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**Report of the 19th Meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts
(ICE) Meeting of Southern Africa**

**Harare, Zimbabwe
7 – 8 March 2013**

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On Industrialization for Economic Transformation and	
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Acronyms and Abbreviations

AEGM	Ad Hoc Expert Group Meeting
AfDB	African Development Bank
AIDA	Accelerated Industrial Development for Africa
AU	African Union
AUC	African Union Commission
AU-SARO	African Union, Southern Africa Regional Office
CAADP	Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme
COM	Conference of Ministers
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
DBSA	Development Bank of Southern Africa
EAC	East African Community
ECA SRO-SA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, Sub Regional Office for Southern Africa
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GMOs	Genetically Modified Organisms
ICE	Intergovernmental Committee of Experts
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
ICDP	International Conference on Population and Development
IDP	Industrial Development Policy
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organisations
OPM	Office of Strategic Planning and Programme Management,
PATCO	Partnership and Technical Cooperation Office
PIDA	Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa
PoA	Plan of Action
R&D	Research and Development
RECs	Regional Economic Communities
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SAP	Structural Adjustment Programme
SME	Small and Medium Scale Enterprise
SIRDC	Scientific and Industrial Research Development Centre
SRCM	Sub Regional Coordination Mechanism
STI	Science, Technology and Innovation
T-FTA	Tripartite Free Trade Area
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNIDEP	United Nations African Institute for Economic Development and Planning
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organisation

Summary

This report presents the discussions and outcomes of the 19th Session of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of Southern Africa held in Harare, Zimbabwe on March 7-8 2013 under the theme “Industrialisation for Economic Transformation and Sustainable Development in Southern Africa: Addressing the Gaps”. The Committee observed relatively stable economic growth in the sub region during 2012 though weighed down heavily by global economic developments in the Eurozone and the fluctuating international commodity prices. The sub region’s economic woes are further compounded by the narrow export base dominated by semi-finished products which exposes member States to unstable revenue flows. A low industrial base continues to undermine the sub region’s growth and development potential. Unemployment amongst the youth and women is high in SADC (Southern African Development Community) and the informal sector dominates economic activity in most countries in the sub region. Other observations by the Committee during deliberations included: the important inter-linkages between population and sustainable development, the limited visibility of ECA’s programmes at national level and the need for stronger collaboration among development partners in the delivery of technical assistance to SADC member States.

In light of the overall observations, the Committee recommended: prudent management of revenue inflows, accelerated promotion of value addition and industrialization, employment creation, strengthening regional integration and enhanced South-South cooperation, careful management of population growth and strengthening the capacity of both government and the private sector capacity to actively participate in industrial development. The Committee urged member States to create sovereign wealth funds from revenue inflows for use in insulating economies from global economic shocks; add value and beneficiate commodities before export and to diversify export products and markets. The Committee further recommended stronger regional integration and South-South cooperation to benefit from economies of scale and to diversity trading partners. On the way forward, the Committee underscored: the need to accelerate industrialization in SADC member States; that the Sub Regional Office for Southern Africa (SRO-SA) should work closely with member States on the International Conference on Population and Development Review and the Post-2015 Development Agenda; and that the African Institute for Economic Planning and Development (IDEP) should accelerate decentralisation of its capacity building efforts and explore ways to offer the various courses in Southern Africa.

1. Background

1. The 19th Intergovernmental Committee of Experts (ICE) Meeting of Southern Africa was organised by the Government of Zimbabwe in Harare, Zimbabwe on 7 and 8 March, 2013 under the theme “Industrialisation for Economic Transformation and Sustainable Development in Southern Africa: Addressing the Gaps”. 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 (AIDA) (2008) - all designed to address Africa’s structural transformation and development 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 provides for improving standards, technical regulations & quality infrastructure; promoting innovation, technology transfer, and research and development (R&D) activities; and developing mechanisms for appropriate industrial financing. It also provides for integrating infrastructure and services into the regional industrialization strategy; supporting small and medium-sized enterprises; attracting local and foreign direct investment (FDI), south-south cooperation and the promotion of exports. Thus, this Session of the ICE 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 19th ICE sought to discuss economic and social conditions in the sub region, review the work of the ECA Sub regional Office for Southern Africa and also review parliamentary reports prepared by the Secretariat.

