comparative advantages and mandates of and synergies between the African Union and the United Nations for the effective implementation of and reporting on the two Agendas.

### II. Partnership principles and objectives

13. The implementation of the Development Framework will be based on mutual respect and comparative advantage. The African Union and the United Nations recognize the essential role of regional institutions, as elaborated in Chapter VIII of the Charter, and seek to strengthen collaboration in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 in accordance with the Constitutive Act of the African Union and the purpose and principles of the Charter.

#### A. Guiding principles

14. The guiding principles of the Development Framework are the following:

- (a) Inclusivity: Provide everyone with the opportunity to participate in and contribute to changing their livelihoods for the better, with the strengthening of gender equality and women's empowerment and harnessing the demographic dividend of the population of young people as priorities;
- (b) Mutual accountability: Respect for mutual accountability and commitment to strengthening accountability at the subnational, national, continental and international levels;
- (c) Transparency and subsidiarity: Promotion of transparency, ensuring that roles and responsibilities are clear at the subnational, national, continental and international levels;
- (d) Ownership: Ensure that the ownership of activities and programmes of the partnership is led by the States members of the African Union, informed by the continent's priorities, at the subregional and national levels;
- (e) Leveraging existing commitments and initiatives: Build on and strengthen existing continental priority areas, including the Comprehensive Africa

3

Agriculture Development Programme, the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa, the Africa Mining Vision, the Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa 2024, the Continental Free Trade Area, the Action Plan for Boosting Intra-African Trade and the Africa industrial development agenda and social policy framework;

- (f) Partnership based on a clear definition of institutional roles and responsibilities: Strengthen technical cooperation between and support for relevant institutions, drawing on the comparative advantages of the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the African Union and its organs and the United Nations system. This will take into account and build on the following:
  - Division of labour between the African Union and the specialized agencies of the United Nations system, as well as the regional economic communities and other pan-African institutions, for better coordination;
  - (ii) Areas of focus by all partners and roles and responsibilities in order to enhance efficiency and minimize duplication;
  - (iii) Existing coordination mechanisms, such as the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa, the Interdepartmental Task Force on African Affairs, the subregional consultation mechanism and the Ministerial Coordination Platform for the Sahel, as well as the national-level cooperation frameworks.

### B. Objectives

15. Stronger coordination between the agencies of the African Union and the United Nations system is required to ensure that the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063, including alignment with the Paris Agreement, are mainstreamed and integrated into the national planning frameworks of member States and contribute positively to African development. A harmonized and integrated approach to the implementation of the two Agendas will help to minimize duplication, optimize resource use and mobilize the support of domestic and external stakeholders and development partners.

The unique relationship between the African Union and the United Nations provides 16. the goodwill necessary for a successful partnership in addressing the continent's priorities and pressing needs. The Development Framework builds on existing principles underscored in the strategic framework of the African Union-United Nations partnership on Africa's integration and development agenda for 2017-2027 (see General Assembly resolution 71/254), coordinated under the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa, and whose implementation will be closely aligned with the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the First Ten-Year Implementation Plan, as well as subsequent ones, of Agenda 2063. Agenda 2063 is recognized in the African Union and United Nations partnership as the overarching framework for Africa's integration and development under which the other sectoral frameworks and programmes, including the governance, peace and security architectures, are subsumed. Benchmarks are also set in the partnership for Africa's performance in the political, economic and social fields. The specialized agencies of the United Nations system operating at the continental level will continue to provide support to the African Union through the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa, and to specific regional, subregional and national priorities agreed through cooperation arrangements.

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### III. Essential thematic areas of the Development Framework

17. The African Union and the United Nations have jointly identified thematic areas for collaboration under the Development Framework, discussed below, while the mechanisms to ensure their effective implementation are outlined in section IV.

