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Committee of Experts**
Thirty-sixth meeting

**African Union
Committee of Experts**
Third meeting

**Tenth 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**

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Item 7 of the provisional agenda*
Statutory issues of the Economic Commission for Africa

Report on the follow-up by the Economic Commission for Africa to the resolutions of the ninth Joint Annual Meetings and other ministerial recommendations of relevance to the Commission

Introduction

1. The present report highlights progress in the implementation by the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) of the resolutions adopted by the Economic Commission for Africa Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development and the African Union Specialized Technical Committee on Finance, Monetary Affairs, Economic Planning and Integration at their ninth joint annual meetings, held in Addis Ababa from 31 March to 5 April 2016.

2. The resolutions adopted at the ninth joint annual meetings included one joint resolution of the African Union Commission and ECA, six resolutions of ECA and ten resolutions of the African Union. The present report provides a synoptic overview of the implementation of the joint resolution of the African Union and ECA, and the six ECA resolutions. It highlights a number of important achievements in support of the development of member States, and sets out recommendations on how such actions can be enhanced.

*E/ECA/COE/36/1-AU/STC/FMEPI/EXP/1(III)

3. The report is submitted to 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 at the tenth Joint Annual Meetings, for information and guidance.

I. Joint resolution of the African Union Commission and the Economic Commission for Africa

Resolution 937 (XLIX): Mainstreaming the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063 into national strategic frameworks, actions plans and programmes

1. Paragraph 2

(a) Text

2. *Requests* the Economic Commission for Africa, the African Union Commission and the African Development Bank to work together to establish composite indicators to facilitate the strategic monitoring of Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

(b) Progress

4. ECA, in partnership with the two pan-African institutions, has contributed to the development and refinement of indicators relating to the Sustainable Development Goals and the monitoring and evaluation framework. This request has already set in motion a series of programmatic and operational responses at ECA, including new partnership arrangements and missions. The Commission is working closely with the African Union Commission to develop a set of integrated indicators to enable regional follow-up and review for implementation of globally agreed goals.

5. The ECA subprogramme on innovations, technologies and management of Africa's natural resources is currently working with the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) on a study that focuses on those indicators from the Sustainable Development Goals relating to research and development and those relating to innovation. The outcome of the study will demonstrate how those indicators align with specific African realities. Included are indicators for assessing innovation potential, efficiency and comprehensiveness, and the informal economy and forms part of the initiative on African science, technology and innovation indicators, in which 35 African countries are participating.

6. The ECA subprogramme on statistics identified the most relevant indicators to be used for the core list of national indicators for Agenda 2063. The two lists of indicators will be used to finalize the regional set of indicators for monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the two agendas.

7. The ECA subprogramme on gender and women in development worked with the African Development Bank on a harmonized index that takes into account the gender indicators of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063. That harmonized index will replace the African gender and development index of ECA and the Africa gender equality index of the African Development Bank, was presented to the Statistical Commission for Africa at its fifth meeting, in Abidjan, from 28 November to 2 December 2016. The concept of such an index was well received and the two institutions were requested to finalize it as a matter of urgency. As a way forward, five countries were identified to participate in the index pilot project. A regional workshop was organized by

ECA, the African Development Bank, the African Union Commission and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, held in Dakar in February and March 2017. Member countries validated the methodology of the index.

8. The ECA subprogramme on regional integration and trade identified the core set of Sustainable Development Goals and those indicators that could monitor the progress of the implementation of both agendas as they relate to the themes underpinning the work of the subprogramme, which include trade, investment, industrialization, energy, infrastructure, transport, poverty, land, food security and agriculture.