2. Attendance

2. Delegates from the following member States attended the ICE: Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Organizations represented at the meeting included the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP, Zimbabwe), the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO - Zimbabwe and Vienna), the African Union Commission, Southern Africa Office (AU-SARO), New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD), Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA), Scientific and Industrial Research Development Centre (SIRDC); United Nations African Institute for Economic Planning and Development (UNIDEP) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA). Annex 1 is the list of delegates and participants.

3. Opening Session

3. The Opening Ceremony included statements and remarks from representatives of; the Bureau of the 18th ICE of Southern Africa, UNECA Sub Regional Office for Southern Africa (SRO-SA), AU-SARO and UNDP. The Honourable Minister of Economic Planning and Investment Promotion of Zimbabwe, Dr. Tapiwa Mashakada officially opened the 19th Meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of Southern Africa.

4. The Vice-Chairperson of the Bureau of the 18th ICE, Ms. Mpho Ntshese of Botswana delivered opening remarks on behalf of the outgoing Bureau. She thanked SRO-SA for support and guidance to the Bureau and congratulated the Government of the Republic of Zimbabwe for hosting the 19th ICE meeting and for assuming the Chairmanship of the Bureau of the ICE in Southern Africa. Turning to progress in regional integration, Ntshese expressed satisfaction at 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. She informed the meeting that the Bureau had followed the work of SRO-SA during the year. Ms. Ntshese listed some activities undertaken by SRO-SA to regional economic communities and member States in Southern Africa towards promoting regional integration and socioeconomic development in the subregion to include; the results-based management training provided to COMESA programme/project staff; the support to SADC through the SADC e-Commerce Readiness Assessment and e-Commerce Strategy; technical support for the ICT Master Plans for the parliaments of the Governments of Botswana and Swaziland and assistance to Lesotho in developing a mineral and mining policy. She also noted the work the Secretariat had done in preparing the technical study on 'Industrialization for Economic Transformation and Sustainable Development in Southern Africa: Addressing the Gaps', whose findings had been discussed at the ad hoc expert group meeting which concluded two days prior to the ICE meeting.

6. Ms. Ntshese concluded by thanking the Minister of Economic Planning and Investment Promotion, Dr. Tapiwa Mashakada for agreeing to officially opening the meeting and noted that this showed the importance which the Government of Zimbabwe accorded to the ICE as a statutory body to provide policy guidance to ECA within the sub region.

7. Dr. Tichawona Shumba, the representative of the African Union Commission from the AU-SARO, delivered remarks on behalf of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, Her Excellency Dr Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma and the AU Regional Delegate to Southern Africa, Dr. Salif Sada Sall. He informed the delegates that the AUC Chairperson was looking forward to the outcomes of the meeting. Dr. Shumba expressed his appreciation to ECA for working with AU-SARO on regional activities in

Southern Africa and thanked the Government and people of Zimbabwe for the hospitality.

8. He highlighted the need to upscale commodity value-chains in the sub region, speed up industrialization and to develop the private sector in Africa. Dr. Shumba noted that African countries needed to improve the quality of products to enhance international competitiveness. He alluded to the 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 quality assurance and development of the private sector and SMEs was necessary for sustainable development in Africa and so was enhancement of knowledge and skills through training and education to Africa's youthful population.

9. Dr. Shumba observed that the upcoming Joint AU and UNECA Conference of Ministers of Finance and Economic Planning and Development on the theme of '*Industrialization for An Emerging Africa*' in Cote d'Ivoire was another opportunity to advocate for industrial development in Africa, especially in light of the post-2015 development agenda and the African Union Commission Strategic Plan. He noted that the AU strategic plan had development indicators linked to poverty reduction, employment creation as well as industrial productivity. Moreover, the plan included initiatives for agricultural development and food security through the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP); youth development and education through the African Volunteer Corps, Pan-African University and Mwalimu Nyerere scholarships and research and development through the AU Science and Technology Observatory, AU Research Grants and Scientific Awards.

11. Dr. Shumba applauded the Government of Zimbabwe for implementing its 2011-2015 Industrial Development Policy as it would help boost productivity in line with continental aspirations. He concluded his remarks by noting that the designation of November 20th by the African Union as Africa Industrialization Day indicated the importance the continent attached to industrial transformation.

