
Report of the nineteenth session of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of Southern Africa

Harare, 7-8 March 2013



United Nations
Economic Commission for Africa

Subregional Office for Southern Africa

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Contents

Acronyms and abbreviations	iv
Summary	1
1. Background	2
2. Attendance	2
3. Opening session	2
4. Organizational matters	7
5. Proceedings	7
Annex 1: List of delegates and participants	17
Annex 2: Outcome statement of the Ad Hoc Expert Group Meeting on Industrialization for Economic Transformation and Sustainable Development in Southern Africa: Addressing the Gaps	21

Acronyms and abbreviations

AfDB	African Development Bank
AUC	African Union Commission
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
EAC	East African Community
ECA	Economic Commission for Africa
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
ICDP	International Conference on Population and Development
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development
NGO	non-governmental organization
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SME	small and medium-sized enterprise
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization

Summary

The report presents the discussions and outcomes of the nineteenth session of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of Southern Africa, which was held in Harare on 7 and 8 March 2013, under the theme “Industrialization for economic transformation and sustainable development in Southern Africa: addressing the gaps”. The Committee observed that there had been relatively stable economic growth in the subregion during 2012, although it had been weighed down heavily by global economic developments in the eurozone and fluctuating international commodity prices. The subregion’s economic woes had been compounded by the narrow export base dominated by semi-finished products, which exposes member States to unstable revenue flows. A low industrial base continued to undermine the subregion’s growth and development potential. Unemployment among young people and women was high in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the informal sector dominated economic activity in most countries in the subregion. Other observations by the Committee during deliberations included the important interlinkages between population and sustainable development, the limited visibility of technical support and programmes by Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) at the national level and the need for stronger collaboration among development partners in the delivery of technical assistance to SADC member States. In light of these overall observations, the Committee recommended: prudent management of revenue inflows, accelerated promotion of value addition and industrialization, employment creation, enhanced regional integration and South-South cooperation, careful management of population growth, and strengthening the capacity of both Governments and the private sector to actively participate in industrial development. The Committee urged member States to create sovereign wealth funds from revenue inflows in order to shield economies from global economic shocks, add value to commodities before export and diversify export products and markets. The Committee further called for greater regional integration and South-South cooperation to benefit from economies of scale and to diversify trading partners. As a way forward, the Committee underscored: the need to accelerate industrialization in SADC member States; that the Subregional Office for Southern Africa should work closely with member States on the International Conference on Population and Development and the development agenda beyond 2015; and that the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning should accelerate the decentralization of its capacity-building efforts and explore ways to offer courses in Southern Africa.

1. Background

1. The assessment of industrialization challenges undertaken by the Committee builds on continental-level initiatives through the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), the African Productive Capacity Initiative (2004) and the Plan of Action for the Accelerated Industrial Development in Africa (2008), which were all designed to tackle the structural transformation and development of the continent by isolating constraints and providing remedial approaches. The COMESA–SADC–EAC tripartite through the three pillars of market integration, infrastructure and industrial development also seeks to consolidate trade and industrial development initiatives and unlock the collective industrial and growth potential of the member States. In addition, the SADC Industrial Development Policy Framework adopted in 2012 supports efforts to: improve standards, technical regulations and quality infrastructure; promote innovation technology transfer, and research and development activities; and develop mechanisms for appropriate industrial financing. It also provides for integrating infrastructure and services into the regional industrialization strategy, supporting small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and attracting local and foreign direct investment, South-South cooperation, and the promotion of exports. As a result, at its nineteenth session, the Committee sought to conduct an in-depth review of the industrialization challenges in SADC within the overall framework of industrialization on the continent. In addition, the Committee set out to discuss economic and social conditions in the subregion and review the work of the Economic Commission for Africa Subregional Office for Southern Africa and parliamentary reports prepared by the ECA subregional office.

2. Attendance

2. Delegates from the following member States attended the session: Botswana; Lesotho; Malawi; Namibia; Swaziland; Zambia; and Zimbabwe. Organizations represented at the session included: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Zimbabwe; ECA; United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), Zimbabwe and Vienna; United Nations African Institute for Economic Planning and Development (UNIDEP); African Union Commission Southern Africa Office; NEPAD; Development Bank of Southern Africa; and Scientific and Industrial Research Development Centre. Annex 1 is the list of delegates and participants.

3. Opening session

3. The opening ceremony included statements and remarks from representatives of the following: African Union Southern African Regional Office; Bureau of the Eighteenth Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of Southern Africa; Economic Commission for Africa Subregional Office for Southern Africa; and UNDP. The Minister of Economic Planning and Investment Promotion of Zimbabwe, Tapiwa Mashakada officially opened the Session.

4. The Vice-Chair of the Bureau of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of Southern Africa for its eighteenth session, Mpho Ntshese of Botswana, delivered opening remarks on behalf of the outgoing Bureau. She thanked the ECA Subregional Office for Southern Africa for the

support and guidance extended to the Bureau during its term and congratulated the Government of Zimbabwe for hosting the nineteenth session of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of Southern Africa and serving as the Chair of the Bureau. Turning to progress in regional integration, Ms. Ntshese expressed her satisfaction with progress in deepening integration in Southern Africa and urged member States to accelerate the elimination of impediments to trade and the free movement of people and capital.

5. Ms. Ntshese informed the meeting that the Bureau had followed the work of the Economic Commission for Africa Subregional Office for Southern Africa during the year. She listed some activities undertaken by the Subregional Office with regional economic communities and member States in Southern Africa that were aimed at promoting regional integration and socioeconomic development in the subregion. Among them were: results-based management training provided to the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA); supporting the undertaking of an e-commerce assessment in the SADC region and the setting of e-commerce and the development of information and communications technology (ICT) master plans for the parliaments of the Governments of Botswana and Swaziland; and extending assistance to Lesotho in developing a minerals and mining policy. She also noted the work of the secretariat in preparing the technical study based on the theme “Industrialization for economic transformation and sustainable development in Southern Africa: addressing the gaps”, while indicating that the findings from the report had been discussed at an ad hoc expert group meeting that had concluded two days prior to the present meeting.

6. Ms. Ntshese concluded by thanking the Minister of Economic Planning and Investment Promotion for agreeing to officially open the meeting, while noting that his participation was an indication of the importance the Government of Zimbabwe accorded to the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts as a statutory body for extending policy guidance to ECA within the subregion.

