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**Economic Commission for Africa  
Committee of Experts of the Conference of African  
Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development  
Thirty-ninth meeting**

Addis Ababa (hybrid), 17–19 March 2021

Item 2 of the provisional agenda \*

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

Provisional agenda (E/ECA/COE/39/1)

Provisional programme of work (E/ECA/COE/39/2/Rev.1)

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 geographical 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 the previous session, the Committee of Experts may decide to establish an ad hoc working group to work on the draft report and resolutions. The group will have 10 members, consisting of two members from each of the five subregional groups, normally drawn from the outgoing and incoming Bureaux. The working group will be chaired by the first Vice-Chair of the Bureau. The Committee will also be invited to consider and adopt the agenda and programme of work, subject to such amendments as deemed necessary.

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\* E/ECA/COE/39/1.



**3. Overview of recent economic and social developments in Africa in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic**

**Documentation**

(E/ECA/COE/39/11)

Under this agenda item, the secretariat will present an overview of economic and social developments in Africa in 2019 and 2020 and the impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. The presentation will highlight recent developments in the global economy and their implications for Africa. It will include an analysis of trends in the subregions and regional economic performance, including trends in social development and the continent's growth prospects, links between structural change and social development, and risks and uncertainties associated with the medium-term growth performance of Africa, while taking into account the impact of the COVID-19 crisis. 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 in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic**

**Documentation**

(E/ECA/COE/39/7)

Under this agenda item, the secretariat will present a progress report on the status of regional integration in Africa and the impact of the COVID-19 crisis, including highlights of key challenges and constraints. The presentation will be followed by a general discussion on key issues noted by the secretariat.

**5. Presentation on the theme of the fifty-third session of the Commission**

**Documentation**

(E/ECA/COE/39/4)

The secretariat will give a brief presentation to introduce the theme of the fifty-third session, "Africa's sustainable industrialization and diversification in the digital era in the context of COVID-19", drawing on the issues paper, which focuses on the need to pursue climate-resilient industrial and diversification strategies that support inclusive growth and sustainable development, while taking into account the impact of COVID-19. The paper examines the role of digitization in opening up opportunities in the agriculture, services and clean-energy sectors. It also explores the potential of technology to address issues of climate change and to promote the development of low-carbon industries. It also addresses how African countries can harness these to streamline industrialization and economic growth, in line with a new inclusive climate-economy approach. 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 2021, 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 2020 to March 2021)**

**Documentation**

(E/ECA/COE/39/18)

The report highlights the main achievements of ECA during the reporting period from April 2020 to March 2021. 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 fifty-second session of the Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development and the resolutions of the special meeting of the Bureau at the ministerial level of the Economic Commission for Africa**

**Documentation**

E/ECA/COE/39/6

The report highlights progress in the implementation by the ECA secretariat of the resolutions adopted by the Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development at its fifty-second session,<sup>1</sup> held in Marrakech, Morocco, on 25 and 26 March 2019, and the resolutions adopted at the special meeting of the Bureau held on 9 April 2020 at the ministerial level.

962(LII): Data and statistics

963(LII): Midterm review of the Vienna Programme of Action for the Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024

964(LII): 2020 programme plan and budget

965(LII): Luxembourg Protocol to the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment on Matters Specific to Railway Rolling Stock

967(LII): Progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020 and preparation for the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

968(LII): Fiscal policy, trade and the private sector in a digital era: a strategy for Africa

969(LII): Digitization and the digital economy initiative

970 (LIII): 2021 programme plan and budget

971 (LIII): Coronavirus disease 2019

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.

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<sup>1</sup> The report does not address resolution 966(LII) [Review of the intergovernmental structure of the Economic Commission for Africa pursuant to its resolution 943(XLIX) and resolution 957(LI)] since the Commission was not required to take any action pursuant to that resolution (see E/ECA/CM/52/2, annex II).

(c) **Report on recent organizational changes in the ECA secretariat: note by the Executive Secretary**

**Documentation**

(E/ECA/COE/39/21)

The document provides summaries of recent cost-neutral organizational changes that were introduced at ECA to accompany the new strategic direction and programme priorities of the secretariat.

The Committee of Experts is invited to review the report and provide guidance and comments on the activities of the secretariat.

(d) **Proposed programme plan of the Economic Commission for Africa for 2022**

**Documentation**

(E/ECA/COE/39/19)

The report sets out the programme of work for the subprogrammes of the Economic Commission for Africa for 2022. The Committee of Experts is invited to take note of the programme plan with a view to endorsing it.

(e) **Proposed programme budget of the Economic Commission for Africa for 2022**

**Documentation**

(E/ECA/COE/39/20)

The report provides the programme budget for the subprogrammes of the Economic Commission for Africa for 2022. The Committee of Experts is invited to take note of the programme budget with a view to endorsing it.