12. Mr. Martim Maya, Deputy Country Director of UNDP Zimbabwe delivered remarks on behalf of the UN Resident Coordinator in Zimbabwe, Mr. Alain Noudéhou. Mr. Maya noted that the presence of the Minister demonstrated the significance which the government of Zimbabwe placed on industrialization strategies and structural transformation. The speaker commended SRO-SA for providing a forum for experts, policy makers 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 SRO-SA for choosing to hold the 19th ICE meeting in Zimbabwe, noting that it was particularly relevant as Zimbabwe began to show strong signs of economic recovery. Furthermore, he stated that the theme of the meeting was of great significance to Zimbabwe, the sub region and the entire African continent, as

industrialization was one of the pathways to economic and social transformation. Mr. Maya noted that the choice of theme was timely as there were less than 3 years for countries to reach the targets of the MDGs and efforts should be made to promote inclusive and transformational growth. He also stated that the ongoing consultations for the post-2015 development agenda must take industrialization into consideration as a key driver of economic transformation.

13. 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. He 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.

14. Mr. Maya noted that proposals emanating from the ICE meeting would contribute to the implementation of the 2011-2015 Medium Term Plan and the 2012-2016 Industrial Development Policy in Zimbabwe. These frameworks were consistent with the developmental objectives of UNDP in Zimbabwe in promoting sustainable development and achieving the MDGs 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 for Zimbabwe and the Southern Africa subregion. Mr. Maya assured the meeting that UN would continue to collaborate and partner with government, private sector and civil society on the outcomes of the meeting and also in line with already agreed upon frameworks.

15. In her remarks, the Director of SRO-SA, Ms. Beatrice Kiraso, welcomed the delegates to 19th ICE of Southern Africa and thanked the Government of Zimbabwe for hosting the meeting. She commended the member States for their commitment to the activities of ECA and stated that it was such commitment that would ensure progress towards 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 ICE meeting, which affirmed the mutual support for the continental vision and the importance of collaboration in addressing the continent's challenges.

16. Ms. Kiraso 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 Government for approving the sub regional infrastructure master plan, which would guide future regional infrastructure cooperation and planning.

17. The Director urged the delegates to consider the issues of regional value chain development; the growth of market space offered by the tripartite free trade area (T-

FTA) and the diversification of trading partners and export baskets. She noted that improved market integration and trade cannot take place without infrastructure development and improved production capacities with countries and stated that industrial development was important for improving the livelihoods of people in the sub region. She also observed that this ICE session was particularly relevant in light of the fact the recommendations would contribute to the third pillar of the T-FTA and the recent launch of the SADC Industrialization Policy. She informed the meeting that the theme of the sixth joint annual meeting of AU/ECA 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 recommendations from the ICE meeting would contribute a sub regional perspective to the continental objective.

18. Ms. Kiraso informed the meeting of the refocusing of the 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, Ms. Kiraso advised that promoting regional integration and responding to the needs of member States remained a priority of the ECA.

19. The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Economic Planning and Investment Promotion, Dr. Desire Sibanda, introduced the Honourable Minister of Economic Planning and Investment Promotion of the Republic of Zimbabwe, Dr. Tapiwa Mashakada and invited him to deliver the keynote address and officially open the proceedings.

20. Dr. Mashakada, welcomed the delegates of the ICE meeting to Zimbabwe on behalf of the Government of the Zimbabwe and extended his appreciation to the outgoing ICE bureau members for the efficient manner in which they carried out their business since the 18th session held in Port Louis, Mauritius. The Minister noted with appreciation the strategic role of the ECA in promoting regional integration and addressing needs of member States through analytical and advisory services.

21. The Minister reminded delegates that the 19th Session of the ICE was taking place in a challenging economic and geopolitical environment. He observed that the SADC growth rate, which declined from 5.2 percent in 2010 to 3.3 percent in 2012, was expected to recover to 4.9 percent in 2013. He also noted that Zimbabwe had performed relatively well during the last three years. Dr. Mashakada, however, warned that faltering global economic growth could continue to pose a threat to the economic progress of Southern Africa and the ability of member States to meet their development targets. In order to address these challenges the Minister called for increased diversification, promotion of South-South cooperation and the strengthening of intra-Africa trade.

22. The Minister outlined the Zimbabwe government's industrial development vision, which is part of the country's National Development Strategy, the Medium Term Plan 2011-2015 and stated that his Government viewed industry as a critical driver of economic growth and development and hence, the development of the Industrial Development Policy (IDP) 2012-2016. He noted that a highly diversified and competitive manufacturing sector would generate higher economic multiplier and jobs for citizens. Dr. Mashakada also stated that the Zimbabwean government was committed to ensuring that the agricultural sector was transformed, in order for optimal production and job creation. He identified the sectors with the potential to grow and revitalize Zimbabwean manufacturing to include pharmaceuticals, agricultural processing, metals and electricals.