9. Some of the work that contributes to the indicators mentioned forms the basis of a monitoring and evaluation framework developed by ECA, the African Union Commission and the Land Policy Initiative of the African Development Bank, which is based on indicators for tracking commitments across Africa on land governance. The indicators are being piloted in 10 countries, including those that are set to track the achievements of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063.¹

10. ECA, the African Union Commission, and the Land Policy Initiative of the African Development Bank developed a support mechanism focusing on agriculture, in particular, the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme of the African Union, by integrating land tenure concerns.²

11. A report in preparation on the role of trade in ending poverty at the African Trade Policy Centre will identify the expected distributional consequences of the Continental Free Trade Area and provide a set of recommendations on how the negotiations and implementation of the agreement can be designed to enhance its pro-poor impact.³

12. The African Trade Policy Centre has continued to support negotiations with the Continental Free Trade Area, including through drafting analytical reports to support member States in the negotiations.⁴

13. ECA, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung have conducted an assessment of the projected impact of the Continental Free Trade Area in three key policy areas: food security, decent livelihoods, and employment.⁵

2. Paragraph 3

(a) Text

3. *Requests* the African Union Commission, supported by the Economic Commission for Africa, the African Development Bank, regional economic communities and the Planning and Coordinating Agency of the New Partnership for Africa's Development to foster the incorporation of both agendas into national strategic frameworks;

(b) Progress

14. In order to support countries in their efforts to integrate the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 in their national planning frameworks, and to contribute to a more coherent implementation of the two agendas in Africa, ECA developed a toolkit, which will be piloted in a number of countries.

15. In 2016, as part of their contribution to the work of the Sustainable Development Goals Task Force, ECA and the Government of Ethiopia worked

¹ Sustainable Development Goals 1, 2 and 3.

² Sustainable Development Goals 1, 2 and 5.

³ Sustainable Development Goals 1, 2, 5, 8 and 17.

⁴ Sustainable Development Goals 1, 2, 5, 8 and 17.

⁵ Sustainable Development Goals 1, 2, 5, 8 and 17.

closely to integrate the Goals into relevant national development plans and strategies by focusing on operationalizing the Rollout Plan. The Commission contributed to national-level workshops that explored the roles of various stakeholders in domestication, implementation, review, monitoring and evaluation of the Sustainable Development Goals. The workshops also focused on approaches to reporting on the Goals.

16. In 2017, ECA will continue its active participation in the Task Force primarily by leading two workshops designed to support the mainstreaming of the Sustainable Development Goals into the proposed long-term plans of member States. The workshops will address, specifically, two aspects: the methodologies, tools and guidelines that are involved in the mainstreaming process; and the challenges and opportunities of the data revolution for monitoring the Goals and the second growth and transformation plan (GTP II) for Ethiopia.

17. ECA has also been supporting several other member States in integrating the Goals into their national development plans, including Benin, Burkina Faso, Liberia and Nigeria. The new United Nations Development Account Project will enable the Commission to expand its reach and presence at the country level through providing further assistance to the following member States: Benin, Cameroon, Egypt, Rwanda and Zambia. In addition, the Commission has offered assistance to Chad, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guinea, Lesotho and Malawi, for reviewing and evaluating the alignment and readiness of their statistical systems with the requirements of the Goals and Agenda 2063. ECA plans to define a country programme for Madagascar that includes a plan for integrating the Goals into work programmes.

18. Through the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning, ECA revamped its course on Fundamentals of Development Planning to address the integration of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 into national plans. Broadly, all course directors are informed of the need to ensure that the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 are inculcated in the training materials, including key aspects such as incorporation into national strategic frameworks.

19. The African Institute for Economic Development and Planning participated in a high-level panel at a workshop organized by the United Nations Development Programme and the Government of Kazakhstan on the integration of the Sustainable Development Goals and Agenda 2063 into national development plans and strategies in Central and West Africa.

