

# 8<sup>th</sup> Joint Annual Meetings of the Conference of Ministers (AU-ECA) Side Event on the Regional Integration Index

Organized by ECA's African Trade Policy Centre (ATPC) and African Centre for Statistics (ACS), African Union Commission (AUC) and African Development Bank (AfDB)

## **Background**

Africa is making progress on its regional integration agenda, however much remains to be done. One way to help accelerate progress is to introduce a regular, systematic and quantitative monitoring mechanism for the integration process which does not currently exist at the continental level.

In response to this, the Sixth Joint Annual Meetings of the AU-ECA Conference of Ministers and the Sixth Conference of African Ministers in Charge of Integration called for quantitative indicators to monitor regional integration in Africa. At the subsequent meetings of the same organs, SAfDB, AUC and ECA proposed a methodology for an Africa Regional Integration Index, which both Conferences endorsed. This side event is being organized to present emerging findings from the index.

### **Objective**

Specifically, the objectives of the side event are:

- Overview of regional integration index and emerging results
- Discussions and recommendations on the way forward.

#### Target audience

- Delegates participating in the Conference of Ministers
- Representatives from African Regional Economic Communities
- Representatives from African Corridor Management Institutions
- Representatives from selected National Statistical Offices

#### Venue and date:

Addis Ababa, United Nations Conference Centre (UNCC), Conference Room 4 Saturday 28 March 2015, from 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm.

#### For further information please contact:

William Davis, Associate Economic Affairs Officer (<u>wdavis@uneca.org</u>) – Tel.: +251-11- 544 32 53 Issoufou Seidou Sanda, Statistician (<u>iseidou@uneca.org</u>) – Tel.: +251-11- 544 54 28