



Economic Commission for Africa
Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development
Second session
Cairo, 17–19 May 2016

Concept note

I. Background and rationale

1. The Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development originates from the important decisions adopted by the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) held in 2012 to strengthen the institutional framework for sustainable development (IFSD) at all levels. These include the decision to establish the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) to ensure effective monitoring and implementation of sustainable development commitments at the global level. Subsequently, the Africa Regional Implementation Meeting (RIM) held in November 2012 on the post-Rio+20 follow-up processes adopted specific recommendations on sustainable development bodies. These recommendations include a call for ECA to convene the Africa Regional Political Forum on Sustainable Development in preparation for the sessions of the HLPF, jointly with the African Union Commission (AUC) and the AfDB, in collaboration with relevant partners. The RIM recognized that in convening the Regional Forum, the provision of a strengthened platform that adequately ensures an enhanced integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development should be ensured.

2. In July 2013, the UN General Assembly, through its resolution A/RES/67/290, formally established the HLPF as the main United Nations platform dealing with sustainable development, replacing the UN Commission on Sustainable Development. The Forum meets every four years at the level of Heads of State and Government under the auspices of the United Nations General Assembly; and every year, under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council. The Forum adopts negotiated declarations.

3. The UN General Assembly through the above resolution decided that the Forum, under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council, shall conduct regular reviews, starting in 2016, on the follow-up and implementation of sustainable development commitments and objectives, including those related to the means of implementation, within the context of the post-2015 development agenda;

4. The HLPF has held three meetings so far. The inaugural meeting of HLPF was convened on 24 September 2013 by the President of the General Assembly at United Nations Headquarters in New York, under the overall theme: “*Building the future we want: from Rio 20 to the post-2015*”

*development agenda*¹". The second meeting of HLPF was held under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) for the first time from 30 June to 9 July 2014². The 2014 forum was held under the theme "*Achieving the Millennium Development Goals and charting the way for an ambitious post-2015 development agenda, including the sustainable development goals*". The third session of the HLPF – the second under the auspices of ECOSOC - met from 26 June to 8 July 2015 on the theme "*Strengthening integration, implementation and review – the HLPF after 2015*".

5. In its resolution establishing the HLPF, the United Nations General Assembly decided that the meetings of the Forum under the auspices of ECOSOC will benefit from regional preparatory processes; and acknowledges the importance of the regional dimension of sustainable development and invites the United Nations regional commissions to contribute to the work of the forum, including through annual regional meetings, with the involvement of other relevant regional entities, major groups and other relevant stakeholders, as appropriate. Consistent with this resolution, the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development was instituted in 2015 by the eighth Joint Annual Meeting of the African Union Specialized Technical Committee on Finance, Monetary Affairs, Economic Planning and Integration and the Economic Commission for Africa Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development held in March 2015. The ARFSD was established as per resolution 930 (XLVIII)] calling upon ECA in collaboration with the African Union Commission (AUC) and other partners, to take all necessary steps to convene on a biennial basis the African Regional Forum on Sustainable Development. In the same resolution, the Ministers undertook to work in close collaboration with the national Governments to support the convening of the African Regional Forum on Sustainable Development; and called upon Member States to scale up their commitment to support the African Regional Forum on Sustainable Development.

6. It is against this backdrop that the inaugural meeting of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development was organized by ECA in collaboration with the African Union Commission, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the African Development Bank (AfDB) in Addis Ababa, on 17 and 18 June 2015. The Ninth Session of the ECA Committee on Sustainable Development (CSD-9) provided the platform for the 2015 ARFSD which adopted Africa's collective input to the 2015 HLPF in the form of key messages on the theme and others issues to global forum. The key messages were presented to HLPF by the Chair of the CSD-9. Some of the messages include the following:

(a) The ARFSD is the regional intergovernmental forum, with participation from major groups and civil society established to deliberate on Africa's collective input to the High-level Political Forum, its periodicity and programme should be informed by the Forum;