23. He then urged the delegates not only to share their national experiences, but also to identify strategies and opportunities from a sub regional perspective. He implored the Committee to identify ways in which to strengthen the work and mandate of the ECA within Southern Africa. The Minister finally expressed confidence in the ability of the Committee to produce concrete and workable recommendations and thereafter declared the 19th Session of the ICE of Southern Africa officially opened.

4. Organisational Matters

24. The delegates elected Zimbabwe as Chairperson of the Bureau of the 19th ICE, Namibia as Vice Chairperson and Zambia as Rapporteur and adopted the Agenda below:

1. Opening Ceremony
2. Election of bureau and adoption of the programme of work
3. (a) Report on the Economic and Social Conditions in Southern Africa in 2012
(b) Report and recommendations of the AEGM on Industrialisation for Economic Transformation and Sustainable Development in Southern Africa: Addressing the Gaps
4. Industrial sites visits
5. Presentation and discussion on the Progress report on the implementation of regional and international agendas, including NEPAD and other special initiatives in the sub region
6. Presentation and discussion on the Programme Performance of the ECA Office for Southern Africa
7. Presentation and discussion on the work of ECA Divisions and Cooperating Partners
8. Any Other Business
9. Date and Venue of the next ICE meeting
10. Consideration and Adoption of the report of the meeting and recommendations
11. Closing Ceremony

5. Account of Proceedings

Agenda Item 3 (a): Presentation of the Report on Economic and Social Conditions in Southern Africa and Prospects for 2013

25. The Secretariat presented the report on economic and social conditions in Southern Africa in 2012 and the prospects for 2013. The report highlighted the unstable global economic challenges in 2012 and emphasized that economic and social conditions remained fragile in 2013. The world economy was slowing down, the sub region remained vulnerable to shocks and austerity measures from Europe, emerging economies as well as the United States. The presenter noted that Africa had registered strong economic growth of 4 percent in 2012 mainly led by a strong domestic demand, the recovery in North Africa, new mineral and oil production and the growth of export markets outside Europe. The presenter underscored that the SADC region was following a similar path with a GDP growth at 4.3 percent in 2012 and an expected modest improvement in 2013. On commodity prices, the presenter observed that most mineral prices were generally subdued and some declined in 2012 while agricultural commodities remained high due to extreme weather conditions in major production zones. The presenter highlighted SADC's high vulnerability to commodity price movements and observed that food prices were exerting upward pressure on the sub region's inflation, resulting in the widening of current account deficits for net commodity importers. The presenter noted that SADC's share of world and African trade were stagnant at 1.1 percent and 34 percent, respectively and confirmed SADC's slow diversification from traditional trading partners in both exports and imports, and China's and India's emergence as key trade partners for the sub region.

26. The presentation underscored that social conditions had not kept pace with economic performance in the sub region and positive growth was not translating into significant formal employment opportunities and social development. The sub region continued to face serious challenges in reducing poverty, maternal and child mortality and the increasing vulnerability to climate change. Delegates were urged the sub region to promote inclusive and pro-poor growth and mobilise development partners towards job creation with a special focus on the youth and women. The presenter called for the reduction in the costs of trading within the sub region, the strengthening of intra-SADC trade, and for member States to strengthen South-South cooperation to minimise the adverse effects of the Euro zone challenges.

Discussion

27. In the discussions that ensued, the Committee emphasized the need to address the region's overreliance on primary commodities and avoid the natural resource curse through beneficiation, industrialisation and economic diversification. The promotion of

value addition in natural resources would strengthen forward and backward linkages with other sectors of the economy.

28. The Committee called upon member States to draw lessons from existing success stories in promoting commodity based industrialization on the continent. Emphasis was placed on the importance of a vibrant private sector to foster industrialization and governments were urged to create conducive conditions for the development of a private sector.

29. Concerned about the adverse impacts of economic developments in Europe on the economies of the sub region, the Committee called for strengthening South-South cooperation and trade to minimise the adverse effects of Eurozone developments, promote deeper regional integration and stronger intra-Africa trade.

30. 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.

31. The Committee took note of efforts by member States to address macro-economic challenges. The delegates were informed about progress made so far by Swaziland in strengthening its fiscal position through tax collection improvement and public expenditure streamlining reforms.

