



**THE FOURTH ORDINARY SESSION OF  
THE SPECIALIZED TECHNICAL  
COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORT,  
TRANSCONTINENTAL AND  
INTERREGIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE,  
AND ENERGY (STC-TTIIIE)**

**12 – 15 September 2023**

**Zanzibar, United Republic of Tanzania**

**STC-TTIIIE/MIN/.....**  
Original: English

***THEME:  
ACCELERATING INFRASTRUCTURE TO DELIVER ON THE AU AGENDA 2063  
ASPIRATIONS***

**DECLARATION**

**15 September 2023**

**DECLARATION OF THE FOURTH SPECIALIZED TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON  
TRANSPORT, TRANSCONTINENTAL AND INTERREGIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE, AND  
ENERGY (STC TTIIIE)**

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**WE**, the Ministers in charge of Transport and Energy, meeting in Zanzibar, United Republic of Tanzania from 12 – 15 September 2023, in the **Fourth Ordinary Session of the Specialized Technical Committee on Transport, Transcontinental and Interregional Infrastructure, and Energy**, organized by the African Union Commission (AUC) in collaboration with the African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD), the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) to consider policies and strategies for **Accelerating Infrastructure to Deliver on the AU Agenda 2063 Aspirations**;

**CONSIDERING:**

1. The Treaty establishing the African Economic Community adopted in Abuja, Nigeria, in June 1991;
2. The Constitutive Act of the African Union adopted in Lomé, Togo, on 11 July 2000, and in particular, its Articles 14 and 15 that establish the Specialized Technical Committees as organs of the Union, and empowers them within their respective fields of competence to inter alia prepare projects and programmes of the Union and to ensure their coordination and harmonization;
3. Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.227 (XII) reconfiguring the STCs and establishing one on Transport, Transcontinental and Interregional Infrastructure, Energy and Tourism;
4. The Rules of Procedure of the STC on Transport, Transcontinental, and Interregional Infrastructure, and Energy that set out in Article 5, its powers and functions;
5. Declaration Assembly/AU/Decl.2 (XVIII) adopted by the Eighteenth Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in January 2012, which adopted the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA) as the unique strategic and sectoral framework in Africa as well as the institutional architecture for its implementation;
6. Decisions adopted by the Executive Council including:
  - a. Decision EX.CL/Dec.1144(XL), of the Fortieth Ordinary Session of the Assembly, which endorsed the outcomes of the Third Ordinary Session of the STC-TTIIIE.
  - b. Decision EX.CL/Dec.1063(XXXV) of Thirty-Fifth Ordinary Session of the Executive Council, which endorsed the outcomes of the Second Ordinary Session of the STC-TTIIET.
  - c. Decision EX.CL/Dec.970(XXXI) of the Thirty-First Ordinary Session of the Executive Council, which endorsed the outcomes of the First Ordinary Session of the STC-TTIIET.
  - d. Decision EX.CL/Dec.1169(XLI) of Forty first Ordinary Session of the Executive Council, which endorsed the outcomes of the Second Extraordinary Session of the STC-TTIIET, adopting the African Common Position on Energy Access and Transition.
  - e. Decision EX.CL/Dec.1108(XXXVIII) of the Thirty-Eighth Ordinary Session of the Executive Council, which endorsed the outcomes of the First Extraordinary Session of the STC-TTIIET.
7. The reports submitted to the Fourth Ordinary Session of the STC-TTIIIE.

**RECOGNIZING** the urgent need to address the persistent barriers affecting the provision of universal infrastructure services on the continent including policy, regulatory, financial, technical and capacity challenges in addition to the urgency required to respond to new challenges impacting Africa's development including climate change, Russia-Ukraine crisis, and disruptions in global supply chains.

**ACKNOWLEDGING** the need for Member States and Regional Economic Communities (RECs) to harmonise strategies, strengthen cooperation and accelerate implementation of projects to facilitate access to modern, sustainable, climate-resilient and universal access to infrastructure services to achieve the goals of the AU Agenda 2063 for continental integration, prosperity and peace.

**COMMENDING:**

- a. The President and Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt for the successful organisation of the 27<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties (COP27) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Sharm-El-Sheikh, from 06 – 18 November 2022, and for championing the African Common Position on Energy Access and Transition, adopted by the Forty first Ordinary Session of the Executive Council.
- b. The President and Government of Senegal for the successful organisation of the PIDA Dakar Finance Summit in Dakar, from 01 – 03 February 2023.
- c. The President and Government of the Republic of Kenya for the successful organisation of the Africa Climate Summit (ACS) in Nairobi, from 04 – 06 September 2023.