(b) Building on the experiences of the Africa-RIMs, including successes, challenges and lessons, will be critical for the successful convening of ARFSD. In that regard, the ECA should organize the regional forums jointly with the African Union Commission and AfDB, in collaboration with NEPAD, the United Nations Environment Programme Regional Office for Africa, the United Nations Development Programme Regional Bureau for Africa, and other relevant actors;

¹ <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf/2013>

² <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf/2014>

(c) Agenda 2063 constitutes Africa's framework for implementing post-2015 development agenda and its accompanying sustainable development goals framework. In this respect, the Agenda, with its accompanying goals, targets and indicators, should provide a robust monitoring, evaluation and reporting framework for effective implementation at national, sub-regional and regional levels;

(d) Africa has many platforms that could support the thematic reviews that may be undertaken under the auspices of ARFSD. These include, the various ECA statutory committees, the Joint Meetings of the African Union Specialized Technical Committee on Finance, Monetary Affairs, Economic Planning and Integration and the Economic Commission for Africa Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) and other relevant African ministerial bodies. Should thematic reviews be agreed as part of the High-level Political Forum process, the contributions from these platforms, in addition to those of the United Nations system, should be optimized taking into account their comparative advantages in terms of enlisting the critical mass of expertise needed for reviewing a particular thematic area; and

(e) National coordinating bodies for sustainable development are essential for coherent and integrated planning and decision-making at national level and ensuring effective linkages from local to global. National sustainable development bodies should ensure integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development, and should promote the mainstreaming of sustainable development at the highest level of decision-making organs of Government, the private sector and civil society organizations in accordance with national priorities and strategies.

II. The 2016 High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development in light of The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Agenda 2063 and Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (Addis Ababa Action Agenda)

HLPF 2016 and The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

7. The 2016 High-level Political Forum (under the auspices of ECOSOC) will be held in New York from 11-20 July 2016, under the theme "*Ensuring that no one is left behind*". This session will be the first after Heads of State and Government adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in September 2015. The forum is therefore expected to start effectively delivering on its mandates to "provide political leadership, guidance and recommendations on the 2030 Agenda implementation and follow-up; keep track of progress; spur coherent policies informed by evidence, science and country experiences; as well as address new and emerging issues".³

8. The 2030 Agenda will shape countries' development policies and strategies over the next 15 years. The 2030 Agenda has at its core, 17 sustainable development goals⁴ and their associated 169 targets. The SDGs are integrated, indivisible, and incorporate in a balanced manner the three dimension of sustainable development (UN, 2015). The SDGs embody Africa's sustainable development priorities based on the Common African

³ <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf>

⁴ See Annex 1

Position (CAP) on the post-2015 development agenda. In this connection, it is to be recalled that the outcome of the Africa Regional Consultative Meeting on the sustainable development goals held in 2013 and which endorsed 12 sustainable development goals, served as technical input to the work of the Africa High-level Committee on the post-2015 development agenda (ECA, 2015), culminating into the CAP.

9. In terms of implementation of The 2030 Agenda, the Heads of State and Government call on member States to develop as soon as possible, practicable ambitious national responses to its overall implementation. The national responses can build on existing planning instruments, such as national development and sustainable development strategies, as appropriate.

HLPF 2016, The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063

10. The 2030 Agenda also acknowledges that regional and subregional frameworks can facilitate the effective translation of sustainable development policies into concrete action at the national level. In this regard, The 2030 Agenda reaffirms the importance of supporting the African Union's Agenda 2063. Agenda 2063 is a successor to the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), and it has been adopted by African Heads of State and Government in January 2015 as a long-term development framework over the 50-year period. This Agenda aims to achieve an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa, driven by its own citizens and representing a dynamic force in the world (AUC, 2015). Ten-year plans serve as frameworks for implementing the 2063 Agenda. The first of these implementation plans spans the period 2014 to 2023.⁵

11. The 2016 HLPF will therefore also be the first to take place within the overlapping timeframes for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063. African countries have signed on to both Agendas. This implies that African countries need integrated regional and in particular national strategic frameworks including national development plans to ensure effective concurrent implementation of both agendas.

