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**UNITED NATIONS  
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL**

**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA**

First Meeting of the Committee on  
Development Information, Science & Technology (CODIST-I)

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia  
28 April – 1 May 2009

**DRAFT ANNOTATED AGENDA**



## **Plenary and Sub-Committee Sessions**

### **1. Opening**

The Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) will deliver the welcoming address followed by remarks from a representative of the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia. The Director of the ICTs, Science and Technology Division (ISTD) of ECA will close the session by presenting the goals and objectives of CODIST-1.

### **2. Election of officials and organization of work**

The outgoing Chairperson of CODI-V (Senegal) will preside over the election of officers for the new Bureau comprising a Chairperson, two Vice-Chairpersons and two Rapporteurs. The meeting will then adopt the agenda and organization of work. The secretariat will take this opportunity to address such pertinent administrative matters as announcements and the like.

### **3. Keynote Address: “Scientific Development, Innovation and the Knowledge Economy”**

Professor Lidia Brito, Lecturer, Eduardo Mondlane University, Mozambique will deliver the keynote speech on the CODIST theme, “*Scientific Development, Innovation and the Knowledge Economy*”, to which panellists representing each Sub-Committee will respond, highlighting the implications for each area.

### **4. The Enabling Environment for Innovation Systems**

This plenary session will address key issues with regard to creating and sustaining an enabling environment for innovation systems and the need for appropriate policies and strategies. Presentations delivered will be followed by a question-and-answer session.

### **5. Innovation and Economic Growth**

This plenary session will address key issues regarding the linkages between innovation and economic growth and the need for appropriate policies and strategies. Presentations delivered will be followed by a question-and-answer session.

## **6. Sub-Committee Sessions**

Each of the three sub-Committees, ICTs, Geoinformation and Science and Technology will reflect on the sub-themes discussed at the plenary sessions and deliberate on reports under the respective focus areas.

## **6.1 Sub-Committee on ICTs**

The meeting of the ICT Sub-Committee will be organized in plenary sessions and workshops. In order to allow for adequate time for discussions, the secretariat has prepared appropriate background papers for the various sessions. The remaining papers will be presented at a special session on country presentations. The ICT Sub-Committee will also organize a special event on "Technology in Government in Africa (TIGA) Awards".

### **6.1.1 Opening**

The outgoing Chairman, the Representative of Morocco, will open the meeting. The Director of ICTs, Science and Technology Division will make opening remarks.

### **6.1.2 Introduction, organization of work and election of officers**

The secretariat will present the work programme of the ICT Sub-committee, including both technical and logistic issues. The meeting will then elect a Chairperson, first and second Vice-Chairpersons and a Rapporteur, who will hold office for the duration of the meeting. The agenda and programme of work will then be adopted.

### **6.1.3 Setting the Scene**

A presentation on "*Enabling Environment for ICT Innovation and Economic Growth*" will set the scene.

### **6.1.4 Reports**

This session will focus on presentations of reports on activities in the sector. The following reports will be presented:

- Report of the African Technical Advisory Committee (ATAC) - by the Chair of ATAC;
- Report on ECA activities in ICT during 2007-2009 and work programme for the biennium 2010-2011, including highlights on the ICT recommendations of CODI-V - by the secretariat;
- Report on the outcomes of the First follow-up Workshop on the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), Tunis+3 - by the secretariat; and
- Report on e-SADC Strategy - by the secretariat.

### **6.1.5 Enabling Environment – Policy and Technical Issues**

ICTs hold great potential for promoting innovation and contributing to the development of the knowledge economy in Africa. This session will deliberate on the enabling environment for ICT innovation, including the required political and legal environment for ICT innovation and building the knowledge economy. It will also review the

outcomes of the Workshop on Legal and Regulatory Framework for the Knowledge Economy. Other issues to be discussed will include Education and skills for Innovation, Infrastructure for innovation systems and Harmonization of legal frameworks –case of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).

#### **6.1.6 Economic Growth**

This session will discuss key issues such as Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) and innovation systems, the roles of SMEs in innovation and the knowledge economy, innovative ICT applications for economic growth – e-Banking, ICT Business Indicators, ICT Economic Impact Indicators and status in Africa, and ICT-enabled women entrepreneurship.