32. The Committee emphasized the need to harness benefits arising from the large informal sector in the sub region in fostering industrialisation and the creation of decent jobs for women and youths.

33. While alluding to increased revenues accruing to member States due to high commodity prices, the Committee urged member States to enhance the management of commodity market risks (fluctuations) through appropriate use of these revenues. They recommended the creation of sovereign wealth funds which could be used to insulate their economies from global economic shocks. Member States were urged to mobilize domestic and external resources and to promote diversification of both export products and markets to increase inflows for industrial development.

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

34. The Rapporteur of the Ad Hoc Experts Group Meeting preceding the 19th ICE presented the report and recommendations of the experts meeting. The presenter informed the delegates that experts from seven member States of SADC and those from development partners, deliberated on the challenges for industrialization in Southern

Africa and observed the slow pace of industrial development, the high dependence on member States on low value commodity exports, the low levels of investment in R&D, science, technology and innovation and the huge infrastructure challenges in the sub region. He reported that the experts recommended actions clustered into six thematic areas of (i) policy, (ii) R&D, science and technology and innovation, (iii) infrastructure, (iv) value addition and beneficiation, (v) investment and finance, and (vi) capacity building. Specific actions are provided under each thematic area. Annex 2 is the Outcome Statement of the AEGM with the specific recommendations. The presenter appealed to the delegates to urge their respective member States to develop Action Plans for implementing the recommendations.

35. While highlighting and emphasizing the urgency of Africa's industrial transformation, economic diversification and commodity value addition, the Committee adopted the recommendations of the AEGM and reiterated the need for member States to develop Action Plans for implementation supported by a monitoring and evaluation mechanism.

Agenda Item 4: Industrial Sites Visits

36. The Delegates were taken on conducted tours of selected industrial sites in Harare. They visited four industries, namely: 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 on the implementation of regional and international agendas, including NEPAD and other special initiatives in the sub region

37. The Secretariat presented the report on prospects 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 the ICPD included the provision of universal access to family planning; promotion of gender equality, the empowerment of women and equal access to education for girls; addressing the environmental, social and economic impact of urbanization and migration; and supporting sustainable development and addressing environmental issues associated with population growth. Thus, the implementation of the ICPD would assist in the realization of the MDGs.

38. 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, countries could see their population dynamics complement their development strategies, as was the case

for the East Asian economies. Some of the economic, social and environmental implications of rapid population growth were also noted.

39. The presenter observed the significant variation in the SADC region in terms of population growth rates, size and structure and noted that SADC's population of 286 million in 2012 is expected to increase to 617 million by 2050. Fertility rates varied across the sub region with Mauritius having the lowest fertility rates. The presenter noted further that Mauritius, Botswana, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Zimbabwe and Madagascar had either attained or making progress towards reaching the ICPD target of under five mortality rates. Maternal mortality rates were still high in SADC and no country had attained the ICPD or MDG 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 up scaling family planning. Furthermore, complementary targeted interventions were necessary to see continued progress in maternal and child mortality. Equally important was increased investment in agricultural productivity and the provision of portable water.

40. In addition, the Secretariat presented an information note on the ICPD beyond 2014 and observed that the UN General Assembly (UNGA) had extended the implementation of the ICPD to beyond 2014 and countries were urged to recommit themselves to the goals and objectives of the ICPD-PoA. The UNGA resolution 65/234 mandated UNFPA to work with ECA and the AU to support member States to carry out an operational review of the PoA. The Global Report on ICPD would inform the High Level Meeting on MDGs in September 2013. Furthermore, the Secretary General would present the UN Global Report on ICPD implementation to the United Nations General Assembly Special Session in September 2014.

Discussion

41. The Committee sought clarification on how countries might be able to ascertain their position in the demographic transition and, in response, 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 these phases. It was emphasized that countries in the sub region 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.

42. The Committee observed that the small sub regional population could be a constraint to economic growth due to the small size of the internal market. It was

emphasized that the ICPD was about expanding rights and opportunities for individuals and ensuring a good quality of life for all peoples rather than focusing on narrow demographic targets. Furthermore, rapid population growth could hamper the ability of countries to achieve sustainable growth.

43. The Committee suggested that the SRO-SA office be actively involved in the post-2015 agenda in relation to population and development in the context of the ICPD to ensure that SADC peculiarities are factored into programmes.