12. On follow-up and review, The 2030 Agenda states that Governments have the primary responsibility for follow-up and review at the national, regional and global levels over the coming 15 years. Moreover, the 2030 Agenda reiterates the mandate and central role of the high-level political forum under the auspices of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council in overseeing follow-up and review at the global level. Thematic reviews of progress, including on cross-cutting issues, will also be held under the HLPF, buttressed by the work of the functional commissions and other inter-governmental bodies and forums, reflecting the integrated nature of the sustainable development goals as well as the interlinkages between them. Those reviews will engage all relevant stakeholders and, where possible, feed into, and be aligned with, the cycle of the high-level political forum. The 2030 Agenda also stipulates that follow-up and review at the regional and subregional levels can provide useful opportunities for peer learning, and in this regard, welcomes the cooperation of regional and subregional commissions and organizations.

13. Agenda 2063 on the other hand calls for the convening of an annual African forum that will *inter alia* take action based on Agenda 2063 progress reports, encourage stakeholders to accelerate the realization of Agenda 2063

⁵ African Union Commission, Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want — First Ten-year Implementation Plan 2013–2023.

http://agenda2063.au.int/en/sites/default/files/Agenda%202063%20Final%20revised%20First%20Ten%20Year%20Implementation%20Plan%2012%2010%2015_0.pdf.

and identify best practices and champions to accelerate implementation (ECA and AUC, 2016). This again brings into sharp focus the dual role of African countries and regional actors to conduct follow-up and review of the two agendas.

HLPF 2016, The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Addis Ababa Action Agenda

14. In July 2015, the UN General Assembly through resolution 69/313 adopted the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (Addis Ababa Action Agenda) (AAAA). The AAAA is the framework at the global level for financing sustainable development and is recognized as an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.⁶ In the AAAA countries adopted commitments on domestic public resources; domestic and international private business and finance; international development cooperation; international trade as an engine for development; debt and debt sustainability; science, technology, innovation; capacity-building; and data, monitoring and follow-up.

15. The follow-up of the AAAA is to be carried out by an annual Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development (FFD Forum). The FFD is mandated to carry out follow-up and review of the financing for development outcomes and the means of implementation of The 2030 Agenda. The outcomes of FFD are to be fed into the overall follow-up and review of the implementation of The 2030 Agenda in the HLPF.⁷ The convergence at the HLPF of the FFD and the 2030 Agenda follow-up and review is logical as the progress in provision of the means of implementation will determine the level of achievement of goals and targets set out in The 2030 Agenda. It implies that the regional level follow-up and review through ARFSD should also recognize this intricate link and review progress and challenges in the delivery of the means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

The imperative of integrated implementation and follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda and the Agenda 2063

16. African countries have committed themselves to implementing both the 2030 Agenda and the 2063 Agenda. These agendas have closely overlapping implementation time frames considering that the 2030 Agenda spans the years 2015 to 2030 while the first 10-year implementation plan for the 2063 Agenda will be executed between 2014 and 2023. The processes leading to the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 were concurrent, mutually reinforcing and led to a significant commonality in the goals and targets set to be achieved by both agendas which are to be implemented by the same member States in Africa. Moreover, both agendas have to be followed-up and reviewed on an annual basis. Successfully translating both agendas to the desired on-the-ground outcomes and assessing success to that effect demand coherent implementation and follow-up strategies. Without such coherent approaches there could be inefficient deployment of the means of implementation together with a great deal of duplication. An increased burden particularly on reporting, follow-up and review on the part of member States and regional actors is imminent. Addressing these challenges which evidently have significant implications for effective use of scarce and limited means of implementation, will require African countries to consider adopting integrated and harmonized approaches to the implementation, follow-up and review for both Agendas.

17. With the foresight of the need and thus the imperative for Africa to adopt a coherent strategy for the effective and coordinated implementation, follow-up and review of Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable

⁶ Paragraph 40 of the 2030 Agenda.

