Annotated provisional agenda

1. **Opening of the meeting**

   The opening session will be presided over by the Chair of the outgoing Bureau of the Committee of Experts, until a new Bureau is elected. Opening statements will be delivered by the Chair of the outgoing Bureau, the Acting Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and a representative of the Government of Ethiopia.

2. **Election of the Bureau and adoption of the agenda and programme of work**

   **Documentation**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Provisional agenda</th>
<th>(E/ECA/COE/41/1)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Draft programme of work</td>
<td>(E/ECA/COE/41/3)</td>
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</table>

   The composition of the new Bureau will be announced following consultations. The Bureau will comprise five members: one Chair, three Vice-Chairs and one Rapporteur, to be elected on the basis of equitable geographic representation. The composition of the Bureau of the previous sessions is set out in the annex to the present document. The incoming Chair will preside over the rest of the proceedings following brief remarks. As in past sessions, the Committee of Experts may decide to establish an ad hoc working group to assist in the compilation of the draft report and the formulation of draft resolutions. The working group would have 10 members, comprising 2 members from each of the five subregional groups, which are normally drawn from the outgoing and incoming bureaux. The working group would be chaired by the first Vice-Chair of the Bureau. The Committee will also be invited to consider and adopt the draft provisional agenda and programme of work, subject to such amendments as deemed necessary.

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* E/ECA/COE/41/1.
3. **Overview of recent economic and social developments in Africa**

   **Documentation**
   (E/ECA/COE/41/5)

   Under this agenda item, the secretariat will present an overview of economic and social developments in Africa in 2022. The presentation will highlight recent developments in the global economy and their implications for Africa. This will be followed by a general discussion on the main policy issues and recommendations highlighted in the presentation.

4. **Assessment of progress on regional integration in Africa**

   **Documentation**
   (E/ECA/COE/41/6)

   Under this agenda item, the secretariat will present a progress report on the status of regional integration in Africa, including highlights of key challenges and constraints. The presentation will be followed by a general discussion on key issues brought to the attention of the Committee by the secretariat.

5. **Presentation on the theme of the fifty-fifth session of the Economic Commission for Africa**

   **Documentation**
   (E/ECA/COE/41/4-E/ECA/CM/55/4)

   The secretariat will give a brief presentation to introduce the theme of the fifty-fifth session, “Fostering recovery and transformation in Africa to reduce inequalities and vulnerabilities”, drawing on the issues paper, which will focus on renewing commitment to and action for the continent’s pro-poor and inclusive recovery through a new social contract that offers equal opportunity to all. The presentation will also examine the opportunities to reach those goals, including through activities carried out under the Agreement Establishing the African Continental Free Trade Area, green investments, digital transformation and reforms to the global financial architecture. The presentation will be followed by a general discussion.

6. **Statutory issues**

   Under this agenda item, the secretariat will give presentations on various statutory issues relating to its work and its subsidiary organs. The Committee of Experts may wish to consider and provide recommendations to the Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development for further guidance and action, as appropriate. In 2023, the following statutory reports will be brought to the attention of the Committee:

   (a) **Report of the Executive Secretary on the activities of the Economic Commission for Africa (covering the period April 2022–March 2023)**

   **Documentation**
   (E/ECA/COE/41/7)

   The report highlights the main achievements of ECA during the reporting period, from April 2022 to March 2023. It provides a synoptic overview of the major events and activities undertaken in response to the broad mandate of ECA to foster economic and social development in Africa.
The Committee of Experts is invited to review the report and provide guidance and comments on the activities of the secretariat.

(b) **Report on the follow-up to the resolutions of the Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development**

**Documentation**

(E/ECA/COE/41/8)

The document contains summaries of the progress made in the implementation of the following resolutions, which were adopted by the Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development during the fifty-fourth session of the Commission:

- Resolution 982 (LIV). Financing the recovery of Africa and beyond
- Resolution 983 (LIV). Importance of digital transformation for breaking new ground
- Resolution 984 (LIV). Role of Partnerships for African Vaccine Manufacturing in improving African health outcomes
- Resolution 985 (LIV). Updated strategic directions, the medium-term programme framework (2022–2025) and the 2023 programme plan and budget
- Resolution 986 (LIV). Data and statistics
- Resolution 987 (LIV). Support by the Economic Commission for Africa for least developed countries in the context of the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries
- Resolution 988 (LIV). Scaling up investment in transport to optimize the benefits of the African Continental Free Trade Area
- Resolution 989 (LIV). Carbon certification
- Resolution 990 (LIV). Curbing illicit financial flows and recovery of lost assets
- Resolution 991 (LIV). Culture and heritage management programme

The Committee of Experts may wish to review the progress made and provide the secretariat with further guidance for the effective implementation of the above-mentioned resolutions.