### A. Advocacy and awareness-raising of the joint implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063

18. The successful implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 requires public awareness of their content and relevance to the local contexts, the synergies and complementarities that they both share and their role as a social contract between people and their Governments in order to help to ensure that these Governments are held accountable. This will be achieved through the following measures:

- (a) Advocating with member States and regional economic communities to integrate the two Agendas into their national development frameworks. Prioritizing the common objectives is needed, including focusing on the most vulnerable, poor and marginalized communities to ensure that no one is left behind, advancing women's empowerment, gender equality and capacity, and building the skills of young people to enhance innovation and productivity to harness the demographic dividend;
- (b) Reinforcing dialogue and cooperation on continent-wide issues. These include ensuring policy coherence for sustainable development (e.g., employment, reducing poverty and inequality, and social protection), integration and statistics to facilitate research and dialogue on strategic issues. The African Union and the United Nations will bring to bear their experiences and synergies, including in the elaboration of global standards. Open debate and creative policy solutions for Africa's development will be promoted at both United Nations and African Union intergovernmental forums;
- (c) Developing common dialogue platforms. Using their convening power, the United Nations and African Union will collaborate to provide institutionalized platforms for advocacy, information exchange and awareness-raising among policymakers, the private sector, civil society, women, young people, media and communities of the relevance and substance of both Agendas. The United Nations-African Regional Coordination Mechanism's advocacy, information, communication and culture cluster and the Expert Group Meetings on the two Agendas, coordinated by the African Union, the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), will play a central role in this regard;
- (d) Promoting peer learning and the sharing of experience and best practices on the implementation of both Agendas with development practitioners at the global level (e.g., the high-level political forum on sustainable development), at the continental level (between member States and regional economic communities) and through South-South exchanges. Measures to increase the absorptive capacity and engagement in development cooperation arrangements of member States will be explored to accelerate implementation of the two Agendas;

(e) Raising awareness of both Agendas as a social contract between people and their Governments. Ensuring that the public fully understands the content of the Agendas and their role as an instrument of accountability is important to promote broad support and the buy-in needed for successful implementation. The African Union and the United Nations will develop consistent messaging on this point to be used in promotional activities, including in the statements and speeches of high-level officials and other promotional activities and engagements.

# B. Coherent integration of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 into national development frameworks

19. The 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 are not identical but overlap considerably at the level of goals, targets and indicators.<sup>3</sup>

20. Consequently, integrating the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 separately into national development plans risk duplication and, in some cases, policy incoherence. Supporting countries to ensure the coherent integration of both Agendas into their national development plans is therefore vital and provides an opportunity for strategic collaboration between the African Union and the United Nations. Specific areas of collaboration include the following:

- (a) Building national capacities for the adaptation and implementation of the two Agendas. Tailored training on their substance and their integration into national planning frameworks will be designed and implemented. Support will be provided for institutional capacity strengthening to implement the two Agendas and ensure effectiveness and accountability and monitoring and progress reporting;
- (b) Designing and rolling out tools to support the alignment of national planning frameworks with the two Agendas. In this context, existing tools such as the mainstreaming, acceleration and policy support strategy and the ECA integrated planning and reporting software will serve as the basis for partnership to support member States in aligning their national development plans with the two Agendas. Through the Development Framework, the African Union and the United Nations will provide coordinated support and harmonized tools to member States to mainstream the two Agendas into their national development plans;
- (c) Raising awareness among and mobilizing the private sector and civil society to support the implementation of the two Agendas. This includes leveraging the goodwill and efforts of the private sector firms and civil society to integrate the two Agendas into their sustainable development strategies, investment plans and business practices.

6

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See United Nations Development Programme, Strengthening Strategic Alignment for Africa's Development: Lessons from the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the African Union's Agenda 2063, and the AfDB's High Fives (New York, 2017)

# C. Capacity for analytical work and research to enhance evidence-based policymaking

21. Increased analytical capacity is needed to expand the wealth of knowledge on the fundamentals of Africa's growth and future development prospects. Joint analytical studies and impact assessments are required to support evidence-based policymaking, identify catalytic policy interventions and better understand the likely impacts of policies on various population segments, especially vulnerable groups. The African Union and the United Nations will work together to achieve the following:

- (a) Strengthen national and subnational capacities for policy analysis and review of the impact of policy interventions in support of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063;
- (b) Undertake African context-specific policy analysis and research, together with existing national institutions, universities and the pan-African institutions, such as the African Capacity-Building Foundation and other partners;
- (c) Strengthen the capacities for analytical work on gender and young people and other cross-cutting themes, such as social development, and promote the visibility and voice of women and young people in national development processes and peace and security mechanisms;
- (d) Strengthen the capacity to undertake joint analysis and planning for threats to sustainable development, including cross-border risks, before they emerge;
- (e) Evaluate the impact of various policies and identify synergies and the trade-offs associated with achieving economic, social and environmental sustainability in the context of the two Agendas.

### D. Data ecosystems of member States and regional economic communities for effective performance tracking, follow-up and evidence-based policymaking

22. Quality, accessible, timely and reliable disaggregated data is a prerequisite for effective performance tracking, follow-up and evidence-based policymaking to ensure no one is left behind (see General Assembly resolution 71/313). Joint initiatives to harmonize statistical methodologies and generate common indicators are ongoing. In July 2009, the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union mandated the African Union Commission, together with ECA, AfDB and members of the Pan-African Statistics Programme, to develop a strategy to harmonize statistics in Africa. The Strategy for the Harmonization of Statistics in Africa was adopted during the third African Union Specialized Technical Committee on Finance, Monetary Affairs, Economic Planning and Integration, held in Addis Ababa from 23 to 27 October 2017. It is intended to ensure harmonized and standardized statistical definitions and concepts, the adaptation of international norms to African realities and specificities and the utilization of common methodologies for statistical production and dissemination by all African countries.

23. At the launch of the 2030 Agenda, the Secretary-General called for a "data revolution"<sup>4</sup> which is intended to improve data availability, timeliness, dissemination and the capacity of data producers, supported by new technologies (e.g., mobile phones and the Internet). The data revolution involves the integration of new data sources with traditional ones to produce high-quality information that is more detailed, timely and relevant for many purposes and users in order to foster and monitor sustainable development.

24. The conditions under which national statistics systems operate determine, to a large extent, their capacity to deliver statistical data and measures to monitor progress and assess impact. The Development Framework will further deepen collaboration in the following areas:

- (a) Strengthening institutions, structures and systems. Joint support will be provided to strengthen the capacity and systems of member States to improve statistical institutional environments, including legal standards to enable system interconnectivity and data interoperability, to measure, monitor and report progress on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063;
- (b) Improving statistical production and harmonization processes. Support will be provided to strengthen the capacity and systems for statistical production and harmonization across multiple domains (including data integration), the development of core statistical infrastructure (e.g., the use of standard classifications and business registers) and the mainstreaming of new data sources (e.g., geospatial information) into the production of official statistics. This will help to effectively respond to the increased data needs of the two Agendas;
- (c) Responding to specific and emerging data needs. Efforts to strengthen methodologies for specific indicators and targets will be supported. This will help to establish baselines, close data gaps and improve data availability and disaggregation. Improvements in the reach and quality of civil registration and vital statistics systems throughout Africa will be emphasized;
- (d) Improving statistical dissemination to ease access to data. The African Union and the United Nations will provide support to strengthen statistical platforms to share data and related reports at the continental, national and subnational levels to ensure that data are accessible and used by policymakers, civil society, researchers and the public and support the implementation of modern data dissemination approaches.

## E. Integrated monitoring, evaluation and reporting frameworks

25. Implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 will require integrated and, where possible, interoperable systems for tracking and reporting at the national and continental levels. The African Union and the United Nations are working together to develop a continental results framework that combines performance indicators from the two Agendas. Together with other pan-African institutions, they are also drafting the annual

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See Independent Expert Advisory Group on the Data Revolution for Sustainable Development, A World That Counts: Mobilizing the Data Revolution for Sustainable Development (New York, 2014).

Africa Sustainable Development Report, which tracks performance on the implementation of the two Agendas.