⁷ Paragraph 132 of AAAA

Development, ECA and AUC convened the Ninth Joint Annual Meetings of the African Union Specialized Technical Committee on Finance, Monetary Affairs, Economic Planning and Integration and the Economic Commission for Africa Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development (more commonly referred to as the Conference of Ministers) in March 2016 under theme: “Towards an integrated and coherent approach for the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of Agenda 2063, The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals”.

18. The Conference made key decisions and recommendations on the theme of their meeting. Some of the pertinent outcomes of the Conference in the context of the HLPF and the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development include the following.

19. The Conference:

(a) Recognized that multiple development frameworks have not met Africa’s imperative for accelerated, inclusive and sustainable growth, thus weakening the continent’s prospects for structural transformation.

(b) Underscored the importance for Africa of adopting a coherent strategy for the effective and coordinated implementation of Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda. In this regard, the conference agreed on a single monitoring and evaluation framework, accommodating both agendas, and a common reporting architecture that will produce a single periodic performance report.

(c) Recognized that reporting on these two apparently separate frameworks could prove to be onerous and thus recommended that a unified reporting platform should be set in place consistent with the equivalence of goals and targets established through the goal, indicator mapping and costing exercise that has been undertaken.

(d) Noted the huge capacity requirements for the implementation of both Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda and the critical importance of prioritizing related capacity-building at all levels.

(e) Adopted a resolution on the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development reaffirming the convening of the Forum by ECA and AUC in collaboration with other partners to follow-up to and review Addis Ababa Action Agenda, Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Specifically in the resolution, the conference among others:

- (i) Acknowledges the need to align the biennial consultations of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development with the annual meetings of the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development;
- (ii) Requests the ECA in collaboration with the AUC and other partners, to convene on an annual basis the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development for follow-up to and review of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
- (iii) Decided that the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development will build on existing platforms, avoiding the creation of additional administrative structures, and will promote coordination and coherence, learning and the sharing of best practices within the United Nations development system, and with other regional and subregional forums and organizations;

- (iv) Encourages member States to participate in the Africa Regional Forum for Sustainable Development scheduled to take place from 17 to 19 May 2016 and the High-level Forum on Sustainable Development scheduled to take place from 11 to 20 July 2016, in New York.

III. The 2016 Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development

A. Objective and theme and of the 2016 Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development

20. The 2016 Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development in preparation for the 2016 HLPF will therefore take place against the backdrop of the adoption of The 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development and when the African countries are transitioning to Agenda 2063. Also the ARFSD will be convened following the adoption of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda which has a bearing on the achievement of both The 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 to which the African countries are committed to their full implementation. Moreover, the Forum will be held in period post- the ninth joint ECA and AUC Conference of Ministers, whose outcomes provide a good direction for Africa to optimally benefit from the three Agenda.

21. In this respect and against the above background, ECA in collaboration with the AUC, AfDB, UNEP and UNDP are organizing the 2016 ARFSD with the objective to: *deliberate and agree on Africa's collective input in form of key messages, to the 2016 High-level political Forum on sustainable development.*

22. The 2016 session of the ARFSD will be held under the theme "*Ensuring inclusive and integrated implementation and follow-up of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063*". This theme is well aligned with that of the 2016 HLPF. The theme of the ARFSD will allow African countries to consider inclusion as the principle that should overarch integrated approaches to the implementation, follow-up and review of The 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 in order to ensure that no one is left behind.

23. Given the multi-stakeholder nature of the regional forum, the theme of the 2016 ARFSD which is also closely aligned with that of the 2016 ECA and AUC Conference of Ministers will allow wider-stakeholders to engage with, uptake and build on the key decisions and messages of the of the Conference. This augurs well for coherence in Africa's voice with regard to the implementation and follow-up and review of the two mutually beneficial agendas.

Sub-themes of the Regional Forum

24. The theme of the Forum is broken down into the following subthemes that will enable member States and other stakeholders to discuss in-depth and distill key messages on all the most pertinent aspects of the main theme:

- (i) Inclusive transformation for sustainable development
- (ii) Integrated results framework
- (iii) Integrated implementation
- (iv) Integrated follow-up

B. Format of the Forum

25. The 2016 ARFSD will be a t-day meeting to be preceded by a one day experts group meeting of African countries⁸ that will participate in national reviews during the 2016 HLPF. The representatives of the nine major group and other stakeholders will also hold a consultative meeting prior to the ARFSD. The outcomes of both pre-meetings will be presented at the regional forum. A pre-event that will comprise major group will also take place on the first day prior to the two-day meeting.