7. Mr. Tichawona Shumba, the representative of the African Union Commission from African Union Southern Africa Regional Office, delivered remarks on behalf of the Chair of the African Union Commission (AUC), Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, and the African Union Regional Delegate to Southern Africa, Salif Sada Sall. He informed the delegates that the Chair of AUC was looking forward to the outcomes of the meeting. He expressed his appreciation to ECA for working with the Office on regional activities in Southern Africa and thanked the Government and people of Zimbabwe for their hospitality.

8. Mr. Shumba highlighted the need to upscale commodity value-chains in the subregion, accelerate the industrialization agenda and develop the private sector in Africa and noted that African countries needed to improve the quality of their products in order to become more competitive in the global markets. He alluded to poor interconnectivity and infrastructure as being a challenge that hampered the movement of people, goods and services on the continent and called for increased investment in infrastructure and technological development for industrial growth. He also observed that to achieve sustainable development, it was necessary to develop the private sector and SMEs and quality assurance plans for them, as well as enhance the knowledge and skills of young people through training and education.

9. Mr. Shumba observed that the upcoming joint African Union and ECA Conference of Ministers of Finance and Economic Planning and Development, would be based on the theme “Industrialization for an emerging Africa”. The Conference, which was to be held in Côte d’Ivoire, would serve as another opportunity to advocate industrial development in Africa, especially in the light of the development agenda beyond 2015 and the strategic plan of AUC. He noted that the African Union strategic plan had development indicators linked to poverty reduction, employment creation and industrial productivity. Moreover, the plan included initiatives for agricultural development and food security through the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme; the development and education of young people through the African Volunteer Corps, Pan-African University and Mwalimu Nyerere scholarships, and research and development through the African Union Science and Technology Observatory, African Union Research Grants programme and the African Union Scientific Awards programme.

10. Mr. Shumba applauded the Government of Zimbabwe for implementing its industrial development policy for 2011-2015 as it would help boost productivity in line with continental aspirations. He concluded by noting that the designation of 20 November by the African Union as Africa Industrialization Day indicated the importance the continent attached to industrial transformation.

11. Mr. Martim Maya, Deputy Country Director, UNDP Zimbabwe, delivered remarks on behalf of the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Zimbabwe, Alain Noudéhou. He noted that the presence of the Minister was an indication of the high importance the Government of Zimbabwe placed on industrialization strategies and structural transformation. He commended the Economic Commission for Africa Subregional Office for Southern Africa for providing a forum for experts, policymakers and representatives to reflect, deliberate and exchange views on the role of industrialization for economic transformation and sustainable development in Africa. He also commended the Subregional Office for choosing to hold the nineteenth session of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of Southern Africa meeting in Zimbabwe, noting that it was particularly relevant as the country had begun to show strong signs of economic recovery. Furthermore, he stated that the theme of the meeting was of great significance to Zimbabwe, the subregion and the African continent, as industrialization was one of the pathways to economic and social transformation. Mr. Maya stated that the choice of the theme was timely as there were less than three years for countries to reach the targets of the Millennium Development Goals and efforts should be made to promote inclusive and transformational growth. He also stated that the ongoing consultations for the development agenda beyond 2015 must consider industrialization as a key driver of economic transformation.

12. He noted that the food, fuel and financial crises of recent years had compelled policymakers in Africa to pursue economic diversification and transformation to mitigate the shocks and vulnerabilities associated with overdependence on primary commodities and products and emphasized the need for, political and macroeconomic stability, improvements in infrastructure and energy, and investments in science and technology for industrial development to take off.

13. Mr. Maya noted that proposals emanating from the present meeting would contribute to the implementation of the medium term plan for the period 2011-2015 and the industrial

development policy for the period 2012-2016 in Zimbabwe. Those frameworks were consistent with the developmental objectives of UNDP in Zimbabwe in promoting sustainable development and achieving the Millennium Development Goals through robust economic recovery and growth. He further noted that the programmatic focus of UNDP would contribute to the objectives of industrialization and economic transformation of Zimbabwe and the Southern Africa subregion and assured the meeting that the United Nations would continue to collaborate and partner with Governments, the private sector and civil society on the outcomes of the meeting and in line with already agreed upon frameworks.

14. The Director of Economic Commission for Africa Subregional Office for South Africa, Beatrice Kiraso, welcomed the delegates to the meeting and thanked the Government of Zimbabwe for hosting it. She commended the member States for their commitment to the activities of ECA and stated that that commitment would ensure progress towards achieving economic integration and a continental free trade area, as envisioned in the Lagos Plan of Action. Ms. Kiraso also acknowledged the presence of key development partners at the meeting, which affirmed the mutual support for the African vision and the importance of collaboration in tackling the continent's challenges.

15. The Director noted that the meeting's theme was central to economic transformation and international competitiveness. She also stated that deeper integration was necessary to overcome challenges of small countries and small markets, as internal trade would spur increases in production, investments and incomes. The Director applauded the SADC Heads of State and Governments for approving the subregional infrastructure master plan, which would guide future regional infrastructure cooperation and planning.

16. The Director urged the delegates to consider the following: establishing regional value chains based on commodities; the growth of market space offered by the Tripartite Free Trade Area; and the diversification of trading partners and export baskets. She noted that improved market integration and trade could not take place without infrastructure and improved production capacities and stated that industrial development was important for improving the livelihoods of people in the subregion. She also observed that the present meeting was particularly relevant in that the recommendations emanating from it would contribute to the third pillar of the Tripartite Free Trade Area and the recent launch of the SADC Industrialization Policy. She stated that the theme of the annual Conference of Ministers of Economy, Finance, Planning and Economic Development was "Industrialization for an emerging Africa", which indicated that accelerating industrial development was a priority for many African countries and that recommendations from the Session would contribute a subregional perspective to the continental objective.

17. The Director informed the meeting of the refocusing of ECA towards greater involvement in research based on analysis of credible data. She also noted that the subregional offices would play a more prominent role and work closely with member States in the collection and compilation of data. In conclusion, she emphasized that promoting regional integration and responding to the needs of member States had remained a priority of ECA.