(c) **Reports on the work of the subsidiary bodies of the Economic Commission for Africa**

**Documentation**

- Report of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development on its eighth session (E/ECA/COE/41/9)
- Report of the Committee on Statistics and Data on its eighth session (E/ECA/COE/41/12)
- Reports on the sessions of the subregional Intergovernmental Committees of Senior Official and Experts (E/ECA/COE/41/13, E/ECA/COE/41/14, E/ECA/COE/41/15, E/ECA/COE/41/16)
- Report of the Committee on Economic Governance on its first session (E/ECA/COE/41/11)
- Progress report on the work of the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (E/ECA/COE/41/17)

The Committee of Experts may wish to review the reports on the work of the subsidiary bodies of ECA. The Committee may also wish to consider the
matters calling for action or brought to its attention, including resolutions, and to provide the secretariat with guidance on the future work of the subsidiary bodies.

(d) **Proposed programme plan and budget for 2024**

**Documentation**

(E/ECA/COE/41/18)

The report contains:

(i) A summary of the proposed programme plan of ECA for 2024;

(ii) A summary of the proposed programme budget of ECA for 2024.

The two sections of the report will be presented separately, back to back. The Committee of Experts is invited to take note of report, with a view to the endorsement of the proposed programme and budget.

(e) **Report on United Nations support for the African Union and its New Partnership for Africa’s Development programme**

**Documentation**

(E/ECA/COE/41/19)

The Committee of Experts may wish to review the report on United Nations support for the African Union and its New Partnership for Africa’s Development programme and provide the secretariat with guidance on the future work of the programme.

(f) **Report on the midterm review of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024: focus on Africa**

**Documentation**

(E/ECA/COE/41/10)

The Committee of Experts may wish to review the report on the midterm review of the Vienna Programme of Action within the African context. The Committee may also wish to consider the matters calling for action or brought to its attention, including resolutions, as set out in the report, and to provide the secretariat with further guidance.

(g) **Report on the progress in the implementation of the priority areas of the Doha Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries in Africa for the Decade 2022-2031**

**Documentation**

(E/ECA/COE/41/20)

The Committee of Experts may wish to review the report on the progress in the implementation of the priority areas of the Doha Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries in Africa. The Committee may also wish to consider the matters calling for action or brought to its attention, including resolutions, as set out in the report, and to provide the secretariat with further guidance.
7. **Date, venue and theme of the fifty-sixth session of the Economic Commission for Africa**

**Documentation**

(E/ECA/COE/41/21)

The fifty-sixth session of the Commission will be held in Addis Ababa in March 2024, unless the Conference of Ministers decides otherwise. The Committee of Experts may also wish to consider the theme proposed by the secretariat for the fifty-sixth session and to provide comments thereon, with a view to endorsing it for submission to the Conference of Ministers for approval.

8. **Other matters**

The Committee of Experts may raise other matters not covered under the items mentioned above.

9. **Consideration and adoption of the report of the Committee of Experts and consideration of recommendations and draft resolutions**

The Committee of Experts will consider and adopt the report on its meeting, in which it will set out major recommendations and draft resolutions based on issues discussed and conclusions reached during the meeting. The report will then be submitted to the Conference of Ministers for its consideration.

10. **Closing of the meeting**

The secretariat will make brief closing remarks. The Chair of the Bureau of the Committee of Experts will summarize the main outcomes of the deliberations and declare the meeting closed.
Annex

**Members of the Bureau of the Commission**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year (Venue)</th>
<th>Chair</th>
<th>First Vice-Chair</th>
<th>Second Vice-Chair</th>
<th>Third Vice-Chair</th>
<th>Rapporteur</th>
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*Abbreviations:* CA, Central Africa; EA, East Africa; NA, North Africa; SA, Southern Africa; WA, West Africa.