Opening of the Forum

26. The representative of the Government of Egypt will officially open the meeting. The opening session will be addressed by the chair of CSD-9/2015 ARFSD, ECA, the African Union Commission, the African Development Bank and partner agencies of the United Nations system.

Organizational matters

27. It is proposed that the proceedings of the Forum be guided by a Bureau to be elected by participating member States. Accordingly the Bureau may consist of a Chair, three Vice Chairs and a rapporteur. In electing the members of the Bureau, balanced representation of the countries from the five subregions will be ensured taking into account membership in the previous (2015) Bureau.

Main sessions of the Forum

28. The Forum will have seven main plenary sessions built around the main subthemes and other issues integral to the ARFSD as outlined below. All the plenary sessions will be supported with background reports. Following the discussions on the themes and reports from the pre meetings, there will be parallel breakout sessions to examine the draft key messages. The Chairs of the breakout sessions will be designated by the chair of the Forum from among the vice chairs of the Forum. Participation in the parallel breakout groups will be open to representatives of all participating States, representatives of intergovernmental organizations, entities of the United Nations system; and representatives of major groups and other stakeholders. The main sessions are briefly discussed below.

- (i) *The transition from MDGs to SDGs:* The presentation and discussions of this session will be based on the background report that outlines the extent to which the MDGs were achieved in the region, the unfinished business, and the attendant challenges and lessons learned. The session will afford opportunity for discussion on the need and effective ways for and reporting on the progress towards achievement of the 2030 Agenda SDGs.
- (ii) *Inclusive transformation for sustainable development.* The impressive economic growth that African countries have posted for more than a decade in the recent past has been described as being non-inclusive. The prosperity generated has therefore not been shared equitably thus, among others, many have been left behind in the pangs of poverty in a large number of countries of the region. Inclusion is thus recognized as one of the central strands required to ensure that no one is left behind and to achieve an effective and sustainable transformation which is fundamental goal of both the 2030 Agenda and the 2030 Agenda. This session will therefore discuss key issues, identify and

⁸ The six African countries are Egypt, Madagascar, Morocco, Sierra Leone, Togo and Uganda.

articulate policy directions and actions to achieve inclusion and ensure that inclusiveness underpins and is followed through in the process of integrated implementation, and follow-up and review of the 2063 Agenda and the 2030 Agenda in Africa.

- (iii) *Integrated results framework*: This session will be informed by the presentation on integrated results framework adopted at the 9th joint ECA and AUC Conference of Ministers. The forum will be able to discuss and articulate actions going forward to effectively deploy the framework to guide the mainstreaming of The 2030 Agenda and agenda 2063 into national strategic framework.
- (iv) *Integrated implementation*: It is important that countries' development plans are adapted for the implementation of the two agendas. This session will hear a presentation of key issues and the required actions and means of implementation to achieve effective integrated implementation of the two agendas.
- (v) *Integrated follow-up and review*: Follow-up and review is an important requirement for both Agendas so as to assess progress, share lessons learned and identify measures and policy actions to accelerate implementation. The applicable forums and timeframes for follow-up and review are defined for both agendas. This session will therefore discuss how and actions required to achieve integrated follow-up and review to ensure reduced burden and mutual learning, and to accelerate the implementation of the two agendas.
- (vi) *Reports of the pre-meetings*: This session will seek clarifications and briefly discuss short presentations on the outcomes of the meeting of experts of African countries for review during the 2014 HLPF; and meeting of major groups. Valuable lessons and perspectives from these meetings would inform the key messages to be agreed upon by the forum.
- (vii) *Consideration of the draft ARFSD key messages to HLPF*. This session will refine/finalize and agree the key messages coming from the parallel breakout groups

C. Expected outcomes

29. The 2016 Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development is expected to lead to:

- (a) Enhanced understanding and appreciation of the imperative to adopt inclusive and integrated approaches to the implementation and follow-up of The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063; and
- (b) Clear articulation of Africa's priorities and key messages on the theme of the Forum as Africa's collective input to the 2016 HLPF.

