Africa Regional Consultative Meeting on the Sustainable Development Goals

31 October to 5 November 2013

Introduction and Objectives
Outline

1. Background

2. Scope and Objectives of the meeting

3. Format of the meeting

4. Expected Outcomes
1. Background

- Africa embarked on developing the African Common Position on Post-2015 Development Agenda in 2011
  - Ensure that its priorities and aspirations feature prominently in the Post-2015 Development Agenda

- Common position developed - benefited from a broad range of stakeholder consultations in Accra-Ghana, Mombasa-Kenya, Dakar-Senegal, and Hammamet-Tunisia.

- In May 2013 the AU established the Africa High Level Committee on the Post-2015 Development,

  - The HLC comprises 10 African Heads of State and Government (2 per subregion) and is chaired by HE Johnson Sirleaf President of Liberia.

  Mandated to:

  - Oversee the finalization of the African Common Position
  - Sensitize and coordinate the activities of African Leaders and members of the High Level Panel
June 2012 - UN Conference on Sustainable Development held and adopted outcome: “The Future We Want”

Development of SDGs among key commitments of Rio+20

- Focused & coherent action on SD;
- Address and incorporate in a balanced manner all three dimensions of sustainable development and their interlinkages
- Be integrated into the UN development agenda post-2015.

UN General Assembly Open Working Group (OWG) established on 22 January 2013
UNECA in collaboration with AUC, AfDB and UNDESA organized the Africa-RIM in November 2012

The RIM adopted the Africa RIM Outcome Document for the post Rio+20 follow-up processes

- On the SDGs, integrated into the Post-2015 Dev Agenda
- The Africa RIM agreed on an effective, broad-based, bottom-up and consultative process to flesh out the goals, indicators and targets

In March 2013, The 6th Joint Annual Meetings of the AUC and ECA deliberated on the Post-2015 Development Agenda and implementation of the Rio+20 Outcomes in Africa
The Ministerial Statement adopted by the meeting *inter alia*:

- Urged for an early convergence between the Post-2015 Development Agenda and the Rio+20 follow-up processes, particularly the SDGs;

- The Ministers also called on ECA, UNDP, AUC and AfDB to translate the African common position into concrete goals, indicators and targets.

The Africa Regional Consultative Meeting on SDGs jointly organized by ECA, AUC and AfDB
2. Objectives of the meeting

Enable African countries to identify, articulate and reach a consensus on the region’s sustainable development priorities and goals and ensure that such priorities further enrich the African Common Position on the Post 2015 Development Agenda; and

Prepare Africa to speak with one strong voice and rally global support for the African Common Position on the Post 2015 Development Agenda
3. Format of the meeting

Comprises two Segments

- Experts segment from 31 October to 2 November 2013; and

- Ministerial segment from 4 to 5 November 2013.
Experts Segment

Divided into four main plenary sessions:

- Presentation and discussion on the African Common Position on the Post-2015 Development Agenda

- Presentations and discussions on the subregional reports on Sustainable Development Goals

- Presentation and discussion on the Africa Regional Report on Sustainable Development Goals

- Consideration of the working document of the outcome of the consultative meeting
Ministerial segment

Three main sessions:

Opening session

A high-level policy dialogue on the Post-2015 Development Agenda and the SDGs

The Post-2015 Development Agenda and Africa’s sustainable development priorities;

Ensuring convergence between the Post-2015 Development Agenda and the SDGs process; and

Strategies and suggestions for improving the effectiveness of the HLC in the delivery of its mandate

Consideration and adoption of the Outcome Document and Report of the Africa Regional Consultative Meeting on the SDGs
4. Expected Outcomes

Enhanced understanding of the key sustainability priorities that must inform the African Common Position on the Post-2015 Development Agenda;

High-level political guidance and consensus on achieving convergence between the Post-2015 Development Agenda and the SDGs process;

Consensus on the key drivers of sustainable development in Africa;
Documentation and information services

- Conference bag

- Also posted online (meeting website): (http://www.uneca.org/arcm-sdg2013)

- Information note provides more information on assistance to be provided upon request
Thank You