3. Paragraph 4

(a) Text

4. *Requests* the Economic Commission for Africa, the African Union Commission and the African Development Bank to develop an integrated monitoring and evaluation framework that will inform a single annual progress report on the implementation of both agendas;

(b) Progress

20. ECA supports member States in developing regional indicators to facilitate coherent regional reporting on the two agendas. Together with the African Development Bank, the African Union Commission and the United Nations Development Programme, ECA coordinates the preparation of the annual progress report on the Sustainable Development Goals. The report assesses progress by member States on the Goals and on Agenda 2063, identifies gaps and documents lessons learned. The 2016 report provides an integrated approach to tracking the performance of African countries on the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063. Such an integrated approach is possible owing to the initiative taken by ECA to map the two agendas and to collaborate with

the African Union Commission in developing a draft regional results framework that forges a close connection between the two agendas.

4. Paragraph 5

(a) Text

5. *Requests* the Economic Commission for Africa and the African Union Commission to call upon the Secretary-General of the United Nations to establish expeditiously the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data under United Nations intergovernmental processes, consistent with principle-based partnerships and as provided for in the Secretary-General's Synthesis Report, entitled "The Road to Dignity by 2030";⁶

(b) Progress

21. At its fifth session, the Statistical Commission for Africa unanimously endorsed the recommendation to establish an African programme on urbanization data and statistics at ECA, to strengthen the capacity of countries to harmonize urbanization concepts, indicators and methodologies and produce and analyse urbanization data and statistics for improved national planning and policymaking in Africa.

22. The United Nations Statistical Commission has already set up the High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-building for Statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, composed of Member States and including regional and international agencies as observers. The High-level Group aims to establish a global partnership for sharing data on sustainable development.

23. In line with resolution 931 (XLVIII)⁷ adopted in 2015, and with resolution 937 (XLIX) adopted in 2016, ECA organized a session on making official statistics open by default during the first World Data Forum in Cape Town, South Africa, held 15–18 January 2017. The initiative to build consensus among national statistics offices, other agencies that generate data, and parties involved in initiatives on national open data, has two objectives: to make official statistics an essential component of the open data initiatives; and to facilitate working together in order to develop open data services for official statistics. The session helped strengthen the resolve to work towards a new data national data ecosystem in which official statistics is open by default. ECA also identified key partners to collaborate with in assisting its member States on this initiative.

24. As part of the Joint Programme on Labour Migration in Africa, work has started on the compilation and production of labour migration statistics for the African continent. The Labour Migration Statistics Working Group, consisting of members from ECA, the International Labour Organization (ILO), AUC and the African Development Bank will regularly produce biennial reports on labour migration statistics in Africa. The first report was produced in 2016 and widely disseminated among key stakeholders.

⁶ Available from

http://www.un.org/disabilities/documents/reports/SG_Synthesis_Report_Road_to_Dignity_by_2030.pdf

⁷ Resolution 931 (XLVIII) on data revolution and statistical development, which was adopted at the eighth Joint Annual Meetings in 2015.

II. Resolutions of the Economic Commission for Africa

A. Resolution 938 (XLIX): Integrated reporting and follow-up on sustainable development

1. Paragraph 1

(a) Text

1. *Requests* the Economic Commission for Africa, the African Union Commission and the African Development Bank to use the integrated results framework as the basis for producing an annual report on progress in the implementation of Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which will be supported with information on the status of the data system on the continent;

(b) Progress

25. An online statistical base has been enhanced. The ECA statistical data portal, available at <http://ecastats.uneca.org/data/>, includes a data portal for the Sustainable Development Goals. It is envisaged that, once agreement has been reached on a single reporting framework for the two agendas, a portal will be developed to support annual reports on progress in the implementation of Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda.

2. Paragraph 2

(a) Text

2. *Calls upon* the Economic Commission for Africa, in collaboration with the African Development Bank and other partners, to take all necessary steps, in the context of the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, to designate the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development as the platform for the review of progress on and follow-up to Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

(b) Progress

26. The Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development is currently serving as the mechanism for reporting on progress regarding the Sustainable Development Goals and Agenda 2063. In 2016, a report on the Sustainable Development Goals and Agenda 2063 was presented for feedback during the Forum's second session in Cairo in May 2016, in preparation for the 2016 session of the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development. The Forum also provided a platform for member States to discuss the implementation of and follow-up to the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063.