26. The Development Framework will strengthen the monitoring and impact evaluation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 and support countries in unlocking implementation bottlenecks. The African Union and the United Nations will promote the following:

- (a) Integrated and coherent reporting by member States through the Development Framework, the Africa Sustainable Development Report, the African Peer Review Mechanism of the African Union and the United Nations monitoring mechanism to review commitments made towards Africa's development.<sup>5</sup> The monitoring mechanism provides the opportunity to review the implementation of commitments made towards Africa's development by member States and their development partners. Its biennial reports provide analysis towards advancing Africa's key development priorities outlined in the two Agendas;
- (b) Participation in the high-level political forum on sustainable development, including voluntary national reviews. Support will also be provided for the preparation of the voluntary national review reports of selected countries;
- (c) Engagement of relevant African Union and United Nations entities in the implementation of and reporting on the two Agendas, including consultations with the regional economic communities, on how best to strengthen the coordination of activities with member States, implementation methods and data-gathering;
- (d) Development of comprehensive and integrated continental and national data platforms and methodologies, covering relevant indicators contained in the two Agendas. These include, among others, the ECA Databank and UN data.

### F. Trade and the regional integration agenda

27. Achieving the goals contained in the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 requires a continental approach underpinned by the execution and delivery of shared public goods such as energy and transport infrastructure. Regional integration and intra-Africa trade remain top development priorities for the continent, as reflected in Agenda 2063 and its First Ten-Year Implementation Plan. Collaboration between the African Union and the United Nations in these areas is a strategic imperative, and support will help to achieve the following:

(a) Strengthen the continental approach to information generation and knowledgesharing among member States and relevant pan-African institutions. More countries will be engaged in cross-sectoral analyses, and joint activities to advocate, fundraise for and prepare multidimensional country reviews will be undertaken. Existing continental initiatives for dialogue and the exchange of lessons learned and best practices will be strengthened. Institutions responsible for setting standards and coherent policies will be supported with capacity and tools to improve knowledge generation and to review methodologies in areas

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The latter was established by the General Assembly in its resolution 66/293. The Office of the Special Adviser on Africa serves as secretariat.

such as economic and market integration, taxation, governance, migration, education, gender, statistics, investment and urbanization;

(b) Boost regional integration, intra-Africa trade and fast-track the Continental Free Trade Area. Support will be provided to the development of action plans to boost regional integration and trade and foster dialogue among member States and regional economic communities through the sharing of best practices and experiences and monitoring implementation and reporting. Support will also be provided to strengthen the capacity of African negotiators on international trade issues.

### G. Nexus between peace and security, human rights and development

28. In acknowledging the importance of promoting peace and security and upholding human rights as a foundation for sustainable development, the African Union and the United Nations will bring their collective experiences in these areas to promote sustainable development. The links between development, human rights and humanitarian work are critical to reducing risk and vulnerability, especially among young people and women, and serve as a first step to leaving no one behind. Stronger collaboration and coordination within and between development and humanitarian programming are therefore needed to ensure coherence and complementarity. This can be achieved through adopting continental strategies to improve preparedness, response, prevention and the mobilization of global support to crises. The Development Framework will help to strengthen the linkages between political governance and respect for human rights, peace and security, resilience and development by building on joint programmes and activities under the Joint United Nations-African Union Framework for an Enhanced Partnership in Peace and Security.

29. The interventions underscored in the Joint African Union-United Nations Framework for an Enhanced Partnership in Peace and Security cover four thematic areas: preventing and mediating conflicts and sustaining peace; responding to conflict; addressing the root causes of conflict; and continuous partnership review and enhancement. These interventions have a direct impact on the realization of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063. In order to facilitate their implementation, the African Union and the United Nations commit themselves to adopting measures that promote the predictability, sustainability and flexibility of their funding.

### H. Africa's global representation and voice

30. The African Union and the United Nations will seek to promote and strengthen avenues that elevate Africa's effective participation in and representation at high-level international socioeconomic decision-making forums in norm-setting and governance. The capacities of African negotiators and interlocutors for the articulation of one voice on key issues concerning Africa will be strengthened by building on the experience of the common African position on the post-2015 development agenda, tailored training of interlocutors and the sharing of experiences. Support for Africa's representation in the governance structures of relevant institutions, including sustainable development finance institutions, will be considered.