Agenda Item 6: Presentation of the Programme Performance of ECA Southern Africa Office and Work Programme for 2014-15

44. The Secretariat presented the report highlighting key programme activities undertaken by SRO-SA during the first year of the biennium 2012-2013. It also discussed the main results achieved, challenges encountered, lessons learned, and results achieved in the implementation of the Work Programme. The report also summarized the proposed work programme for 2014-2015 and served as a key mechanism through which member States could evaluate the relevance and performance of the Office and provide guidance for its future work.

45. The report observed that SRO-SA's work programme, the Sub-regional Activities in Southern Africa, was Component 5 of Sub-programme 7 on *Sub-regional Activities for Development* and Programme 14 of the United Nations on *Economic and Social Development in Africa*. The presenter explained that all activities undertaken were geared towards: enhancing the capacity of member States, the SADC and other IGOs to formulate and implement harmonized macroeconomic and sectoral policies and programs to address key sub-regional integration priorities in Southern Africa; achievement of the MDGs and strengthening the capacity of SADC and COMESA to implement Multi-Year Programs; supporting COMESA, EAC and SADC tripartite programmes through improved partnerships with key stakeholders, including other IGOs, UN agencies, AfDB, the AU and the NEPAD Secretariat; and strengthening information and knowledge networking with key stakeholders involved in sub regional development activities.

46. The report highlighted the key activities undertaken by the Office which included: the substantive servicing of the 18th ICE meeting held in Mauritius; three Expert Group Meetings on the tourism sector, climate change and commodity exchange; and advisory services provided to member States and RECs. The technical assistance included, support towards strengthening of the Zambia-Malawi-Mozambique Growth Triangle Initiative; advisory support to the Association of Regulators of Information and Communication for Eastern and Southern Africa; support to the development of the SADC e-Commerce Readiness Assessment and e-Commerce Strategy; finalization of the ICT Master Plans for the Parliaments of the Governments of Botswana and Swaziland; advisory support towards developing a Minerals and Mining Policy for Lesotho; and

technical support towards the National Information and Communications Infrastructure Plan for Swaziland. The Office also provided trainings aimed at enhancing institutional capacity of RECs and institutions of member States. These included the Results Based Management training workshop for COMESA; workshop on strengthening Knowledge Management and Networking; and the ICT training for Members of Parliament and key staff of Parliament of Botswana.

47. The Secretariat identified the challenges faced by the Office during the year which included the unavailability of quality data for use in programming and in undertaking analytical work and budgetary constraints particularly for programme outputs and activities that were planned under extra-budgetary resources, which were not always released on time and hence delayed programme implementation. Lessons learned from programme delivery included the need for strengthening internal institutional capacities for data collection as unavailability of data continued to be a major challenge in undertaking research and analytical work of SRO-SA; and the important role that strategic collaborations and strong engagements with principal stakeholders played in effectively undertaking initiatives that were aimed at enhancing institutional capacity of beneficiary organizations to formulate and implement harmonized macroeconomic and sectoral policies.

Discussion

48. The Committee appreciated the information shared on the Advisory Services available from ECA but bemoaned the general lack of knowledge about these services as well as the procedures for accessing the services at country level. The Committee urged ECA to improve visibility at national level to enhance engagement and to ensure that member States tapped on the Commission's expertise efficiently.

49. While alluding to the importance of collaboration among development partners, the Committee sought clarification on collaboration between ECA and the SADC Secretariat and was informed of the Multi-Year Programme with SADC and COMESA and also through ECA support to the SADC-EAC-COMESA tripartite.

50. The Committee endorsed the Report of the Programme Performance of ECA Southern Africa Office for 2012-13 and the work programme for 2014-2015. It also took note of the ongoing restructuring process within ECA in support of Africa's development agenda.

Agenda Item 7: Presentation of Reports on the work of ECA Divisions and UNIDEP

51. Presentations were tabled by the following ECA Head Quarters Divisions: Office of Strategic Planning and Programme Management (OPM), Economic Development and NEPAD Division and Partnership and Technical Cooperation Office. A representative

of UNIDEP outlined the capacity building opportunities which member States could access.

52. The representative of OPM briefed the Committee on the ongoing ECA restructuring process aimed at re-calibrating the Commission's Programme of Work and organizational structure to respond to the transformative development priorities and the 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 ECA's recent achievements including work on policy development through major publications, technical assistance and fostering partnerships to deliver on Africa's special needs. 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 (COM) to be held in Abidjan in late March 2013. The presenter assured the Committee that the outcome of the ICE would input into deliberations at the COM whose focus was on "Industrialisation for an emerging Africa".

