

COM 2015
**Side Event: Regional Consultation towards the Third International
Conference on Financing for Development**

Date: 23rd – 24th March 2015
Location: UNCC

Briefing Note

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In 2002 the United Nations hosted the International Conference on Financing for Development where Heads of State and government convened, resolving to address the challenges of financing for development around the world, particularly in developing countries. The conference resulted in the 2002 Monterrey Consensus which commits to a set of guiding actions considered instrumental to improving the mobilization and retention of financial resources to enable countries to eradicate poverty, achieve sustained economic growth and sustainable development, and meet the more specific goals set forth in the Millennium Development Goals. The key principles embodied in the Consensus were further reinforced and enhanced in the Doha Declaration, agreed upon at the second International Conference on Financing for Development held in 2008.

In preparation for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda in New York, September 2015, the third International Conference on Financing for Development will be held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 13th to 16th July 2015. The Conference will convene high-level political representatives, including Heads of State and Government, as well as all relevant institutional stakeholders, non-governmental organizations and private sector entities to discuss, deliberate and negotiate a development finance framework which will constitute an important contribution to and support the implementation of the post-2015 development agenda. To ensure that the views of African stakeholders are well captured and represented in this intergovernmental process, the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) will host a regional consultation for African stakeholders. The consultation will be held as a pre-event ahead of the Eighth Joint Annual Meetings of the African Union Specialized Technical Committee on Finance, Monetary Affairs, Economic Planning and Integration and the ECA Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development.

Expected Accomplishments

The consultation aims to generate consensus on:

- development finance priorities for Africa in the context of structural transformation;
- key deliberations on the recommendations put forth in the report titled “Report of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development Financing” and other relevant material on financing for development and the post-2015 development agenda;

- an outcome statement that will establish the draft Common African Position on Financing for Development during the intergovernmental negotiations process.

Format of the Consultation

The consultation will be held through a series of plenaries, jointly chaired/moderated by a financing for development experts. The opening plenary will provide an overview of trends and developments in development finance in Africa since the establishment of the Monterrey Consensus in 2002. The following plenaries will cover several core areas of development finance drawing on a discussion paper provided with the aim of facilitating stakeholder discussions on various issues, challenges and priorities they wish to be considered. Each plenary will commence with a short presentation (5 slides maximum) followed by open discussions guided by the chair/moderator with the aim of capturing key messages from the region. The final plenary will commence with a presentation of the draft outcome statement for review and adoption.

Participants

Participants will comprise member State representatives, African experts on financing for development, including state and non-state actors (e.g. civil society and private sector), researchers, think-tanks, regional and multilateral financial institutions, stakeholders concerned with Post-2015 Development Agenda and the Open Working Group on SDGs and other relevant institutional partners.