



UNITED NATIONS  
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL  
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

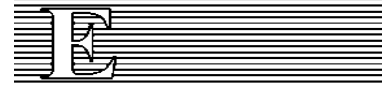
*Forty-fifth session of the Economic Commission for Africa*



AFRICAN UNION  
COMMISSION

*Seventh session of CAMEF*

**5<sup>th</sup> Joint Annual Meetings  
of the AU Conference of Ministers of Economy and  
Finance and ECA Conference of African Ministers of  
Finance, Planning and Economic Development**



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## **DRAFT ANNOTATED AGENDA**

***Theme: Unleashing Africa's potential as a pole of global growth***

### **1. Opening of the Conference**

The Conference will open with welcoming remarks by Mr. Abdoulie Janneh, *United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa*, and statements by H.E. Mr. Donald Kaberuka, *President of the African Development Bank* and H.E. Mr. Jean Ping, *Chairperson of the African Union Commission*.

Keynote addresses on the theme will be made by H.E. Mr. Alassane Dramane Ouattara, *President of Côte d'Ivoire* and H.E. Mr. Meles Zenawi, *Prime Minister of Ethiopia*.

The opening session will be chaired by H.E. Mr. Kerfalla Yansané, *Minister of Economy and Finance of Guinea and Chairperson of the outgoing Bureau of the Conference*.

### **2. Election of the Bureau**

The composition of the new Bureau of the Conference will be announced following consultations by the heads of delegation. The Bureau will comprise five members: one Chairperson, three Vice-Chairpersons and one Rapporteur elected on the basis of equitable geographical representation. After making brief remarks, the incoming Chairperson will preside over the rest of the proceedings. The membership of the current Bureau is attached as an annex to this draft annotated agenda.

### **3. Adoption of the agenda and programme of work**

The Conference will be invited to consider and adopt the provisional agenda and programme of work, subject to such amendments as are deemed necessary.

### **4. Ministerial policy debate on the theme of the Conference: *Unleashing Africa's potential as a pole of global growth***

Recent events and developments in the world economy are shifting the centres of global growth and spreading them across developed and developing economies, including Africa. The broader aftershocks of the financial crisis, a debt-burdened United States economy and the euro zone crisis have proved that no region or economy can be immune to crisis. These dynamics have also highlighted the need for new growth poles and markets to increase global aggregate demand, restart growth and address global imbalances. Such developments, coupled with Africa's good growth performance and social and political progress, have led to a shift in attention from the continent's problems to its vast potential and abundant opportunities to emerge as a pole of global growth. The challenge for African countries is to seize the opportunity to sustain the growth momentum and address key development challenges in such areas as governance, regional integration, infrastructure, agriculture, trade and economic diversification.

The objective of this plenary session is to provide an opportunity for Ministers and other senior policymakers to have an in-depth discussion and share relevant country experiences on the theme of the Conference in order to articulate concrete strategies and policy measures for unleashing the continent's full potential as a pole of global growth. The discussions will be informed by the issues paper on the theme of the Conference as well as the recommendations of the Committee of Experts on the theme.

### **5. Special presentation on *Innovations for growth and development in Africa***

Under this item, a special presentation will be made by H.E. Ambassador Walter Fust, Chairperson, African Innovation Foundation, on *Innovations for growth and development in Africa*.

### **6. High-level parallel panel sessions**

In the context of the theme of the Conference, there will be three parallel panel sessions in which Ministers, Central Bank Governors, senior officials and experts from the United Nations and other organizations, including representatives of civil society and the private sector, will discuss and share their views on the following topical issues related to the theme of the conference:

- Perspective study on Africa 2050;
- Euro zone crisis: impact and lessons for Africa; and
- Post-MDGs African development agenda.

**7. Consideration of the report and major recommendations of the meeting of the Committee of Experts of the Joint Annual Meetings of the AU Conference of Ministers of Economy and Finance and ECA Conference of Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development**

A meeting of the Committee of Experts will be held from 22 to 24 March 2012 to prepare for the Joint Meetings of the Conference of Ministers. Under this item, the report of the Committee's meeting, containing its major conclusions and recommendations, will be presented to the Conference for its consideration and adoption. The report will be presented by the Chairperson of the Committee of Experts.

**8. Consideration and adoption of the draft Ministerial Statement and draft resolutions**

Under this item, the Conference will consider and adopt a draft ministerial policy statement which articulates the views of the Ministers on the theme of the Conference and other policy and operational issues.

**9. Any other business**

The Conference may wish to consider any other matter that may be brought to its attention.

**10. Closing of the Conference**

The Executive Secretary of ECA and the Chairperson of the African Union Commission will make brief closing remarks. The Chairperson of the Conference will highlight the main outcomes of the Conference and close the meeting.