**We**, the Ministers, reiterating our commitment to developing Transport, Transcontinental and Interregional Infrastructure, and Energy and our strong will to implement the outcomes of this meeting, have agreed to:

***In the Transport Sector***

8. REITERATE the Decision of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Extraordinary STC-TTIIET urging the remaining 18 Member States to sign the Solemn Commitment to join the Single African Air Transport Market (SAATM).
9. URGE:
  - a. All SAATM Member States to join the Project Implementation Pilot (PIP) initiative to accelerate the implementation of SAATM.
  - b. All Member States to complete the harmonisation/domestication of the Yamoussoukro Decision (YD) and its Annexes and communicate to African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC) their national focal persons for follow-up.
  - c. All remaining Member States to complete the ratification process for the Road Safety Charter, the Maritime Transport Charter and the Luxembourg Protocol on railway rolling stock.
10. CALL FOR:
  - a. The change of name of the AU flagship project, the "African Integrated High-Speed Railway Network " to " African Integrated Railway Network".
  - b. The AUC and partners in collaboration with a host Member State to mobilise resources to convene a high-level forum on African Road Safety in 2024.
11. ADOPT:
  - a. The roadmap for a comprehensive and integrated regulatory framework of road transport in Africa.
  - b. The report on Ports Efficiency and Competitiveness in Africa.
  - c. The African Green Ports Forum (AGPF) Terms of Reference (ToRs) and Implementation Roadmap.
  - d. The continental Sustainable Aviation Fuels (SAF) Development and Deployment Action Plan.
  - e. Action Plans for transport (air, rail, maritime and road) subject to the amendments proposed during the meeting.
12. REQUEST:

- a. The AUC in collaboration with AUDA-NEPAD, ECA, AfDB, RECs, Africa Transport Policy Programme (SSATP), and the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Secretariat to implement the roadmap on comprehensive and integrated regulatory framework on road transport in Africa.
  - b. The AUC in collaboration with Africa Transport Policy Programme (SSATP), International Transport Forum (ITF), Africa Transport Development & Policy (ITDP), UNHABITAT and other partners to develop continental policy and standards for sustainable urban mobility providing opportunities to develop smart urban mobility solutions including public transport, non-motorized transport, e-mobility initiatives and improving road safety.
  - c. The AUC in collaboration with partners, Ports Associations and Maritime Organizations to implement the roadmap on the Africa Green Ports Forum (AGPF).
  - d. The AUC in collaboration with SSATP, AfDB, International Maritime Organisation (IMO) and other partners to implement the recommendations on the continental study on Ports Efficiency and Competitiveness.
  - e. AFCAC in collaboration with AUC and the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) to accelerate the development and deployment of sustainable aviation fuels in Africa.
  - f. AFCAC in collaboration with AUC-Office of the Legal Counsel and the YD/SAATM monitoring body to convene meetings of legal experts from Member States to discuss the challenges faced in the implementation and enforcement of the YD/SAATM legal and regulatory instruments.
  - g. AFCAC in collaboration with AUC and ICAO to finalize the process for the amendment of the Abuja Safety and Air Navigation Targets including the associated performance framework required to align with the ICAO Global Aviation Safety Plan (GASP) and Global Air Navigation Plan (GANP) as amended once every triennium.
  - h. ECA in collaboration with AUC to identify innovative practices and initiatives that emerged in the aviation industry in Africa during the COVID-19 pandemic and propose ways of sustaining such practices including the development of smart airports with digital solutions for improved aviation security facilitation and environmental protection.
  - i. ECA in collaboration with AUC to establish mechanisms for systematic implementation, monitoring and evaluation of continental strategies for a sustainable recovery of the aviation industry.
13. DELEGATE to the YD/SAATM Monitoring Body the responsibility of the Dispute Settlement Mechanism (DSM) including the selection and appointment of the members of the Administrative Council and approve the Administrative Council's budget, work plans and periodic reports in line with Annex 2 of the YD and report back during subsequent STC meetings.

#### ***In the Transcontinental and Interregional Infrastructure***

14. EMPHASIZE on:
- a. The importance of designing climate resilient and smart infrastructure projects.
  - b. The Integrated Corridor Approach as an innovative framework for PIDA PAP 2 projects selection and partnerships.
  - c. The importance of digital solutions and new emerging technologies in designing and enhancing efficiencies of transport and energy infrastructure projects and services.
15. ADOPT the updated PIDA Quality Label (PQL) methodology incorporating the Green Check Methodology (GCM) of the PIDA Service Delivery Mechanism (SDM) as a tool to assess climate risk mitigation potential and climate adaptation potential for PIDA projects.
16. ACKNOWLEDGE:
- a. The progress made and the efforts of the AUC, AUDA-NEPAD, AfDB RECs and all PIDA stakeholders and partners to advance the implementation of the PIDA PAP 2 projects.