#### **6.1.7 Any other business**

#### **6.1.8 Adoption of report and closing session**

### **6.2 Sub-Committee on Geoinformation**

The meeting of the Sub-committee will be organized in plenary sessions, workshops and a technical exhibition. In order to allow for adequate time for discussions, the secretariat has prepared appropriate background papers for the various sessions. The remaining papers will be presented at a special session on Cartographic issues. The Geoinformation Sub-Committee will also organize two special events, a workshop on the African Geodetic Reference Frame (AFREF) and another on the Role of Sub-national HIV/AIDS Data/Geoinformation and NSDIs.

#### **6.2.1 Opening**

The meeting will be opened by the outgoing Chairman, the representative of Congo.

#### **6.2.2 Introduction, organization of work and election of officers**

The secretariat will present the CODIST-Geo programme including both technical and logistic issues. The meeting will then elect a Chairperson, first and second Vice-Chairpersons and a Rapporteur, who will hold office for the duration of the meeting. The agenda and programme of work will then be adopted.

#### **6.2.3 Reports**

The secretariat and the Regional Centres of Excellence and the Executive working Group will present brief reports on activities undertaken since CODI-V. The following reports will be presented:

- Report on ECA activities in the area of geoinformation since CODI-V;

- Report on activities of the Working Groups – AFREF, Fundamental Datasets, Standards, Capacity Building;
- Summary report on member State activities since CODI-V; countries were required to submit two-page summaries by end of February to enable ECA to compile a consolidated document to be tabled; and
- Reports of specialized Regional Centres and Organizations – Regional Centre for Training in Aerospace Surveys (RECTAS), Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development (RCMRD) and African Organization for Cartography and Remote Sensing (AOCRS).

#### **6.2.4 Technical Issues**

This agenda item will include reports and actions taken by the various organizations on various issues. These will include the following:

- ECA activities on geoinformation in support of Africa's development agenda, priorities and initiatives: regional geospatial databases and online applications: infrastructure, Climate change (ClimDev), Disaster Management (ICT for Disaster Risk Management ), agriculture production, etc;
- Determination of the (desired) content for a Guideline of Best Practice for the collection, maintenance and dissemination of fundamental geospatial datasets (South Africa);
- Infrastructure for innovation systems: GEONETCast, Galileo Satellite Radio Navigation System;
- Space Science Programme within the partnership of AU-EU (AUC, Department of Human Resources, Science and Technology);
- Earth Observation for environmental monitoring and sustainable development (African Monitoring of Environment for Sustainable Development, AMESD project); and
- Other technical issues raised by member States and partners.

#### **6.2.5 Policy Issues**

Under this agenda item, the meeting will review the following policy documents:

- Report and recommendations on NSDI processes in Africa;
- ECA findings on a set of guidelines for implementing Spatially-Enabled Government Services: What is spatial enablement of government? Why spatial enablement? What is the current status of SEG? A recommendation is expected on the next phase to develop a showcase of Spatially-Enabled Cadastres;
- Report on data-sharing policy: Information charter to spell out the type and standards of data and dissemination processes required from GNSS stations;
- UNSDI: Activities and special concerns regarding Africa. A recommendation is expected on strategies for the increased involvement of more United Nations agencies in the preparation of regional geoinformation policies; and
- INSPIRE Directives (JRC).

### **6.2.6 New Trends**

Under this agenda item, the focus will be on the role of Location-Based Mobile Services (Innovation) in the Knowledge Economy. Presentations by countries and organizations will focus on the following issues:

- Data, applications and location-based services delivery;
- Development of online applications and streamlined electronic delivery of products and services;
- Emerging technologies that utilize GNSS; and
- Third-party user presentations on Google Earth; ESRI (ArcPAD), Trimble, Leica, Fugro, etc.

### **6.2.7 Special Topic**

The special topic will be on Cartographic Issues, with presentations from:

- African Organization of Cartography and Remote Sensing (AOCRS);
- Examples of Mapping activities in Senegal : Experience and Lessons learned;
- United Nations Cartographic Section report on the status of cartography system-wide; and
- Presentations from member States and partners.

