



## **Progress Report on the First 10-Year Implementation Plan for Agenda 2063 and the Integrated Measurement Framework for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**

### **I. Background**

1. Agenda 2063 is a strategic framework for the socioeconomic transformation of the continent over the next 50 years that builds on and seeks to accelerate the implementation of past and existing continental initiatives for growth and sustainable development. It is both a Vision and an Action Plan, and it is a call for action to all segments of African society to work together to build a prosperous and united Africa based on shared values and a common destiny. Agenda 2063 was adopted at the twenty-fourth Ordinary Session of the Assembly of African Union Heads of State and Government, held in Addis Ababa 30-31 January 2015. Agenda 2063 has a 50-year time horizon with five 10-year plan frameworks. The twenty-fifth Ordinary Session of the Assembly, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, adopted the First 10-Year Implementation Plan of Agenda 2063 (2014-2023) and its financing mechanism. The Plan has 7 aspirations, 20 goals, 34 priority areas, and 256 targets.

2. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development builds on the outcome of the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development, the 2010 Summit on the Millennium Development Goals, the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in 2012 (Rio+20), and the views of people around the world. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development consists of a Declaration, 17 Sustainable Development Goals and 169 targets, a section on means of implementation and renewed global partnership, and a framework for review and follow-up. It was adopted by world leaders in September 2015.

3. Agenda 2063 and the global 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development offer a unique opportunity for Africa to achieve inclusive, transformative and sustainable development, aspirations that are urgent for putting the continent on a sustainable development path. The imperative of adopting an integrated and coherent strategy for the effective and coordinated implementation of the two is therefore compelling. Africa proactively contributed to the global agenda by formulating a Common African Position on the post-2015 development agenda, which was preceded by broad consultations across the continent. The Common African Position has greatly influenced the work of the Open Working Group on the Sustainable Development Goals and the Intergovernmental Negotiations

on the post-2015 development agenda. As a result, there is a high degree of convergence between the continent's priorities, as embodied in the African Union's Agenda 2063 and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. Coherent monitoring and evaluation of both frameworks require an integrated set of goals, targets and indicators, and a harmonized review and reporting platform.

## **II. Progress made**

### **A. Align the First 10-Year Implementation Plan of Agenda 2063 with the Strategy for the Harmonization of Statistics in Africa and the Sustainable Development Goals**

4. With the advent of the African Union's Agenda 2063 and the global 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, there is a great need for reliable and harmonized statistics and information in all areas at all levels of the development process, to inform decisions, enable all stakeholders to track progress, and make the necessary adjustments to ensure transparency and mutual accountability. Over the past decades, data have not been readily available to monitor development programmes at the national, regional and continental levels and, if they exist, they have been subject to problems of inconsistency with international standards. Over the past few years, there have been commendable steps taken by African countries to solve the problem. However, a number of challenges persist relating to the production of data in Africa. The low profile of statistics on the continent is due to a number of obstacles, including inadequate resources allocated to statistical activities, the lack of institutional capacity, inadequate coordination of statistical activities, and minimal consideration of African specificities in setting up international standards.

5. In order to respond to the data needs of the continental and global agenda, the African Union Commission, in collaboration with member States, the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the African Development Bank and the Africa Symposium on Statistical Development secretariat, have held a series of meetings to align the 10-Year Implementation Plan of Agenda 2063 with the Sustainable Development Goals, and also reviewed the adequacy of the Strategy for the Harmonization of Statistics in Africa (SHaSA) to provide data on indicators for monitoring the implementation of the two agendas. The alignment involved comparing the goals of Agenda 2063 with the Sustainable Development Goals; identifying common targets in both agendas; identifying data sources for every goal, target and indicator; aligning SHaSA statistical dimensions to Agenda 2063 and the Sustainable Development Goals; identifying new and emerging statistical dimensions; and linking data sources to SHaSA statistical dimensions. A mapping exercise at the indicator level was also done using Agenda 2063 as a basis and vice versa.

### **B. Development of the measurement framework**

6. The Ninth Joint Annual Meetings of the African Union Specialized Technical Committee on Finance, Monetary Affairs, Economic Planning and Integration and the ECA Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, held 31 March– 5 April 2016 in Addis Ababa, agreed on a single monitoring and evaluation instrument that accommodates both agendas, and a common reporting architecture that will produce a single periodic performance report.

7. In response to the above, the African Union Commission, in collaboration with the New Partnership for Africa's Development Planning and Coordinating Agency, regional economic communities and African statisticians, supported by ECA, the African Development Bank, the United Nations Development

Programme and the United Nations Population Fund, have developed a monitoring and evaluation instrument and a core set of indicators to track progress on both the African and global agendas, taking into account the levels of individual countries' development, in order to facilitate benchmarking, progress monitoring and comparability. The process of developing a core group of indicators involved a series of consultations with all stakeholders, including multidisciplinary experts and statisticians.

### III. Challenges

8. In the integration process, three categories of indicators have been identified: those that overlap or are common to both agendas; those that are exclusive to Agenda 2063 and do not appear in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; and those that are exclusive to the 2030 Agenda and do not appear in Agenda 2063. The challenge is how to address the set of non-converging indicators. One possible option for the design of an integrated framework would be to consolidate core indicators from each of the three categories of indicators described above. However, agreeing on a common results framework will require not only technical expertise but political buy-in at both the continental and national levels.

9. The different timelines of Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development raise operational challenges in integrating the two agendas into planning frameworks. However, the more significant challenge is at the national level, where there is a substantial variation in consistency between national planning cycles and regional and global cycles.

10. Lack of data is a major constraint to establishing baseline and tracking progress, and there is an urgent need to strengthen the capacity of national statistics offices for data collection, production and analysis.

#### Next Steps

11. The next steps are to:

- (a) Develop metadata for Agenda 2063 indicators;
- (b) Provide technical support to countries in aligning the integrated agenda into their national development plans;
- (c) Facilitate forums for member States to share experiences in the initial implementation;
- (d) Build capacity of member States, especially in emerging areas such as climate and environment; and
- (e) Commence the monitoring and evaluation phase of the integrated framework with the existing data.