- b. The AfDB grant of USD 7.14 million provided to the AUC and AUDA-NEPAD, under the PIDA PAP 2 Implementation Support Project (PISP) to support and enhance capacity of the AUC, AUDA-NEPAD and the RECs to accelerate the PIDA PAP 2 Projects delivery.
- c. The continued implementation and expansion of the PIDA Service Delivery Mechanism (SDM) and the NEPAD-IPPF Special Fund hosted by the AfDB as a critical instrument to streamline and accelerate the project preparation cycle for PIDA projects.
- d. The Green Infrastructure Corridor for Intra-African Trade as a pilot project in implementing the Integrated Corridor Approach
- e. The significant cost of project preparation for the Second PIDA Priority Action Plan and the need for collaboration with the private sector and development partners to mobilize climate finance specifically earmarked for PIDA project preparation.
- f. The findings of the report on the first 10-Year Implementation of PIDA and its relevance, in particular the demonstrated commitment of African Governments as the largest financing providers to PIDA projects over the first ten years.
- g. The support provided by the Africa Climate Resilient Investment Facility (AFRI-RES) Partnership to the integration of climate resilience into PIDA projects.
- h. The efforts by ECA to support Member States to coordinate Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) with development partners.

#### 17. REQUEST:

- a. The AUC, AUDA-NEPAD, AfDB and ECA to engage with development partners and Development Finance Institutions (DFIs) to mobilize resources for projects preparation and implementation of PIDA-PAP 2 projects.
- b. AUDA-NEPAD to develop capacity building initiatives and provide technical assistance to support Member States and the RECs in structuring, implementing, and monitoring the execution of infrastructure projects.
- c. The AUC, AUDA-NEPAD, AfDB, ECA and RECs to enhance coordination in the implementation of PIDA PAP 2 projects and PISP.
- d. AUDA NEPAD and AUC to enhance the methodology to collect data and information on infrastructure projects, and regularly provide updates to key stakeholders.
- e. The AUC to organize high-level engagement meetings with Member States and RECs to advocate for more commitment to their priority infrastructure projects.
- f. AUDA-NEPAD in collaboration with the AUC, AfDB and the RECs to develop a roadmap and implement the recommendations of the report on the first 10-Year Implementation of PIDA.
- g. AUDA-NEPAD to provide capacity-building to equip RECs, Member States, and other stakeholders in utilizing the GCM effectively to facilitate the assessment of project maturity and sector relevance.
- h. The AFRI-RES Partnership, continental and regional institutions, and development partners to increase the scale and pace of support to Member States and infrastructure stakeholders to climate-proof investments and accelerate the flow of climate finance for PIDA-PAP 2 and other infrastructure projects.
- i. ECA and AUC in collaboration with partners to coordinate PPP initiatives to avoid duplication of efforts and strengthen complementarity.

#### 18. URGE:

- a. Member States to continue to mobilize and allocate more domestic financial and technical resources for the preparation and implementation of PIDA-PAP 2 projects.
- b. Member States in collaboration with key stakeholders to continue to create an enabling environment for the private sector and public-private partnerships, build institutional capacities and implement the necessary policies and regulatory frameworks to facilitate the implementation of PIDA-PAP 2 projects.