B. Resolution 939 (XLIX): Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development

1. Paragraph 1

(a) Text

1. *Requests* the Economic Commission for Africa, in collaboration with the African Union Commission 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;

(b) Progress

27. ECA, together with the Government of Egypt, the African Union Commission, and the African Development Bank and in collaboration with the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Population Fund, convened the second session of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development in Cairo in May 2016, in preparation for the 2016 session of the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development. The Forum provided a platform for member States to engage in dialogue on the implementation of and follow-up to both the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063.

28. The Forum strengthened member States' understanding and capacity in relation to the policy approaches required to ensure effective inclusive and integrated implementation and follow-up of the two agendas. Member States, regional economic communities and major groups reached consensus and adopted key messages comprising policy actions and measures needed to advance inclusive and integrated implementation of and follow-up to the two mutually reinforcing transformative agendas. The key messages adopted by the Forum formed the collective input for Africa to the 2016 session of the Forum, where ECA participated and provided substantive support to member States to advocate and garner international support for the integrated implementation of the two agendas.

2. Paragraph 2

(a) Text

2. *Urges* the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development, supported by the Economic Commission for Africa, the African Union Commission and the relevant United Nations funds and programmes, to foster the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development;

(b) Progress

29. At its 2016 session, the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development, supported by ECA, the African Union Commission and the relevant United Nations funds and programmes, held a multi-stakeholder dialogue that enhanced the understanding and appreciation of the importance of the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development, and reached agreement on key recommendations for national, regional and global engagement to ensure inclusive and integrated implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063. The 2016 Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development, on the theme of "Ensuring inclusive and integrated implementation and follow-up of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063", was attended by more than 200 participants and led to valuable lessons and recommendations. The Forum was held in preparation for the 2016 session of the high-level political forum that took place in New York with the objective of deliberating and agreeing on collective input across Africa in the form of key messages.

3. Paragraph 3

(a) Text

3. *Decides* 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;

(b) Progress

30. The 2016 Africa Regional Forum adopted recommendations designed to strengthen its form and work. The aim was to avoid creating new structures and duplicating work, and to promote learning across the United Nations, at the regional and subregional level. The recommendations and key messages, which guided the scheduling and format of the Forum, included the following:

(a) It is crucial that the outcomes of the Forum take into account and are informed by review processes on the implementation of the two agendas. Such review processes are carried out by various stakeholders, including regional and subregional organizations, mechanisms and forums, United Nations entities, the major groups and other partners. Other reviews of the implementation of the two agendas need to be synchronized with the work of the Forum to ensure that the reviews contribute to an assessment that is representative of Africa and reflects the regional implementation of both agendas. The work of the Forum should enable effective consideration of submissions and other inputs from such review processes;

(b) Learning and sharing best practices among countries, within the United Nations system, and with other regional and subregional forums, major groups and organizations, is important in accelerating the implementation of Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda. The Forum should include, therefore, mechanisms for learning and exchanging experiences. It is important that countries volunteering for review during the sessions of the High-level Political Forum are given assistance to participate in the Africa Regional Forum, so that they can share their experiences and lessons learned. Case studies should be conducted to support learning and exchange. African countries should be supported and encouraged to participate and contribute in the various learning and sharing forums.

4. Paragraph 4

(a) Text

4. Also decides that reviews of the implementation of all regional outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits should be sequenced and synchronized with the work of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development, to ensure that such reviews contribute to the assessment of the regional implementation of Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

(b) Progress

31. In addition, and in line with the need for and to foster a joint review of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063, the focus of the 2016 Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development was on ensuring inclusive and integrated implementation of and follow-up to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063.