18. The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Economic Planning and Investment Promotion, Desire Sibanda, introduced the Minister of Economic Planning and Investment

Promotion of Zimbabwe, Tapiwa Mashakada, and invited him to deliver the keynote address and officially open the proceedings.

19. Mr. Mashakada, welcomed the delegates to the meeting on behalf of the Government of the Zimbabwe and extended his appreciation to the outgoing Bureau members of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts for the efficient manner in which they carried out their business since the eighteenth session, which had been held in Port Louis. The Minister noted with appreciation the strategic role of ECA in promoting regional integration and dealing with the needs of member States through analytical and advisory services.

20. The Minister reminded delegates that the nineteenth session of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of the Economic Commission for Africa Subregional Office for Southern Africa was taking place in a challenging economic and geopolitical environment. He observed that the SADC growth rate, which declined from 5.2 per cent in 2010 to 3.3 per cent in 2012, was expected to recover to 4.9 per cent in 2013. He also noted that Zimbabwe had performed relatively well during the last three years. He warned, however, that faltering global economic growth could continue to pose a threat to economic progress in Southern Africa and the ability of member States to meet their development targets. In order to tackle those challenges the Minister called for increased diversification, promotion of South-South cooperation and the strengthening of intra-Africa trade.

21. The Minister outlined the Government's development vision, which was part of the country's National Development Strategy, the Medium Term Plan 2011–2015 and stated that it viewed industry as a critical driver of economic growth and development and hence, the development of the Industrial Development Policy 2012-2016. A highly diversified and competitive manufacturing sector would generate higher economic multiplier and jobs for citizens. The Government of Zimbabwe was committed to ensuring that the agricultural sector was transformed, with the aim to achieve optimal production and job creation. He identified pharmaceuticals, agricultural processing, metals and electricals as the sectors with the potential to grow and revitalize manufacturing in Zimbabwe.

22. He then urged the delegates to not only share their national experiences, but also to identify strategies and opportunities from a subregional perspective and implored the Committee to identify ways to strengthen the work and mandate of ECA within Southern Africa. The Minister finally expressed confidence in the ability of the Committee to produce concrete and workable recommendations and then declared the nineteenth session of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of Southern Africa officially open.

4. Organizational matters

23. The delegates elected Zimbabwe as Chair of the Bureau of the nineteenth session of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of Southern Africa, Namibia as Vice Chair and Zambia as Rapporteur and adopted the agenda below:

1. Opening Ceremony
2. Election of Bureau and adoption of the programme of work
 - (a) Presentation of the report on the economic and social conditions in Southern Africa in 2012
 - (b) Report and recommendations of the Ad Hoc Expert Group Meeting on Industrialization for Economic Transformation and Sustainable development in Southern Africa: Addressing the Gaps
3. Industrial site visits
4. Presentation and discussion on the progress report on the implementation of regional and international agendas, including the New Partnership for Africa's Development and other special initiatives in the subregion
5. Presentation and discussion on the programme performance of the Economic Commission for Africa Subregional Office for Southern Africa
6. Presentation and discussion on the work of divisions of the Economic Commission for Africa and cooperating Partners
7. Other business
8. Date and venue of the twentieth session of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of the Economic Commission for Africa Subregional Office for Southern Africa
9. Consideration and adoption of the report of the meeting and recommendations
10. Closing ceremony

5. Proceedings

Agenda Item 3 (a): Presentation of the report on economic and social conditions in Southern Africa and prospects for 2013

24. The secretariat presented the report on economic and social conditions in Southern Africa and the prospects for 2013. In the report, it was highlighted that there were unstable global economic challenges in 2012 and that economic and social conditions remained fragile in 2013. The world economy was slowing, while the subregion remained vulnerable to shocks and austerity measures imposed by Europe, emerging economies and the United States of America. The presenter noted that Africa had registered strong economic growth of 4 per cent in 2012, mainly led by solid domestic demand, the recovery in North Africa, new mineral and oil production and growth of export markets outside Europe. The presenter underscored that the SADC region was following a similar path, with its gross domestic product growing 4.3 per cent in 2012 and modestly in 2013. Regarding commodity prices, the presenter stated that most mineral prices were generally subdued with some declining in 2012, while agricultural commodities had remained high due to extreme weather conditions in major production zones. The presenter highlighted the SADC region's high vulnerability to commodity price movements

and observed that food prices were exerting upward pressure on the region's inflation, resulting in the widening of current account deficits for net commodity importers. The presenter further noted that the region's share of world and African trade were stagnant and confirmed its slow diversification from conducting trade with its traditional trading partners in both exports and imports, and the emergence of China and India as key trade partners for the region.

25. The presentation underscored that social conditions had not kept pace with economic performance in the subregion and positive growth was not translating into significant formal employment opportunities and social development. The subregion had continued to face serious challenges in reducing poverty, maternal and child mortality and the increasing vulnerability to climate change. Delegates were urged to promote inclusive and pro-poor growth and mobilize development partners to step up effort to create jobs, with a special focus on young people and women. The presenter called for the following: reduction in costs of trading within the subregion; strengthening of intra-SADC trade; and for member States to strengthen South-South cooperation to minimize the adverse effects of the eurozone challenges.

Discussion

26. In the ensuing discussions, the Committee emphasized the need to deal with the subregion's overreliance on primary commodities and to avoid the natural resource curse through beneficiation, industrialization and economic diversification. The promotion of value addition in natural resources would strengthen forward and backward linkages with other sectors of the economy.

27. The Committee called upon member States to draw lessons from success stories in promoting commodity-based industrialization in Africa and elsewhere. Emphasis was placed on the importance of a vibrant private sector to foster industrialization, and Governments were urged to create appropriate conditions for the development of the private sector.

28. Concerned about the adverse impacts of economic developments in Europe on the economies of the subregion, the Committee called for strengthening South-South cooperation and trade to minimize the adverse effects of eurozone developments and promote deeper regional integration and stronger intra-Africa trade.

29. The Committee emphasized the importance of credible statistics for policy development and urged the secretariat to update statistics on inflation and disaggregate data on employment in the report.

30. The Committee took note of efforts by member States to address macroeconomic challenges. The delegates were informed about progress made by Swaziland in strengthening its fiscal position through more efficient tax collection and reforms to streamline public expenditure.

31. The Committee emphasized the need to harness benefits arising from the large informal sector in the subregion in fostering industrialization and to create decent jobs for women and young people.