D. Expected outputs

30. The following outputs are expected to be delivered at the end of the meeting:

- (a) Agreed Africa's collective input to HLPF-2016 and guidance to member States, in the form of key messages on ensuring inclusive and integrated implementation and follow-up of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063.

- (b) Summary report of the deliberations of the meeting containing, inter-alia, salient issues, priorities and recommendations on the theme 2016 ARFSD.

E. Documentation

31. The documents for the meeting include:

Pre-session documentation

- (a) This concept note
- (b) A report on the transition from MDGs to SDGs
- (c) A report covering the themes of the meeting
- (d) Reports and outcome documents of relevant past meetings and events including the 2016 joint ECA and AUC Conference of Ministers and the 2015 ARFSD.

In-session documentation

- (a) Draft key messages of the 2016 Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development to the 2016 HLPF.
- (b) Draft Summary report of the deliberations of the meeting containing, inter-alia, salient issues, priorities and recommendations on the theme 2016 ARFSD

Post-session documentation

- (a) Agreed key messages of the 2016 Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development to the 2016 HLPF.
- (b) Final Summary report of the deliberations of the meeting containing, inter-alia, salient issues, priorities and recommendations on the theme 2016 ARFSD

F. Participants

32. The following are expected to attend:

- (i) All 54 member States of ECA (high level experts from ministries/agencies in charge of planning/finance, environment and social affairs, mining and mineral resources, and science and technology)
- (ii) Representatives of major groups and other stakeholders (MGoS) including civil society, business and industry organizations, academia, and research institutions;
- (iii) The African Union Commission
- (iv) The African Development Bank
- (v) The NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency
- (vi) Regional Economic Communities
- (vii) United Nations and other international agencies and organizations
- (viii) Development Partners

G. Working Languages

33. The meeting will be conducted in English, French and Arabic with simultaneous interpretation in the three languages.

H. Dates and Venue

34. The 2016 ARFSD will be held in Cairo, from the 17 to 19 May 2016.

I. Contacts:

35. Enquiries the organization of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development should be directed to:

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References

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- ECA and AUC 2016b. Briefing note on Global and continental frameworks: implications for Africa. Ninth Joint Annual Meetings of the African Union Specialized Technical Committee on Finance, Monetary Affairs, Economic Planning and Integration and the Economic Commission for Africa Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development. Meeting of the Committee of Experts, Addis Ababa, 31 March - 2 April 2016.
- ECA and AUC 2016c. Report of the Joint Committee of Experts of the Ninth Joint Annual Meetings of the African Union Specialized Technical Committee on Finance, Monetary Affairs, Economic Planning and Integration and the Economic Commission for Africa Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development Addis Ababa, 4 and 5 April 2016
- ECA and AUC 2016d. Ministerial statement of the Ninth Joint Annual Meetings of the African Union Specialized Technical Committee on Finance, Monetary Affairs, Economic Planning and Integration and the Economic Commission for Africa Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development Addis Ababa, 4 and 5 April 2016
- ECA. 2015. Strengthening integration and implementation: role of sustainable development bodies after 2015. E/ECA/ARFSD/1
- UN 2015a. Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (Addis Ababa Action Agenda). The final text of the outcome document adopted at the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 13–16 July 2015) and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015.
- UN 2015b. Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. A/RES/70/1 Available at: sustainabledevelopment.un.org.

Annex 1

Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Goal 1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere
Goal 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture
Goal 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages
Goal 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
Goal 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
Goal 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
Goal 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
Goal 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation
Goal 10. Reduce inequality within and among countries
Goal 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns
Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts ⁹
Goal 14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development
Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss
Goal 16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels
Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development.

⁹ Acknowledging that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change is the primary international, intergovernmental forum for negotiating the global response to climate change.