### **6.2.8 Any other business**

### **6.2.9 Adoption of report and closing session**

## **6.3 Sub-Committee on Science and Technology**

The meeting of the Sub-Committee will be organized in plenary sessions, workshops and a technical exhibition. In order to allow for adequate time for discussions, the secretariat has prepared appropriate background papers for the various sessions. Other papers will be presented at a special session on Science, Technology and Innovation Outlook. The Sub-Committee will also organize a special event to launch the book on "Promoting Science and Technology for Sustainable Development".

### **6.3.1 Opening**

The Director of ICT, Science and Technology Division will make opening remarks.

### **6.3.2 Introduction, organization of work and election of officers**

The secretariat will present the work programme of the Science and Technology Sub-committee, including both technical and logistic issues. The meeting will elect a Chairperson, first and second Vice-Chairpersons and a Rapporteur, who will hold office for the duration of the meeting. The agenda and programme of work will then be adopted.

### **6.3.3 Setting the Scene**

A presentation on "Challenges and Opportunities for Science, Technology and Innovation in the Changing Global Economy" will set the scene.

### **6.3.4 Reports**

The following reports will be presented by the secretariat:

- Report on ECA activities in the area of Science and Technology in 2007-2009 and work programme for the biennium 2010-2011;
- Report on Developing a business model for technology parks and centres of excellence in Africa; and
- Presentation of the African Science Philanthropist Initiative (ASPI).

### **6.3.5 Enabling Environment for Innovation Systems**

This session will analyse the technical and policy requirements of an enabling environment for science, technology and innovation systems (STI). The analysis will be facilitated by presentations on:

- National science, technology and innovation systems in Africa;
- STI Indicators and process of data collection and analysis; and
- National STI Innovation systems case studies: *Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Mauritius, South-Africa and Tunisia.*

### **6.3.6 Science, technology and innovation for economic growth**

This session will explore the harnessing of STI for economic growth. The discussion will be stimulated by presentations on:

- Globalization and regionalization of research and development and the changing roles of government policies in Africa; and
- The role of basic science in economic growth : key indicators

### **6.3.7 Science, technology and innovation outlook**

This session will address any outstanding business, including reports, if any, from other member States.

### **6.3.8 Any other business**

### **6.3.9 Adoption of report and closing session**

## **7. Reports of the Sub-Committees**

The Plenary session will adopt reports of the Sub-Committees.

## **8. Date and venue of next meeting**

## **9. Any other business**

## **10. Adoption of the report and closing session**

The Chairperson will then present observations on the meeting and its achievements and then invite the Director of ISTD to deliver closing remarks. The Chairperson will close the meeting.

### **Special Events**

#### **SE1 (Geo) - Enlisting National Mapping Agencies in the Fight Against HIV/AIDS: Building Partnerships with Ministries of Health and National AIDS Commissions to Work Smarter Not Harder, Monday, 27 April 2009**

The event is sponsored by UNAIDS, ECA, WHO, and a consortium of United States partners including MEASURE Evaluation, USAID and the State Department. The workshop seeks to promote collaborative examples of the effective use of geoinformation science and technologies that lead to more effective HIV/AIDS interventions, multi-sectoral solutions, as well as stronger spatial data infrastructures in support of national strategic plans to arrest HIV/AIDS transmission. The workshop will consist of both plenary-style presentations and roundtable discussions and will also include opportunities for NMA, and NMoH/NAC participants from each attending member State to meet, identify mutually-rewarding collaborative opportunities, and plan next steps.

#### **SE2 (Geo) - AFREF Workshop: Revamping the implementation Plan, Tuesday, 28 April 2009**

There are still gaps on the parameters of the best-fitting datum for the African Terrestrial Reference Frame. Some of the data sources do not actually meet the intended open-access requirements of AFREF and a computation would be welcome, as it will provide lessons for the first official computation, prior to which, an experts' symposium should be organized, as envisaged in ECA's proposed implementation plan, having "Guidelines for the first estimation of transformation parameters to an ITRF reference frame for Africa" as an output.

#### **SE3 (ICT) - The First Follow-up Workshop on WSIS, Tunis+3, Tuesday, 28 April 2009**

The workshop aims at assessing actions undertaken by African countries in following up on the recommendations/action lines of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), three years after WSIS Tunis. The session will commence with a keynote address by the Chairperson of the Africa Information Society Initiative (AISI) African Technical Advisory Committee (ATAC) followed by a series of presentations and discussion sessions on implementation through WSIS Action Lines 1 - 11. These include progress made on the creation, adoption and implementation of national and regional ICT strategies; development of information and communication infrastructure across the

Africa region; access to information and knowledge; capacity-building issues in the region; building confidence and trust in the use of ICTs; efforts of Governments and organizations to create and promote an Information Society enabling environment; ICT applications; cultural diversity and identity, linguistic diversity and local content – including the issue of Internet governance; ICT and the media; ethical dimensions of the Information Society; and international and regional cooperation. Finally, discussions will be held on follow-up mechanisms.