32. While alluding to increased revenues stemming from high commodity prices, the Committee urged member States to improve the management of commodity market risks (fluctuations) through the appropriate deployment of those revenues. It called for the creation of sovereign wealth funds, which could be used to insulate the subregion's economies from global economic shocks as well as investment in other forms of capital including human resources and infrastructure. Member States were urged to mobilize domestic and external resources and to promote diversification of both export products and markets in order to increase inflows for industrial development.

Agenda Item 3 (b): Presentation of the report and recommendations of the Ad Hoc Expert Group Meeting on Industrialization for Economic Transformation and Sustainable Development in Southern Africa

33. The Rapporteur of the Ad Hoc Expert Group Meeting on Industrialization for Economic Transformation and Sustainable Development in Southern Africa, which preceded the nineteenth Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of Southern Africa, presented the report and recommendations of the expert group meeting. Experts from seven member States of SADC and development partners deliberated on the challenges for industrialization in Southern Africa and noted the following: the slow pace of industrial development; the high dependence of member States on low-value commodity exports; the low levels of investment in research and development, science, technology and innovation; and the large infrastructure challenges in the subregion. The experts' recommended actions were clustered into six thematic areas: (i) policy; (ii) research and development, and science, technology and innovation; (iii) infrastructure; (iv) value addition and beneficiation; (v) investment and finance; and (vi) capacity-building. Specific actions were provided under each thematic area. Annex 2 contains the outcome statement of the expert group meeting, which includes the specific recommendations. The presenter appealed to the delegates to urge their respective Governments to develop action plans for implementing the recommendations.

34. While highlighting and emphasizing the urgency of industrial transformation, economic diversification and commodity value addition in Southern Africa, the Committee adopted the recommendations of the expert group meeting and reiterated the need for member States to develop action plans for implementation supported by a monitoring and evaluation mechanism.

Agenda Item 4: Industrial site visits

35. The delegates were taken on conducted tours of four industrial sites in Harare. They visited the following companies: Olivine Industries (Pvt.) Ltd.; Schweppes Zimbabwe (Pvt.) Ltd.; Superior Holdings (Pvt.) Ltd.; and Dairiboard Zimbabwe (Pvt.) Ltd.

Agenda Item 5: Presentation of the report on progress in the implementation of regional and international agendas, including the New Partnership for Africa's Development and other special initiatives in the subregion

36. The secretariat presented the report on progress in the implementation of regional and international agendas, focusing on population and sustainable development through the

framework of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD). Some of the key priority areas for ICPD included the provision of universal access to family planning, the promotion of gender equality, the empowerment of women and equal access to education for girls, dealing with the environmental, social and economic impact of urbanization and migration and supporting sustainable development and dealing with environmental issues associated with population growth. The implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action would assist in efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals.

37. The presenter noted that there was consensus that policy, institutions and population growth were critical in shaping the prospects of economic growth and poverty reduction. Furthermore, rapid population growth could potentially constrain economic growth for some countries. With the right interventions, the population dynamics of some countries could complement their development strategies, as was the case for some economies in East Asia. Some of the economic, social and environmental implications of rapid population growth were also noted.

38. The presenter observed the significant variation in the SADC region in terms of population growth rates, size and structure and noted that the region's population of 286 million in 2012 was expected to increase to 617 million by 2050. Fertility rates varied across the region with Mauritius having the lowest fertility rates. The presenter observed that Botswana, Madagascar, Mauritius, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa and Zimbabwe had either attained or were making progress towards achieving the ICPD target for under-five mortality rates. Maternal mortality rates were still high in SADC and no country had attained the ICPD or Millennium Development Goal target. On provision of reproductive health-care services, Botswana, Mauritius and South Africa had already attained the ICPD+5 benchmark. The presenter highlighted that demographic factors presented a window of opportunity for accelerated economic growth through demographic transition supported by good institutions and investments in human capital. Countries should, therefore, implement policies that would allow demographic trends to complement their development efforts, including upscaling family planning. Furthermore, complementary targeted interventions were necessary in order to experience continued progress in maternal and child mortality. Equally important was increased investment in agricultural productivity and the provision of potable water.

39. In addition, the secretariat presented an information note on ICPD beyond 2014 and noted that the General Assembly had extended the implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action to beyond 2014 and urged countries to recommit themselves to the goals and objectives of it. In resolution 65/234 on the follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014, the General Assembly called upon the United Nations Population Fund to work with ECA and the African Union, among others, to support member States in undertaking an operational review of the implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action. The global report on ICPD was to have informed the High Level Meeting on Millennium Development Goals in September 2013. Furthermore, the Secretary General would present the global report on the implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action to a special session of the General Assembly in September 2014.

Discussion

40. The Committee sought clarification on how countries could ascertain their position in the demographic transition. In response, it was informed that the phases of the original demographic transition model included the pre-transitional phase (high mortality and high fertility); the phase of mortality decline; the phase of fertility decline and the phase of low fertility and mortality rates. Countries could then determine their position based on those phases. It was emphasized that countries in the subregion were experiencing the phase of mortality decline and some had moved into the phase of fertility decline. Only Mauritius was considered to have passed through the demographic transition.

41. The Committee observed that the small subregional population could be a constraint to economic growth due to the limited size of the internal market. It was emphasized that the ICPD Programme of Action was about expanding rights and opportunities for individuals and ensuring a good quality of life for all people, rather than focusing on narrow demographic targets. Furthermore, rapid population growth could hamper the ability of countries to achieve sustainable growth.

42. The Committee suggested that the Economic Commission for Africa Subregional Office for Southern Africa take an active role in formulating the development agenda beyond 2015 with regards to population and development in the context of the ICPD Programme of Action to ensure that issues unique to the subregion were factored into programmes.

Agenda Item 6: Presentation and discussion on the programme performance of the Economic Commission for Africa Subregional Office for Southern Africa

43. The secretariat presented the report in which key programme activities undertaken by Economic Commission for Africa Subregional Office for Southern Africa during the first year of the biennium 2012-2013 were highlighted. Also in the report were discussions on the main results achieved, challenges encountered, lessons learned and results achieved in the implementation of the work programme and a summary of the proposed work programme for 2014-2015. The report was a key mechanism through which member States could evaluate the relevance and performance of the Subregional Office and provide guidance for its future work.