#### ***In the Energy Sector***

#### 19. CALL FOR:

- a. The adoption of the African Single Electricity Market (AfSEM) with its Continental Power Systems Masterplan (CMP) component by the AU Summit as an AU Agenda 2063 Flagship Project.
  - b. The AUC and partners in collaboration with a host Member State to mobilise resources to convene an African Energy Summit in 2024.
20. APPROVE:
- a. The AfSEM strategic and action plans.
  - b. Establishment of the AfSEM Strategic Planning and Coordination Unit (SPCU) within the AUC Department of Infrastructure and Energy.
  - c. The five-year business plan and year-1 Work Plan for the SPCU.
  - d. The AfSEM Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanism.
21. URGE:
- a. Member States to allocate financial resources for the implementation of AfSEM.
  - b. Remaining Member States to ratify the Convention of the African Energy Commission (AFREC), and to strengthen their collaboration and communication with AFREC for effective implementation of its mandate.
22. WELCOME the establishment of the African School of Regulation (ASR) as a pan-African centre of excellence to enhance the capacity of Member States on energy regulation.
23. NOTE:
- a. The progress made by the AUC in the implementation of several initiatives including geothermal energy, solar policy framework, Renewable Energy in African Island States (REAIS), mini-grids, Africa-EU Energy Partnership (AEEP), Energy Access and Just Transition.
  - b. The progress made by AFREC in the implementation of several initiatives including National Energy Information Systems, Oil and Gas, Energy sector capacity building, energy transition, clean cooking, bioenergy and hydropower.
  - c. The progress made in the development of the CMP as well the conclusions and recommendations.
  - d. The role played by the AEEP to support collaborations, capacities and dialogues between Africa and Europe in the energy sector.
24. ADOPT:
- a. The AUC study on the technical, economic, social, and political implications of green hydrogen development in Africa.
  - b. The AUC and ECA continental regulatory framework for crowding-in private sector investment in Africa's electricity markets.
  - c. The CMP Mwanga Database Data Classification Paper and the CMP Synthesis report, along with its associated Specific Support Studies (SSS).
25. REQUEST:
- a. The AUC in collaboration with its continental, regional and international partners to mobilise financial and technical resources for setting up the AfSEM SPCU and implementation of its strategic, action and business plans.
  - b. The AUC and ECA to work with continental, regional and specialised institutions to support the design and implementation of programmes, courses, and capacity development initiatives of the African School of Regulation (ASR) to support the implementation of AfSEM and CMP.
  - c. The AUC to work with AUDA-NEPAD, AfDB, ECA and RECs and respective power pools, regional regulatory bodies, and relevant stakeholders to design continental mechanisms for regulating and coordinating electricity trade across power pools.
  - d. The AUC and its partners to mobilize financial resources for implementing the second phase of the Geothermal Risk Mitigation Facility (GRMF) and establish the

- geothermal capacity building programme to enhance policy and regulatory frameworks in the Member States, and to encourage private sector investment.
- e. The AUC and partners to support the GRMF beneficiary countries to accelerate the establishment of the Africa Geothermal Center of Excellence in line with the recommendations of the first ordinary session of the STC-TTIIET.
  - f. The AUC to accelerate the implementation of the Renewable Energy in African Island States (REAIS).
  - g. The AUC and its partners to develop continental and regional policies and regulatory frameworks including a protocol on green hydrogen development in Africa.
  - h. The AUC to work with continental and regional institutions, and partners to implement the recommendations of the African Common Position on Energy Access and Transition.
  - i. AFREC and AUDA-NEPAD in partnership with the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) and other partners to develop the Clean Energy Value Chains in Africa (CLEVA) initiative.
  - j. The AUC, ECA, AUDA-NEPAD, AFREC, AfDB, Regional Power Pools (RPPs) and development partners to develop a continental energy security policy framework as called for by the 41st Ordinary Session of the Executive Council and also develop an Energy Security Index and Dashboard to track advancements in achieving Africa's energy security.
  - k. AUDA-NEPAD, AUC, AFREC, ECA, AfDB, Power pools and development partners to conduct a comprehensive assessment of local manufacturing of renewable energy technologies and beneficiation of critical minerals for battery manufacturing aligning with the African Green Minerals Strategy.
  - l. The AUC, AUDA-NEPAD, and development partners to establish a more encompassing Continental Renewable Energy Risk Mitigation Facility by expanding the GRMF to de-risk and expedite the adoption and integration of renewable energy sources within the African energy system.
  - m. The AUC, AUDA-NEPAD, the Government of DRC and other key stakeholders to establish a Strategic Coordination Committee on the Grand Inga project based on the recommendations from the STC Energy Sub-Committee meeting of March 2018 STC, to ensure challenges within the project are addressed and implementation is accelerated.
  - n. ECA and AFREC to accelerate the implementation of the Energy4Sahel Project to improve the deployment of off-grid technologies and clean cooking in the affected Member States.

### ***In conclusion***

1. CALL for the change of the name of the STC on Specialized Technical Committee on Transport, Transcontinental and Interregional Infrastructure, Energy and Tourism (STC TTIIET) to STC on Transport and Energy (STC T&E).
2. ADOPT the 2024 - 2025 Action Plan to guide implementation of the priorities agreed upon.
3. ACKNOWLEDGE AND COMMEND all multilateral financial institutions and development partners including the AfDB, BMZ, KfW, Afreximbank, the World Bank, the EU, GIZ, AEEP, Germany, Denmark, New Zealand, Spain, AFD and JICA for their support to various AU projects and programmes.
4. COMMEND the spirit of openness and cordiality that prevailed in the deliberations of the meeting.

**OBSERVED A MINUTE OF SILENCE** for all the victims who lost their lives in the recent Earthquake in the Kingdom of Morocco and flooding in the State of Libya.

**REQUEST** the African Union Commission to submit this Declaration to the African Union Policy Organs for consideration and adoption.

**Done in Zanzibar, on 15 September 2023**