(f) **Report on the subsidiary bodies of the Economic Commission for Africa and reports by the subsidiary bodies**

**Documentation**

Report on the first session of the Committee on Private Sector Development, Regional Integration, Trade, Infrastructure, Industry and Technology (E/ECA/COE/39/10)

Report on the meeting of the third session of the Committee on Social Policy, Poverty and Gender (E/ECA/COE/39/16)

Progress reports on the fifth and sixth sessions of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development (E/ECA/COE/39/5 and E/ECA/COE/39/22)

Reports on the subregional meetings of the Intergovernmental Committee of Senior Officials and Experts (ECA/CA/ICSOE/36, ECA/EA/ICSOE/24, ECA/SRO-NA/ICSOE/35/6, ECA/SA/ICSOE/XXVI/2020/8 and ECA/WA/ICE/23/01E)

Progress report on the work of the African Institute for Economic Development (E/ECA/COE/39/13)

Report on the Fifth Conference of Ministers Responsible for Civil Registration (CRMCS/2019/30)

Summary of the proceedings and outcomes of the seventh meeting of the Statistical Commission for Africa (E/ECA/STATCOM/7/13/Add.1)

The Committee of Experts may wish to review the reports on the subsidiary bodies of ECA and the reports submitted by those bodies. 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.

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

(E/ECA/COE/39/12)

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.

**(h) Progress in the implementation of the priority areas of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020 (Istanbul Programme of Action)****Documentation**

(E/ECA/COE/39/15)

The Committee of Experts may wish to review the progress report on the implementation of the priority areas of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020. The Committee may also wish to consider the matters calling for action or brought to its attention, including resolutions, as set out in the progress report, and to provide the secretariat with further guidance.

**(i) Report on the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024****Documentation**

(E/ECA/COE/39/9)

The Committee of Experts may wish to review the report on the midterm review of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024. 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-fourth session of the Commission****Documentation**

(E/ECA/COE/39/23)

The fifty-fourth session of the Conference of Ministers will be held in Addis Ababa in March 2022, 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-fourth 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: consideration of recommendations and draft resolutions**

The Committee of Experts will consider and adopt the report of its meeting, setting out major recommendations and draft resolutions based on the agenda of the meeting for submission to the Conference of Ministers.

**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

<i>Year (Vénué)</i>	<i>Chair</i>	<i>First Vice-Chair</i>	<i>Second Vice-Chair</i>	<i>Third Vice-Chair</i>	<i>Rapporteur</i>
2001 (Algiers)	Algeria (NA)	Tanzania (EA)	Gabon (CA)	Mali (WA)	South Africa (SA)
2002 (Johannesburg)	South Africa (SA)	Cameroon (CA)	Ghana (WA)	Kenya (EA)	Sudan (NA)
2003 (Addis Ababa)	South Africa (SA)	Cameroon (CA)	Ghana (WA)	Kenya (EA)	Sudan (NA)
2004 (Kampala)	Uganda (EA)	Niger (WA)	Mauritania (NA)	Equatorial Guinea (CA)	Zambia (SA)
2005 (Abuja)	Niger (WA)	Egypt (NA)	Congo (CA)	Lesotho (SA)	Ethiopia (EA)
2006 (Ouagadougou)	Burkina Faso (WA)	Congo (CA)	Libya (NA)	Burundi (EA)	Swaziland (SA)
2007 (Addis Ababa)	Ethiopia (EA)	Swaziland (SA)	Cameroon (CA)	Tunisia (NA)	Liberia (WA)
2008 (Addis Ababa)	Ethiopia (EA)	Chad (CA)	Algeria (NA)	Côte d'Ivoire (WA)	Swaziland (SA)
2009 (Cairo)	Egypt (NA)	Chad (CA)	Zimbabwe (SA)	Benin (WA)	Kenya (EA)
2010 (Lilongwe)	Malawi (SA)	Sierra Leone (WA)	Rwanda (EA)	Cameroon (CA)	Morocco (NA)
2011 (Addis Ababa)	Guinea (WA)	Rwanda (EA)	Central African Republic (CA)	Mauritania (NA)	Malawi (SA)
2012 (Addis Ababa)	Gabon (CA)	Libya (NA)	Swaziland (SA)	Eritrea (EA)	Côte d'Ivoire (WA)
2013 (Abidjan)	Côte d'Ivoire (WA)	East Africa	North Africa	Southern Africa	Central Africa
2014 (Abuja)	Nigeria (WA)	Mauritania (NA)	Malawi (SA)	Equatorial Guinea (CA)	United Republic of Tanzania (EA)
2015 (Addis Ababa)	United Republic of Tanzania (EA)	Egypt (NA)	Gabon (CA)	South Africa (SA)	Guinea (WA)
2016 (Addis Ababa)	South Africa (SA)	Democratic Republic of the Congo (CA)	Algeria (NA)	Côte d'Ivoire (WA)	Uganda (EA)

2017 (Dakar)	Senegal (WA)		Chad (CA)	Kenya (EA)	South Africa (SA)
2018 (Addis Ababa)	Sudan (NA)	Equatorial Guinea (CA)	Ethiopia (EA)	Lesotho (SA)	Senegal (WA)
2019 (Marrakech)	Morocco (NA)	Ethiopia (EA)	Zambia (SA)	Togo (WA)	Equatorial Guinea (CA)
2020	Morocco (NA)	Ethiopia (EA)	Zambia (SA)	Togo (WA)	Equatorial Guinea (CA)
<b>Proposed for 2021</b>					
<i>Position</i>	<i>Chair</i>	<i>First Vice-Chair</i>	<i>Second Vice-Chair</i>	<i>Third Vice-Chair</i>	<i>Rapporteur</i>
Region	Central Africa	East Africa	Southern Africa	West Africa	North Africa