44. In the report, it was noted that the Subregional Office's work programme, the Subregional activities in Southern Africa, was listed in component 5 of sub-programme 7 on Subregional Activities for Development and Programme 14 of the United Nations on Economic and Social Development in Africa. The presenter explained that the activities undertaken were geared towards enhancing the capacity of member States, SADC and other intergovernmental organizations in formulating and implementing harmonized macroeconomic and sectoral policies and programmes aimed at the following: setting key subregional integration priorities in Southern Africa; helping to achieve the Millennium Development Goals and strengthening the capacity of SADC and COMESA to implement multi-year programmes; supporting COMESA, EAC and SADC tripartite programmes through improved partnerships with key stakeholders, including other intergovernmental organizations, United Nations agencies, AfDB, the African

Union and the NEPAD secretariat; and strengthening information and knowledge networking with key stakeholders involved in subregional development activities.

45. The Committee was also informed of the key activities undertaken by the Subregional Office: the substantive servicing of the eighteenth Intergovernmental Committee of Experts meeting, three expert group meetings on the tourism sector, climate change and commodity exchange; and advisory services extended to member States and regional economic communities. The technical assistance included: support towards strengthening the Zambia-Malawi-Mozambique Growth Triangle initiative; advisory support to the Association of Regulators of Information and Communication for Eastern and Southern Africa; support in the undertaking of an e-commerce assessment in the SADC region and in developing ICT master plans for the parliaments of the Governments of Botswana and Swaziland; advisory support to the Government of Lesotho in developing a minerals and mining policy and technical support for developing a national information and communications infrastructure plan for Swaziland. The Subregional Office had also provided trainings to enhance the institutional capacity of regional economic commissions and institutions of member States. Those included a results-based management training workshop for COMESA, a workshop on strengthening knowledge management and networking, and ICT training for members and key staff of the Parliament of Botswana.

46. The secretariat identified the challenges faced by the Subregional Office during the year. Two of them were the lack of quality data for use in programming and in undertaking analytical work and budgetary constraints, particularly with regard to activities that were funded through extrabudgetary resources. Regarding the latter, funds for such activities were not always released on time, resulting in delays in implementation. Lessons learned from programme delivery included need to strengthen internal institutional capacities for data collection as lack of credible data continued to be a major challenge for the Subregional Office in undertaking research and analytical work, and the important role of strategic collaborations and strong engagements with principal stakeholders in undertaking initiatives aimed at enhancing the institutional capacity of beneficiary organizations to formulate and implement harmonized macroeconomic and sectoral policies.

Discussion

47. The Committee appreciated the information extended by ECA advisory services but, bemoaned the general lack of knowledge about the availability of those services among member States, as well as the procedures for accessing the services at the country level. It urged ECA to make those services more visible at the national level with the aim to increase engagement and to ensure that member States utilized the Commission's expertise efficiently.

48. While discussing the importance of collaboration among development partners, the Committee sought clarification on collaboration between ECA and the SADC secretariat and was informed about the Commission's multi-year programme with SADC and COMESA and of the support extended by ECA to the SADC-EAC-COMESA Tripartite.

49. The Committee endorsed the report of the programme performance of the Economic Commission for Africa Subregional Office for Southern Africa Office for 2012-2013 and the

work programme for 2013-2014. It also took note of the ongoing restructuring process within ECA in support of the African development agenda.

Agenda Item 7: Presentation of reports on the work of the divisions of the Economic Commission on Africa and the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning

50. Presentations were made by the following divisions of ECA located at the ECA headquarters: Office of Strategic Planning and Programme Management; Economic Development; and the NEPAD Division and Partnership and Technical Cooperation Office. In addition, a representative of the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning outlined the capacity-building opportunities available to member States.

51. The representative of the Office of Strategic Planning and Programme Management briefed the Committee on the ongoing ECA restructuring process to recalibrate the Commission's programme of work and organizational structure with the aim to more effectively respond to the transformative development priorities and needs of member States. The restructuring would result in more policy-focused and issue-oriented research, analytical work and capacity development. He outlined a number of the Commission's recent achievements, including work on policy development through major publications, technical assistance and fostering partnerships to respond to the special needs of Africa. The presenter informed the Committee that the ongoing consultative reforms process had been endorsed by key stakeholders, including the African Union, member States and donors. He also informed the Committee that the restructuring process was expected to be endorsed by the Conference of Ministers, which was to be held in Abidjan from 25 to 30 March 2013, and assured the Committee that the outcome of the present meeting would be used as input into deliberations at the Conference of Ministers whose focus was on industrialization for an emerging Africa.

52. The representative of the Economic Development and NEPAD Division updated the Committee on the ongoing work on the United Nations subregional coordination mechanism. He reminded the Committee that the mechanism was intended to enhance United Nations system-wide coherence, coordination and cooperation at the subregional and regional levels to promote development in Africa in support of the African Union and NEPAD. The presenter highlighted the major achievements of the mechanism, including the mechanism's ownership by the United Nations and the African Union and strong leadership at the highest level, which had resulted in a more results-oriented approach. He further informed the committee on the mechanism's flagship projects and the criteria for their selection. The presenter underscored the mechanism's next step of putting in place a steering committee and strengthening resource mobilization. Lastly, he emphasized the need to harness the benefits arising from the mechanism to support the EAC-COMESA-SADC Tripartite and mobilize national champions for regional projects.

53. The representative of the Office of Strategic Planning and Programme Management outlined the implications of the ECA restructuring process on resources mobilization and noted that the ongoing reform process would strengthen synergy and linkages between ECA and AUC, regional economic communities and member States. It would also strengthen synergy and linkages between the subregional offices and AUC and increase engagement of the private sector in supporting the African agenda. He underscored that under the new ECA structure, there were

more opportunities for implementing activities with AUC, regional economic communities and member States, for working with other partners and for promoting South-South cooperation. As a way to benefit from the Commission's technical support, the presenter urged member States to visit the ECA website and make specific requests.

