STATISTICAL NOTE

This year's *Economic Report on Africa* is based on the latest updated and harmonized data from a range of sources, including questionnaires developed by the authors. The main economic and social data variables are obtained from databases of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN-DESA) and the International Labour Organization (ILO). Data from the statistical databases of the International Monetary Fund, Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU), United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), World Bank and some government departments in African countries are also used. Previous years' data in the Report may differ from those in earlier editions, reflecting recent revisions.

The database of UN-DESA's *Global Economic Outlook* provides comparable data on growth in gross domestic product (GDP) for all African countries, except Seychelles and Swaziland, for which data are obtained from the EIU database. Real GDP growth rates are generated using country data, with 2010 as the base year. Subregional inflation rates for country groupings are weighted averages, with weights based on GDP in 2005 prices. Baseline scenario forecasts are based partly on Project LINK and the UN-DESA World Economic Forecasting Model.

To estimate the impact of the recent oil price shock on Africa's GDP growth, the Report uses the quadratic match-sum method to decompose low-frequency data (annual) to higher-frequency data (monthly). This method fits a local quadratic polynomial for each observation of the original series, using the fitted polynomial to fill in all observations of the higher-frequency series associated with the period. The quadratic polynomial is formed by taking sets of three adjacent points from the original series and fitting a quadratic function to ensure that the sum of the interpolated monthly data points matches the actual annual data points.

Social data are based on the latest data from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. Employment figures are from the ILO's Key Indicators of the Labour Market database. Data on trade (exports and imports) are from UNCTAD and the World Trade Organization.

Unless otherwise noted, the data cover 53 African countries (excluding South Sudan, owing to a lack of data). Countries are classified into geographical regions and into country groupings: oil importers, oil exporters, mineral-rich countries and mineral-poor countries. Country groupings are based on UNCTAD trade data for 2012 and 2013 (SITC 33 for oil and SITC 27+28+32+34+35+68+667+971 for minerals).

Geographical regions are North, Southern, East, West and Central Africa.

Oil exporters are those with oil exports at least 20 per cent higher than their oil imports and comprise Algeria, Angola, Cameroon, Chad, Congo Republic, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Ghana, Libya, Niger, Nigeria and Sudan.

Oil importers comprise Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Central African Republic, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Rwanda, São Tomé and Príncipe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Mineral-rich countries are those where mineral exports account for more than 20 per cent of total exports and include: Algeria, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, DRC, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Guinea, Lesotho, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Madagascar, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Mineral-poor countries comprise Angola, Burundi, Cameroon, Cabo Verde, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Libya, Malawi, Mauritius, Morocco, Nigeria, São Tomé and Príncipe, Senegal, Seychelles, Somalia, Swaziland, Tunisia and Uganda.

The thematic part of the Report uses primary data and information collected, harmonized and analysed by staff at the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa through questionnaires and some secondary sources. Interviews were conducted in 10 countries (Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Mauritius, Morocco, Nigeria, Rwanda and South Africa). Additional information was also collected from some regional economic communities.

Africa experienced strong economic growth in the last decade, and its medium-term growth prospects remain positive, despite global economic headwinds. However, this growth has not yet translated into commensurate benefits in economic diversification, decent jobs and rapid social development. The continent has defined a vision and associated agenda for its attainment by 2063, signalling the importance of structural transformation in public and policy discourse. Realizing the 2063 vision aligns well with broader global development targets, as reflected in the Sustainable Development Goals, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda on Financing for Development and other internationally agreed development agendas, especially the 2015 Climate Change Agreement. Several countries are now formulating their national visions and development strategies to deliver green growth, climate resilience and long-term de-carbonization of their economies. African countries have the chance of being front-runners in this field—if they move quickly.

This 2016 edition of the Economic Report on Africa presents the case for sustainable and people-centred green industrialization in Africa. Given the impacts of climate change, resource scarcities and environmental degradation, measures for greening Africa's development are critical and can bring significant benefits. The form and pattern of Africa's industrialization, shaped by its abundant natural resources, especially water and renewable energy sources, are discussed in the report, alongside the reshaping of policy to tackle poverty and inequality.

The report explores the role of de-coupling energy and economic activity and the greening of value chains as a route to generate low-carbon growth in Africa. Country case studies demonstrate ongoing greening activities across key sectors. And a modeling of alternative scenarios—under "business as usual" and "greening"—make the case for the continent to achieve its strategic goals of structural transformation and industrialization, in ways that are sustainable and inclusive.

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