C. Resolution 940 (XLIX): International migration in Africa

1. Paragraph 1

(a) Text

1. Requests the African Union Commission and the Economic Commission for Africa to enhance the production of migration-related data;

(b) Progress

32. ECA and the African Union Commission are in the process of setting up a high-level panel on international migration in Africa and a secretariat is being

set up within the Social Development and Policy Division of ECA to support the work of the panel. ECA is currently developing a comprehensive programme on migration with a strong African narrative. Studies, as recommended, will be undertaken as part of that programme.

33. Through the Joint Labour Migration Programme, the first labour migration statistics report has been prepared and produced by ECA, the African Union Commission and ILO. The report will be produced every two years.

34. A regional workshop on strengthening the collection and use of migration data for development was organized in September 2016 by the United Nations Department for Economic and Social Affairs. ECA will collaborate with the Department in conducting similar workshops in other countries on the continent.

2. Paragraph 2

(a) Text

2. Also requests the African Union Commission and the Economic Commission for Africa to undertake studies using the latest available data to determine the nature and patterns of international migration streams in Africa, assess the impact of irregular migration, in particular in transit countries, and the impact on border communities, assess skilled migration both for countries of origin and of destination and the long-term implications of remittance flows for development;

(b) Progress

35. Research papers on the following topics have been prepared to strengthen the information and analytical base:

(a) Fostering regional mobility: the paper highlights that intra-African migration dominates migration flows on the African continent and only a small proportion of Africans migrate to Europe. Thus, there is need for African member States to work together to develop a common African narrative that highlights the positive benefits of migration for comprehensive economic growth and human development in Africa and eliminates misleading stereotypes and perceptions of migration and migrants;

(b) Demographic dividend and migration: the paper highlights that Africa also has the fastest growing working-age population. Thus, Africa's population dynamics can be turned into a valuable demographic dividend for the region's transformation;

(c) Skills, employment and migration: the paper shows that many African countries are struggling to create enough jobs for the increasing numbers of young people entering the job market each year. Thus, the problem of youth unemployment needs to be addressed within an interdisciplinary, multi-sectoral, and multi-stakeholder framework;

(d) Leveraging the human and financial resources of the diaspora for development: the paper notes that Africa has a large and well-spread diaspora who can contribute and give back to their countries of origin in a number of ways. There has been a shift from seeing the emigration of skilled people as a loss, to seeing skilled migration as an opportunity to attract remittances, trade, investment projects and new knowledge. A number of African countries are reaching out to their diaspora to involve Africans living abroad in development projects, with some even establishing dedicated agencies or ministries;

(e) New directions and trends in African migration: the paper identifies new migration patterns in Africa. Migration into Africa, the feminization of migration and climate-induced migration are some of the issues highlighted in the study.

36. These studies will be used in various forums, such as the African Development Forum, and the fiftieth session of the Economic Commission for Africa, to be held from 23 to 28 March 2017.

37. A study will be undertaken in 2017 and 2018 as part of the comprehensive ECA programme on migration, with the aim of measuring the impact of irregular migration, in particular in transit countries, and the impact on border communities, and assessing the importance of skilled migration both for countries of origin and of destination and the long-term implications of remittance flows for development.

3. Paragraph 3

(a) Text

3. Further requests the African Union Commission and the Economic Commission for Africa to establish a high-level panel on international migration in Africa, to provide overall guidance and support to policy dialogues on an African perspective on international migration in Africa;

(b) Progress

38. ECA and the African Union Commission are in the process of setting up a high-level panel on international migration in Africa to start operation at a date to be determined. A secretariat is being set up within the ECA Social Development and Policy Division to support the work of the high-level panel.