**SE4 (ICT) - Workshop on Legal and Regulatory Framework for the Knowledge Economy, Tuesday, 28 April 2009**

This workshop is aimed at building the capacities of policymakers, legal practitioners as well as representatives from law enforcement agencies in areas such as e-jurisdiction, liability and dispute settlement, electronic signatures and payment, e-taxation, cyber security, IPRs, digital technology, data protection and privacy. Following opening remarks by ECA, UNCTAD, Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (OIF), and the Internet Society (ISOC), the workshop will provide an overview of legal and regulatory frameworks for the knowledge economy in Africa. Round table discussions will be held on current and emerging ICT law and policy issues such as the UNCITRAL texts on electronic commerce and electronic signatures: an opportunity for the adoption of modern legislation in Africa, e-jurisdiction, liability and dispute settlement, e-commerce and taxation, e-payment, cyber security, IPRs and digital technology, and subregional/regional harmonization of legal and regulatory frameworks for the knowledge economy. Finally, discussions will be held on the adoption of a road map to facilitate implementation and improvement of legal and regulatory frameworks at national and regional levels.

**SE5 (S&T) - ECA - IDEO Workshop on Capacity Building on Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Africa, Tuesday, 28 April 2009**

**SE6 (Geo) Book Launch: “Land Management Information Systems in the KE” and “Geoinformation in Socio-Economic Development: Determination of Fundamental Datasets for Africa”, Wednesday, 29 April 2009**

**SE7 (ICT) - Book Launch: "AISI: A Decade's Perspective", Wednesday, 29 April 2009**

This publication serves to assess the 10 years of the existence of the AISI which was adopted by ECA as its work programme and highlights the opportunities and challenges of the implementation of this framework within the context of African development. Apart from assisting member States to formulate national strategies, other aspects of the implementation of the AISI include, Information and Knowledge Development, an Outreach and Communication Programme and Networking and Partnerships.

**SE8 (S&T) - Book Launch: “Promoting Science, Technology and Innovation For Sustainable Development In Africa”, Wednesday, 29 April 2009**

**SE9 (ICT) - 2009 Technology in Government in Africa (TIGA) Awards, *Thursday, 30 April 2009***

With support from the Canada Fund for Africa, the Government of Finland as well as other partners, ECA is organizing the second Technology in Government in Africa Awards (TIGA 2009). The aim of this initiative is to encourage the use of ICTs in the delivery of public services, which remains a major challenge for African governments, affecting millions of Africans, mostly rural citizens. TIGA Awards recognize the work of African government in the effective use of ICTs for public services delivery as part of ECA AISI and ICT4D programmes of the Governments of Canada and Finland.

**SE10 (ICT) - Meeting of the Fifth African Technical Advisory Committee (ATAC V), *Friday, 1 May 2009***

**SE11 (Geo) - Technical Cooperation on Topographic Mapping in Africa using satellite imagery (IDI, GSI, JAXA), *Friday, 1 May 2009***

**SE12 (Geo) - Servir Africa Workshop (K. Lance), *Friday, 1 May 2009***

**SE13 (Geo) - Presentations: Extra submitted papers, *Friday, 1 May 2009***

**SE14 (Geo) - Other Side Workshops by member States and Partners, *Friday, 1 May 2009***

**SE15 (ICT) - Country reports/Poster Session, *Friday, 1 May 2009***

**SE16 (S&T) - STI Outlook, *Friday, 1 May 2009***

**SE17 (S&T) - Reports from Countries, *Friday, 1 May 2009***

## **Exhibitions**

### **EX1 Exhibition**

The CODIST-1 Exhibition will feature international and local companies, organizations and government offices specializing in a variety of services. The exhibition will provide participants and exhibitors with an excellent opportunity to network and exchange ideas regarding scientific development, innovation and the knowledge economy.