53. The representative of the Economic Development and NEPAD Division updated the Committee on the ongoing work on the UN Sub-Regional Coordination Mechanism (SRCM). He reminded the Committee that the SRCM was a mechanism for enhancing UN system-wide coherence, coordination and cooperation at regional/sub-regional levels to promote development in Africa, in support of AU and NEPAD. The presenter highlighted SRCM's major achievements to include the ownership of the mechanism by the UN and AU and a strong leadership at the highest level for a more results-oriented approach. He further informed the committee on SRCM Flagship projects and criteria for their selection. The presenter underscored the SRCM's next step of putting in place the Mechanism's Steering Committee and strengthening resource mobilization. In concluding, the presenter emphasized the need to harness the benefits arising from the SRCM to support the EAC-COMESA-SADC Tripartite and mobilize national champions for regional project.

54. The PATCO representative outlined the implications of ECA's restructuring process on resources mobilization and noted that the ongoing reform process would strengthen synergy and linkages between ECA and AUC, RECs and member States. It would also strengthen SROs and AUC and increase engagement and involvement of the private sector in supporting the African agenda. He underscored that the new ECA structure offered opportunity for implementation of more joint activities with AUC, RECs and member States and for engaging emerging non-traditional resource partners and promoting South-South Cooperation. The presenter urged member States to visit the ECA website and make specific requests to benefit from the Commission's technical support.

55. The representative of UNIDEP outlined the key aspects of ECA capacity building initiatives through the Dakar-based institution. The presenter highlighted UNIDEP's major focus on short and postgraduate training, research support, capacity building and policy dialogue to address critical shortages of policy skills in a range of thematic priority areas for development of the African continent. He underscored that UNIDEP research activities aimed at strengthening and consolidating the interface between development research and policy, and providing a critical link between researchers and policy-makers. The presenter further indicated that UNIDEP was building an extensive network of strategic partnerships with international development organisations, public sector organisations and leading universities in Africa to expand the delivery of its programmes and encouraged countries to tap into the opportunities offered through ECA activities.

Discussion

56. The Committee took note of the three reports presented and congratulated the Commission for its significant support to member States, RECs and other clients in the sub region. It also urged UNIDEP to expand its training activities in Southern Africa, which could be achieved through decentralization of training in collaboration with universities and other centers of learning in the SADC region. These training courses or programmes should tap on capacity within the member States.

Agenda Item 8: Any Other Business

57. No issues were discussed under this Agenda item.

Agenda Item 9: Date and Venue of the 20th ICE

58. The Committee tasked the Secretariat to consult further on the matter and communicate to member States the Dates and Venue for the 20th Session of the ICE.

Agenda Item 10: Adoption of the Outcome Statement

59. 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 create sovereign wealth funds for use to insulate economies from global economic shocks; and
- promote diversification of both export products and markets to increase inflows 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; and
- leverage on the opportunities offered by the large informal sector to promote inclusive industrialization and create decent jobs for the youth 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; and
- 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 IDEP in the various socioeconomic development areas; and
- increase investment in R&D and STI.

On the Way Forward, the Committee underscored:

- (i) the need to expedite implementation of the AEGM recommendations towards accelerating industrialization in SADC member States;
- (ii) that SRO-SA should work closely with member States on the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) Review and the Post-2015 Development Agenda; and

- (iii) that IDEP should accelerate decentralisation of its capacity building efforts and explore ways to offer the various courses in other sub regions in order to enhance coverage in Southern Africa.

Agenda Item 11: Closing Ceremony

50. Mr. Moeketsi Khoboko, Deputy Director of Industry, Ministry of Trade & Industry, Cooperatives and Marketing, Lesotho, delivered a vote of thanks on behalf of the delegates of the 19th ICE meeting. He expressed profound appreciation to the Government of Zimbabwe for the hospitality. The delegate thanked ECA for its efforts to facilitate economic integration and addressing the special needs of member States.

51. In her closing remarks, the Director of ECA SRO-SA, Ms. 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 19th ICE Session. The Director expressed her appreciation to the Permanent Secretary, Dr. Desire Sibanda for actively participating in the 19th ICE and also for leadership in the preparatory processes. She thanked the delegates, participants and presenters for the high level of discussion and recommendations. Ms. Kiraso also thanked Mr. Mujajati for Chairing the ICE meeting and the other Bureau members, Namibia and Zambia, for their sterling work in leading the proceedings.