4. Paragraph 4

(a) Text

4. Calls upon the Economic Commission for Africa and the African Union Commission to provide the necessary technical backstopping to the high-level panel and to report on the progress made on the actions identified above to the Conference of Ministers at its next joint meetings;

(b) Progress

39. The high-level panel will be supported by a technical committee and jointly coordinated by ECA and the African Union Commission. The main function of the technical committee will be to provide technical advice and support in matters pertaining to the core functions of the panel. The technical committee will be responsible for turning policy decisions into action, and for coordinating efforts in implementing those plans. ECA is currently developing a comprehensive programme on migration with a strong African narrative. Further studies, as recommended, will be undertaken as part of that programme.

5. Paragraph 5

(a) Text

5. Requests all development partners, in particular the relevant organizations of the United Nations development system and the regional economic communities, to support member States, the African Union Commission and the Economic Commission for Africa in their implementation of the actions identified above.

(b) Progress

40. A proposal to operationalize activities of the High-level Panel on Migration is under preparation. The proposal document will be used for the purposes of resource mobilization.

6. Paragraph 6

(a) Text

6. Further calls upon the African Union Commission and the Economic Commission for Africa to develop a continental strategy to address the issue of irregular migration in collaboration with the international community and in the framework of shared responsibilities;

(b) Progress

41. Development of the continental strategy to address the issues of irregular migration was scheduled to start in 2017.

D. Resolution 941 (XLIX): Organization of an annual African regional review of progress in the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on Information Society

1. Paragraph 3

(a) Text

3. Calls upon the Economic Commission for Africa and other partners to take all necessary steps to organize on an annual basis an African regional review of progress in the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063.

(b) Progress

42. The annual regional review meeting for Africa on the implementation of the World Summit on the Information Society took place on 23 and 24 November 2016, in Addis Ababa. Its focus was on mainstreaming information and communications technology for development policies and strategies in support of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda (available from http://www.uneca.org/sites/default/files/images/ws_is_meeting_report_draft_dec_2016_0.pdf).

43. The following key outcomes targeting two audiences, were identified:

(a) African member States were urged to promote policies and regulations that allow services to expand and reach unbanked populations; to strengthen information and communications technology connectivity at regional level; to put outcomes of implementation of the World Summit on Information Society as a priority for the Government; and to enhance private-public partnerships, with a view to promoting equal access to all services and benefits of the information and knowledge society;

(b) ECA was requested to continue supporting member countries in harnessing the Tunis Commitment adopted at the 2005 World Summit on Information Society to their endeavour to implement the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063; to ensure that high-level dialogue took place and that policy guidance was available by pursuing the facilitation and coordination of the regional review of progress in implementation of the targets set out in the outcome documents of the World Summit on the Information Society; to promote capacity-building programmes for various stakeholder groups, to facilitate access and to raise awareness on emerging issues in information and communications technology; to conduct a series of annual surveys on the targets of the World Summit on Information Society; to inform the annual regional review on the implementation of Summit outcomes in terms of action lines; to set up harmonized and coordinated regional databases on targets of the Summit;

to establish a committee that met every two years, to discuss information and communications technology data measurement.

44. The World Summit on Information Society Forum is scheduled to take place from 12 to 16 June 2017 in Geneva, and outcomes of the Annual Regional Review Meeting for Africa will be contributed during the open consultation process.

E. Resolution 942 (XLIX): African Institute for Economic Development and Planning

1. Paragraph 1

(a) Text

1. Recommends that the Governing Council further considers the revised statute of the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning, based on the approved amendments;

(b) Progress

45. The fifty-fifth session of the Governing Council is scheduled to take place in March 2017. The revised statutes shall be presented for final consideration at this session.

2. Paragraph 2

(a) Text

2. Recommends that the Bureau of the 2016 Conference of Ministers to conduct consultations with member States, to secure nominations for and appoint members of the Governing Council of the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning, as early as is feasible, and preferably before 30 April 2016

(b) Progress

46. The secretariat of the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning has thus far obtained names of nine country representatives as follows: Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Morocco, the Sudan, Uganda, Zambia.. The remaining representative for West Africa is not yet decided although Guinea has expressed formal interest in the nomination. South Africa, as the Chair of the Bureau, was approached through its embassy in Ethiopia, to facilitate the process. In addition, a meeting was held with the Ambassador of Liberia to Senegal in Dakar, followed by a letter requesting Liberia to intervene on the matter as Chair of the Economic Community of West African States. The matter is being followed up.