54. The representative of the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning outlined the key aspects of ECA capacity-building initiatives implemented by the Dakar-based institute. The presenter highlighted that a major focus of the Institute was on short-term research support, capacity-building and policy dialogue aimed at tackling critical shortages of skilled manpower required for carrying out the activities related to the priority areas for African development. He underscored that the Institute's research activities were aimed at aligning development research and policymaking more closely, and providing a critical link between researchers and policymakers. He further indicated that the Institute was building an extensive network of strategic partnerships with international development organizations, public sector organizations and leading universities in Africa to expand the delivery of its programmes and make it easier for countries to tap the opportunities offered through ECA activities.

Discussion

55. The Committee took note of the three reports presented and congratulated the Commission for the support being extended to member States, regional economic communities and other stakeholders in the subregion. It urged the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning to expand its training activities in Southern Africa and noted that this could be achieved through decentralizing the training programme and collaborating with universities and other centres of learning in the SADC region.

Agenda item 8: Other business

56. No issues were discussed under this agenda item.

Agenda item 9: Date and venue of the twentieth session of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of Southern Africa

57. The Committee tasked the secretariat with consulting further with relative parties on the matter and communicating to member States the dates and venue for the twentieth session of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of Southern Africa.

Agenda item 10: Adoption of the outcome statement

58. The Committee adopted the recommendations in the following areas: (i) management of revenues; (ii) value addition, industrialization and employment creation; (iii) regional integration and South-South cooperation; (iv) population and sustainable development; and (v) capacity-building.

On collection, management and utilization of revenues, member States should:

- Strengthen the management of commodity market risks through appropriate use of revenues and should create sovereign wealth funds to be used to insulate economies from global economic shocks;
- Promote diversification of both export products and markets to increase revenue inflows and for industrial development.

On value addition, industrialization and employment creation, member States should:

- Promote value addition in natural resource sectors to strengthen forward and backward linkages with other sectors of the economy;
- Leverage on the opportunities offered by the large informal sector to promote inclusive industrialization and create decent jobs for young people and women.

On stronger regional integration and South-South cooperation, member States should:

- Strengthen South-South cooperation and trade to minimize the adverse effects of global economic developments;
- Strengthen regional integration to benefit from economies of scale arising from regional value chains.

On addressing population and development challenges, member States should:

- Mainstream population issues in sustainable development policies and strategies.

On capacity-building, member States should:

- Take advantage of the training opportunities offered by ECA and the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning in the various socioeconomic development areas;
- Increase investment in research and development and science, technology and innovation.

On the way forward, the Committee underscored:

- (i) The need to expedite implementation of the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Expert Group Meeting on Industrialization for Economic Transformation and Sustainable Development in Southern Africa: Addressing the Gaps in order to accelerate industrialization in SADC member States;
- (ii) That the Economic Commission for Africa Subregional Office for Southern Africa should work closely with member States on the review of the International Conference on Population and Development and formulating the development agenda beyond 2015;
- (iii) That the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning should accelerate its drive to decentralize capacity-building efforts and explore ways to offer various courses in other subregions in order to enhance coverage in Southern Africa.

Agenda item 11: Closing ceremony

59. Moeketsi Khoboko, Deputy Director of Industry, Ministry of Trade and Industry, Cooperatives and Marketing, Lesotho, delivered a vote of thanks on behalf of the delegates of the nineteenth session of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of the Economic Commission of Southern Africa. He expressed profound appreciation to the Government of Zimbabwe for the hospitality extended and thanked ECA for its efforts in facilitating economic integration and tackling the special needs of member States.

60. In her closing remarks, Beatrice Kiraso extended her thanks to the Minister of Economic Planning and Investment Planning for his active interest in the work of ECA and his contribution to the success of the present meeting. The Director expressed her appreciation to the Permanent Secretary, Desire Sibanda, for actively participating in the present meeting and for his leadership in the preparatory processes. She thanked the delegates, participants and presenters for the high level of discussion and recommendations. Ms. Kiraso also thanked Charles Marongwe Mujajati, Director, Economic Affairs and Modeling, Ministry of Economic Planning and Investment Promotion, Zimbabwe, for chairing the meeting and the other Bureau members, Namibia and Zambia, for their sterling work in leading the proceedings.

61. Desire Sibanda, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Economic Planning and Investment Promotion, closed the twentieth session of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of Southern Africa on behalf of the Government of Zimbabwe. He expressed his gratitude to Ms. Kiraso, for choosing Zimbabwe as the venue for the meeting and noted that the meeting was the key event of the week and the first event of its kind to be held in Zimbabwe. He also stated that the meeting was a success in dealing with an important subject matter for the Africa, as well as for Zimbabwe, which had experienced a period of de-industrialization. He thanked the delegates for the concrete recommendations proffered during the meeting and the Bureau for a job well done.

62. The Permanent Secretary stated that he was looking forward to attending the Conference of Ministers in Abidjan, where he hoped the Ministers would discuss and endorse the recommendations of the various intergovernmental committees of experts meetings. He underscored the importance of regional cooperation in dealing with developmental challenges. In closing, Mr. Sibanda highlighted the critical importance of investing in research and development, science, technology and innovation, and infrastructure, and of aligning national industrialization policies with regional frameworks in national industrialization strategies.

Annex 1: List of delegates and participants

Member States

Botswana

Ms. Mpho Happy Ntshese, Principal Industrial Officer, Department of Industrial Affairs, Ministry of Trade and Industry. Gaborone

Lesotho

Mr. Moeketsi Khoboko, Deputy Director of Industry, Ministry of Trade & Industry, Cooperatives and Marketing, Maseru

Malawi

Mr. Jollam Banda, Chief Economist, Ministry of Economic Planning and Development, Lilongwe

Namibia

Mr. Tobias Sisamu, National Development Advisor, National Planning Commission. Windhoek

Swaziland

Mr. Hezekiel Magagula, Principal Planning Officer, Ministry of Economic Planning and Development, Mbabane

Mr. Sandile Maseko, Industrial Officer, Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Trade, Mbabane

Zambia

Mr. Tobias Mulimbika, Director – Industry, Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry, Lusaka

Mr. Maketo Mulele, Principal Economist, Ministry of Finance, Lusaka

Mr. Hans Yamba, Economist, Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry, Lusaka

Zimbabwe

Ministry of Economic Planning and Investment Promotion

Mr. Tapiwa Mashakada, Minister.

