

SERIES ON MINERALS AND AFRICA'S DEVELOPMENT



INTRODUCTION

Over 30 years ago, the Organization of African Unity (OAU), the precursor of the African Union (AU) adopted the Lagos Plan of Action for Africa's economic development. The plan contained a strategic review of the continent's development problems and touted possible growth avenues (appendix D). Today, analysis of the "main challenges confronting Africa in terms of exploitation of its natural resources" is still at issue... Faced with such lingering challenges, a "Grand Table" meeting was organized in 2007 under the aegis of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and the Africa Development Bank (AfDB) on the theme, "Growth and poverty-reduction oriented management of Africa's natural resources"