3. Paragraph 3

(a) Text

3. Calls upon member States to pay their annual assessed contributions to the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning regularly and to take steps towards the settlement of their arrears, where applicable;

(b) Progress

47. Compared to 2015, assessed contributions paid by member States in 2016 have dropped by 67 per cent, from \$1,500,000 to \$504,000. The secretariat requests that participants at the fiftieth session of the Conference of Ministers be reminded of the importance of the payment of annual assessed contributions and settlement of arrears for the sustainability of the Institute's capacity-building services.

4. Paragraph 4

(a) Text

4. Calls upon Economic Commission for Africa partners to support the capacity development activities of the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning;

(b) Progress

48. Over the course of the year, ECA partners, including the Africa Union Commission, NEPAD, the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, and the University of Geneva have worked with and supported the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning directly. Through its close internal collaboration with ECA, the Institute for has also benefited from the indirect support of other ECA partners, including the Joint Funding Agreement (Denmark, Norway, Sweden and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland).

5. Paragraph 5

(a) Text

5. Calls upon the Economic Commission for Africa to strengthen further its support for the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning.

(b) Progress

49. During the period under review, the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning received direct financial support for activities internal to the Institute and for interdivisional collaborative activities amounting to \$600,000. In addition, ECA provided materials to the Institute that enhanced training opportunities for its employees, including the possibility for some staff members to give lectures at training sessions.

F. Resolution 943 (XLIX): Proposed strategic framework and biennial programme plan of the Economic Commission for Africa for the biennium 2018-2019

1. Paragraph 2

(a) Text

2. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa to undertake an independent, comprehensive and thorough review of the intergovernmental structure of the Commission, including the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts, and its link to the programme priorities of the Commission, on the basis of the priorities of Africa, and to report back to the Commission at its fiftieth session;

(b) Progress

50. A review of the intergovernmental structure of the Commission is currently being conducted and aims to provide an independent and impartial assessment which ECA could draw on in reporting to the tenth Joint Annual Meetings. The review focuses on the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency and coordination of the ECA intergovernmental structure and will make recommendations on measures to improve the functioning of that structure.

51. The specific objectives of the review are:

(a) To assess the overall functioning of the Commission's structure, including its efficiency as an oversight mechanism and an effective platform for

member and associate member States to discuss and exchange views on development agendas in Africa;

(b) To determine the effectiveness of the structure in attracting higher, wider and more relevant, representation from its members and associate members;

(c) To formulate focused and action-oriented recommendations to strengthen the overall functioning of the intergovernmental structure.

52. The review covers the intergovernmental structure of the Commission, which comprises the Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development and its Committee of Experts, and its subsidiary organs and bodies: the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts; the Committee of Gender and Social Development; the Committee on Regional Cooperation and Integration; the Committee on Statistics; the Committee on Sustainable Development; and the Governing Council of the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning.

53. A secretariat note based on preliminary findings of the review will be presented to the tenth Joint Annual Meetings.

III. Other ministerial recommendations of relevance to the Economic Commission for Africa: Twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

54. ECA continued to provide support for the formulation and review of the process of intended nationally determined contributions by African countries. In addition, ECA convened two policy dialogues that aimed to inform and build member States' capacities for implementation of the Paris Agreement on climate change. These were the sixth annual Conference on Climate Change and Development in Africa, held from 18 to 20 October 2016, and the coordination of Africa participation at the twenty-second session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, held in Marrakech, Morocco, from 7 to 18 November 2016.