Mr. Desire Sibanda, Permanent Secretary

Mr. Thabani Dhliwayo, Director, Investment Promotion

Mr. Charles Mujajati, Director, Economic Affairs and Modeling

Mr. Grasio Nyaguse, Director, Policy Planning and Coordination

Mr. Nohlupeko Phiri, Acting Director, Economic Research

Mr. Godfrey Mkwakwami, Deputy Director

Mr. Brighton Shayanewako, Deputy Director, Economic Affairs

Ms. Colator Maoko, Chief Economist

Mr. Kudakwashe Mafigo, Senior Economist

Mr. Chamunorwa Nyamuranga, Senior Economist

Mr. Adonis Tafirenyika Ntuli, Principal Economist

Ms. Sifikile Moyo, Principal Economist

Ms. Patience Yakobe, Principal Economist

Mr. Leonard Mandishora, Economist
Mr. Elson Chuzu, Economist
Mr. Toddy Muchuwa, Economist
Mr. Tapiwa Dzukutu, Economist
Mr. Blessed Mburinga, Economist
Mr. Tavonga Vhezha, Economist,
Ms. Chishamiso Mpofu, Intern
Mr. Tinotenda Nyota, Intern
Mr. Sajeni Maganizo, Office Assistant
Ms. Tafadzwa Mavhoru, Office Assistant

Ministry of Finance

Mr. Eria Hamandishe, Director

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr. Francis M. Chigaazira, Principal Administrative Officer

Ministry of Industry and Commerce

Mr. Stanislaus Daison Mangoma, Director, Enterprise Development Department
Ms. Spiwe Nyamatore, Acting Deputy Director
Mr. Dayford Nhema, Acting Deputy Director

Ministry of Science and Technology

Ms. Rungano Karimanzira, Director, Ministry of Science and Technology Development
Mr. Christopher Kateera, Deputy Director
Mr. David Msariri, Deputy Director
Ministry of Small and Medium Enterprises and Cooperative Development
Mr. Tabani Shoko, Acting Director

Ministry of Youth Development, Indigenisation and Empowerment

Mr. Tafi Mashonganyika, Deputy Director

Office of the President and Cabinet

Mr. Nditwani Muleya, Director
Mr. Peter Ngorima, Deputy Director

Office of the Prime Minister

Mr. Josphat Nyoni, Director, Economics Department

Chamber of Mines of Zimbabwe

Mr. Isaac Kwesu, Chief Economist, Harare

Research Council of Zimbabwe

Ms. Susan Muzite, Executive Director, Harare
Mr. Victor Masarakufa, Senior Technical Officer, Harare

Confederation of Zimbabwe Industries

Ms. Daphne Mazambani, Senior Economist, Harare

Scientific Industrial Research and Development Centre

Mr. Leonard Madzingaidzo, Executive Director, Technical, Harare

University of Zimbabwe

Ms. Jeanette Manjengwa, Deputy Director, Institute of Environmental Studies, Harare

Zimbabwe Investment Authority

Mr. Richard Mbaiwa, Chief Executive Officer, Harare

Mr. Sichoni Tokoleza, Head of Operations, Harare

Zimbabwe National Chamber of Commerce

Mr. Brains Muchemwa, Managing Director, Harare

Mr. Kipson Gundani, Chief Economist, Harare

Media

Mr. Nevson Mpfu, Researcher, Economist, Information and Media, Harare

Mr. Patrick Musira, Chief Writer, *The Suburban News*, Harare

Mr. Josiah Dimbo, Reporter, African Media on Economic Development, Harare

Mr. Stanley Mkuluchi, Sound Technician, Vickstrom

Mr. Milton Makuwa, Marketing Director, Snash Communications, Harare

Ms. Grace Zveyika, Economic Reporter, Harare

Mr. Jabulani Chisipo, Media Consultant Harare

Mr. Kudzai Chawatambira, Business Report, Daily News, Harare

Regional and international organizations

African Union

Mr. Tichawona Shumba, Senior Policy Officer, African Union Commission, Southern Africa Subregional Office, Lilongwe

Development Bank of Southern Africa

Mr. Thomas George Scott, Chief Economist, Midrand, South Africa

New Partnership for Africa's Development

Ms. Florence Nazare, Head, Capacity Development, Midrand, South Africa.

World Bank

Mr. Seedwell Hove, Economist, Zimbabwe Country Office, Harare.

Resource persons

Mr. Daniel Ndlela, Consultant, USAID-SERA (United States Agency for International Development – Strategic Economic Research and Development Program), Harare

Mr. Rongai Chizema, Independent Economic Analyst, Zimconsult and Associates, Harare

Mr. Honest Zhou, Department of Economics, University of Zimbabwe, Harare

Ms. Nancy Kgegwenyane, Freelance Consultant, Environment, Climate Change and Natural

Resources Development, Gaborone

United Nations

African Institute for Economic Development and Planning

Mr. Herbert Robinson, Regional Advisor and Head of Training Division, Dakar

United Nations Development Programme

Mr. James Wakiaga, Economics Advisor, Harare

United Nations Industrial Development Organization

Mr. Tichaona Mushayandebvu, Head of Operations, Harare

Ms. Matilda Muweme, Field Operations Officer, Vienna International Centre, Vienna,

Economic Commission for Africa - Headquarters

Mr. George Ogboro, Chief, Programme Planning and Budgeting, Office of Strategic Planning and Operational Quality

Mr. Alemayehu Haile, Programme Management Officer, Partnerships Technical Cooperation Officer

Mr. Robert Lisinge, Economic Affairs Officer, Economic Development and NEPAD Division

Economic Commission for Africa Subregional Office for Southern Africa

Ms. Beatrice Kiraso, Director, Lusaka

Mr. Sizo Mhlanga, Senior Economic Affairs Officer, Lusaka

Mr. Anthony Taylor, Economic Affairs Officer, Lusaka

Mr. Oliver Maponga, Economic Affairs Officer, Lusaka

Mr. Jean Luc Namegabe, Economic Affairs Officer, Lusaka

Mr. Jack Zulu, Social Affairs Officer, Lusaka

Mr. Benjamin Banda, Economic Affairs Officer, Lusaka

Mr. Bernard Patrick Bamin, Associate Administrative and Finance Officer, Lusaka

Ms. Maame Agyben, Associate Economic Affairs Officer, Lusaka

Mr. Henry Lubinda, Programme Officer, Lusaka

Ms. Sampa Kangwa-Wilkie, Communications Officer, Lusaka

Ms. Ruth Kananda, Administrative Assistant, Lusaka

Mr. Ronald Nkhoma, Computer Systems Assistant, Lusaka

Ms. Dailes Matoka, Senior Staff Assistant, Lusaka

Mr. Bartholomew Nyendwa, Transport Assistant, Lusaka, Zambia

Mr. Mubanga Katongo, Transport Assistant, Lusaka

Annex 2: Outcome statement of the Ad Hoc Expert Group Meeting on Industrialization for Economic Transformation and Sustainable Development in Southern Africa: Addressing the Gaps