### I. Integrated financing mechanisms

31. An integrated approach to implementing the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 must be underpinned by an integrated financing mechanism that minimizes duplication, leverages economies of scale and optimizes the use of resources. The African Union and the United Nations will work together to implement the Addis Ababa Action Agenda as the key financing framework for the 2030 Agenda, jointly identify additional sources of financing and design bankable projects, in line with the priorities of the two Agendas. Specific areas of collaboration will include the following:

- (a) Developing additional funding mechanisms to implement the two Agendas. This will include promoting innovative financial mechanisms, deepening domestic resource mobilization and having access to the eighteenth replenishment of the International Development Association's resources and other vertical funds;
- (b) Deepening collaboration and leveraging political support to address illicit financial flows and strengthening capacity for domestic resource mobilization;
- (c) Jointly mobilizing resources for, among other things, statistical capacity and systems strengthening to increase data availability for accurate reporting and impact evaluation;
- (d) Strengthening capacity for domestic resource mobilization, drawing from proven global best practices. Support will also be provided for building capacities in the development of bankable projects, including how to address regulatory requirements and risks associated with transboundary initiatives and the repatriation of profits.

### IV. Implementation mechanisms and processes

32. To operationalize the Development Framework, the African Union and the United Nations agree to support and fully participate in all the coordination arrangements described below. These will evolve and be continuously informed by the changing needs on the ground and will include, as appropriate, the participation of relevant entities of both organizations, including, in respect of the United Nations, ECA; and also AfDB. The funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system and the African Union and its organs will strengthen efforts to effectively facilitate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 and the delivery of recurrent joint initiatives and the identification of new ones. The African Union and the United Nations will actively engage the relevant pan-African institutions in the implementation of the Development Framework.

33. Detailed modalities and work-plans to implement the Development Framework will be jointly elaborated, taking into account relevant best practices, cross-cutting issues and policies.

34. Every two years the African Union and the United Nations will conduct discussions and reviews of the Development Framework and monitor the progress made in its thematic areas through the following:

(a) Quarterly meetings of the focal points and technical officials from the African Union and the United Nations and officers from the regional economic communities to strengthen coordination and joint programming. Face-to-face meetings and videoconferencing will be organized to share information, develop and review joint workplans and prepare for the annual meetings of the heads of the African Union and its organs and the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system;

- (b) Annual meetings of the heads of the African Union and the United Nations that are members of the Interdepartmental Task Force on African Affairs and representatives of other relevant funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system to adopt joint workplans and review the implementation of previous ones. Representatives of the regional economic communities and the pan-African institutions will participate, as appropriate;
- (c) Convening an annual African Union-United Nations meeting between the Chairperson of the African Union Commission and the Secretary-General on the margins of the African Union Summit or of the session of the General Assembly to review progress and provide strategic direction.

### V. Conclusion

35. The partnership between the African Union and the United Nations in support of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 is a unique opportunity to provide concerted efforts to address some of Africa's pressing challenges through joint programmes and projects. It provides a strong impetus for the African Union, the United Nations, in particular ECA, and AfDB as a financial institution, to work in unison towards achieving the shared development vision of Africa's transformation by harnessing the political clout of the African Union and the contribution of its technical bodies, the financial acumen and muscle of AfDB and the technical strength of ECA and the entire United Nations system. This creates the stimuli for implementing the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and further resource mobilization through innovative approaches, including initiating a high-level sector forum on financing Africa's development. The United Nations country team will also ensure that a coherent and integrated system-wide United Nations response is put in place to support the national development priorities, in coordination with national authorities. Consequently, the Development Framework sets the stage for new dynamics in development cooperation with Africa.

Signed on:

Moussa Faki Mahamat Chairperson African Union Commission

António Guterres Secretary-General United Nations