Fifth session of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development
Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality

Sub-theme on peace, justice and inclusive institutions

PRESENTATION OF BACKGROUND PAPER ON SDG 16

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Status is being assessed alongside inadequate standardized and reliable data

- UN metadata repository remains with gaps to monitor SDG 16
  - Only 6/23 indicators could be readily measured: Tier 1 indicators
  - The rest do not have an established methodology (“Tier 3” indicators) or data are not regularly produced by countries (“Tier 2” indicators)

- Non-governmental entities, are increasingly the source of un-harmonized data and information, but helping to fill the gap
  - Afrobarometer
  - Ibrahim Index of African Governance
  - Freedom in the World Indicator, Freedom House
  - Global Peace Index, Institute for Economics and Peace
  - Corruption Perception Index, Transparency International
  - Country Policy and Institutional Assessment, World Bank
Available data and information presents a mixed picture on status

- **Peace**: Insecurity, social strife, political tension and riots remain visible on the continent. Some countries facing an increase in internal conflict and deterioration in peacefulness.

- **Justice** & the rule of law remain slow, unfair, rife with discrimination & repression. The police, judiciary & elected officials are most corrupt. Increasing imprisonment of journalists and shutdowns of social media. But legitimacy & independence of judiciary improving.

Continued efforts to strengthen the implementation of actions that feed into the 12 targets and 23 indicators of SDG 16 and to address limitations, remain imperative, including:

01 Localization of SDG 16
02 Monitoring of Goal 16: data for governance
03 Regional efforts and response
04 Role of the United Nations
05 Mobilizing the means of implementation including capacity & expertise, technology & finance
To accelerate progress on the implementation of SDG 16:

1. Strengthen the establishment of monitoring systems for Goal 16 indicators and their incorporation into local and national planning and policymaking processes, including parliamentary legislation, budgeting and resource allocation.

2. Commit to opening the civic space further in accordance with the United Nations and African Union human rights mechanisms, leveraging innovative technologies alongside principles that govern information and communications technology.

3. Clearly understand the country-specific challenges and priorities relating to the localization of Goal 16 with regard to targeted capacity-building and international development cooperation.

4. Contribute to the evidence and knowledge base on how to address challenges and strengthen institutions for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, through multi-stakeholder partnerships and collaboration.

5. Improve tools and resources for strengthening institution-building and improved governance.
THANK YOU!

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