Harare, 5 – 6 March 2013

Preamble

1. The Ad Hoc Expert Group Meeting on Industrialization for Economic Transformation and Sustainable Development in Southern Africa: Addressing the Gaps was held in Harare on 5 and 6 March 2013.
2. The Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Economic Planning and Investment Promotion, Mr. Desire Mutize Sibanda officially opened the expert group meeting following opening remarks by the Director of the Economic Commission for Africa Subregional Office for Southern Africa, Ms. Beatrice Kiraso. Experts from the following member States of the Southern African Development Community attended the meeting: Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Organizations represented at the meeting included the African Union Commission, Southern Africa Regional Office, the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), the Development Bank of Southern Africa, the World Bank, the Scientific and Industrial Research Development Centre; the United Nations Development Programme, Zimbabwe, the United Nations Industrial Development Office (UNIDO) Zimbabwe and Vienna, the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning and the Economic Commission for Africa.

Programme of Work

3. The meeting elected Zimbabwe as Chair of the Bureau, Namibia as Vice Chair and Zambia as Rapporteur.
4. The meeting adopted the following agenda
 1. Opening of the meeting, election of bureau and adoption of work programme
 2. Overview and objectives of the meeting
 3. Presentation of the report on industrialization for economic transformation and sustainable development in Southern Africa: addressing the gaps
 4. Sharing experiences on subregional and continental approaches to industrialization
 5. Panel discussion on key industrialization issues
 6. Sharing of country experiences
 7. Consideration and adoption of the report of the meeting and recommendations
 8. Closing of the meeting

Proceedings

5. The consultant presented the report on industrialization for economic transformation and sustainable development in Southern Africa: addressing the gaps. In the report, the state of industrialization in Southern Africa was outlined and key constraints and attempts to tackle them were identified.
6. Experts from the African Union, Southern Africa Regional Office, NEPAD and UNIDO presented the industrialization programmes of their respective institutions.
7. The meeting was further informed by a panel discussion on key thematic issues in industrial development: research and development and innovation; investment and finance; natural resources and value addition; and infrastructure and by experience sharing presentations from member States.

Key observations

8. The meeting noted the findings and recommendations of the study, the presentations, the panel discussions and experiences of SADC member States. The following were the overall observations:-
 - (a) Africa lags behind in industrial development and its exports are dominated by unfinished or semi-finished products;
 - (b) Research and development and innovation is key for industrialization;
 - (c) Low levels of resources are being allocated for research and development, and science, technology and innovation;
 - (d) Resource based industrialization could be a feasible route for the African transformative process;
 - (e) Infrastructure is a critical input to industrialization;
 - (f) Tackling technology, financial capital and human capacity challenges is imperative;
 - (g) The role of Governments in the industrialization process is critical;
 - (h) The limited capacity of Governments, the private sector and other stakeholders in industrial development is a major constraint;
 - (i) Regional integration can be instrumental for accelerating industrialization;
 - (j) Transforming comparative advantage to competitive advantage through value addition is essential;
 - (k) Congruent policy frameworks are important for industrial development and investment promotion;
 - (l) Technology and productivity are key for structural transformation;
 - (m) Value chain development is key for subregional industrial competitiveness;
 - (n) Industrialization strategies must take into account the African context;
 - (o) Most countries have formulated industrial and investment policies, however, implementation of them remains a challenge;
 - (p) Negotiating capacity among member States in structuring investment ventures is very weak;
 - (q) Upgrading existing industrial capacity is critical for driving industrialization;

- (r) Public–private sector relations remain weak;
- (s) Formulation of industrial policies is not fully consultative and inclusive;
- (t) Industrial statistics are a necessary ingredient for formulating sound industrial policies.

Recommendations

9. In the light of the above discussions and observations, the experts recommended, for consideration and adoption by the nineteenth session of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of the Economic Commission for Africa Subregional Office for Southern Africa actions clustered into six thematic areas. The areas are (i) policy, (ii) research and development, science and technology and innovation, (iii) infrastructure, (iv) value addition and beneficiation, (v) investment and finance, and (vi) capacity-building.

On policy, member States should:-

- Develop clear national policies aligned to subregional and continental frameworks to guide investment and development;
- Domesticating the SADC Industrial Policy in order to strengthen a regional approach to industrial development;
- Develop industrial policies in consultation with all stakeholders and ensure that those policies are implemented.

On research and development, science and technology and innovation, member States should:

- Allocate adequate financial resources for science, technology and innovation and research and development;
- Create an environment that promotes private sector investment in science, technology and innovation, and research and development.

On infrastructure, member States should:

- Accelerate and upscale infrastructure development and explore public private partnership models for dealing with this constraint.

On value addition and beneficiation, member States should:

- Develop and/or strengthen frameworks to promote domestic value addition and beneficiation and to enhance local linkages.

On investment and finance, member States should:

- Create a conducive environment for investment and for nurturing the private sector, and use instruments that facilitate industrialization and international competitiveness and the development of infrastructure;

- Explore innovative ways for mobilizing both domestic and foreign financial resources to spur industrialization.

On capacity-building, member States should:

- Tackle human resource and skills capacity challenges at both government and private sector levels
- Reorient educational systems to build a critical entrepreneurial mass.

10. Member States should develop an action plan that indicates priorities, the support needed and the requisite monitoring and evaluation mechanisms, taking into consideration other initiatives on industrialization, including those of UNIDO, regional economic communities and the African Union Commission.

11. The meeting also recommended that the African Union Southern Africa Regional Office increase its advocacy and the visibility of African Union programmes and projects within member States of the Southern Africa subregion.

12. The experts further recommended that the Economic Commission for Africa Subregional Office for Southern Africa continue to provide technical support to member States and regional economic communities in dealing with development challenges.