52. Dr. Desire Sibanda, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Economic Planning and Investment Promotion closed the ICE on behalf of the Government of Zimbabwe. He expressed gratitude to Ms. Beatrice Kiraso, Director of ECA SRO-SA and the office for choosing Zimbabwe as the venue of the ICE meeting. He noted that the ICE 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 African continent and 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.

53. The Permanent Secretary stated that he was looking forward to attending the Conference of Ministers in Abidjan, Ivory Coast, where he hoped the Ministers would discuss and endorse the recommendations of the various ICE meetings. He underscored the importance of regional cooperation in addressing developmental challenges. In closing, Dr. Sibanda highlighted the critical importance of investing in R&D, STI and infrastructure and of aligning national industrialization policies with regional frameworks in national industrialization strategies.

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Annex 2: Outcome Statement on the Ad Hoc Experts Group Meeting (AEGM) on “Industrialization for Economic Transformation and Sustainable Development in Southern Africa: Addressing the Gaps”, Harare, Zimbabwe, 5 – 6 March, 2013

Preamble

1. The Ad Hoc Experts Group Meeting (AEGM) on “Industrialisation for Economic Transformation and Sustainable Development in Southern Africa: Addressing the Gaps” was held on 5 and 6 March, 2013 at Rainbow Towers Hotel in Harare, Zimbabwe.
2. The Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Economic Planning and Investment Promotion, Dr. Desire Mutize Sibanda officially opened the experts meeting following opening remarks by the Director of the Economic Commission for Africa’s Sub Regional Office for Southern Africa, Ms. Beatrice Kiraso. Experts from the following SADC member States attended the AEGM: Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Organizations represented at the meeting included the African Union Commission, Southern Africa Regional Office (AU-SARO), New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD), Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA), World Bank, Scientific and Industrial Research Development Centre (SIRDC); United Nations Development Programme (UNDP, Zimbabwe), the United Nations Industrial Development Office (Zimbabwe and Vienna), United Nations African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (UNIDEP), and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA).

Programme of Work

3. The AEGM elected Zimbabwe as Chairperson of the Bureau, Namibia as Vice Chairperson and Zambia as Rapporteur.
4. The AEGM 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 Industrialisation for Economic Transformation and Sustainable Development in Southern Africa: Addressing the Gaps
 4. Sharing experiences on sub regional and continental approaches to industrialization
 5. Panel discussion on key industrialisation 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 “Industrialisation for Economic Transformation and Sustainable Development in Southern Africa: Addressing the Gaps”. The report outlined the state of industrialisation in Southern Africa and identified the key constraints and the attendant attempts to address them.
6. Experts from AU-SARO, NEPAD and UNIDO presented the industrialization programmes of their respective institutions.
7. The AEGM was enriched through 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 experience sharing presentations from the 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 allocated for R&D, science and technology and innovation;
 - d. Resource based industrialization could be one feasible route towards Africa’s transformative process;
 - e. Infrastructure is a critical input to industrialization;
 - f. Addressing the technology, financial capital and human capacity challenges is imperative;
 - g. The role of government in the industrialisation process is critical;
 - h. The limited capacity of government, the private sector and all other stakeholders in industrial development is a major constraint;
 - i. Regional integration can be instrumental for accelerating industrialisation;
 - 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 Sub Regional industrial competitiveness;

- n. Industrialisation strategies must be sensitive to the African context;
- o. Most countries have Industrial and Investment Policies, however, implementation remains a challenge;
- p. Member States' negotiation capacity in structuring investment ventures is very weak;
- q. Upgrading existing industrial capacity is critical to drive industrialisation;
- r. Public-Private sector relations are still weak;
- s. Formulation of industrial policies is not fully consultative and inclusive, and
- t. Industrial statistics are a necessary ingredient in the formulation of sound industrial policies.

Recommendations

9. In light of the above discussions and observations, the experts recommended, for consideration and adoption by the 19th Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of Southern Africa, actions clustered into six thematic areas. The areas are (i) policy, (ii) R & D, 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 regional and continental frameworks to guide investment and development;
- domesticate the SADC Industrial Policy in order to strengthen a regional approach to industrial development; and
- develop industrial policies in consultation with all stakeholders and ensure the implementation of these policies.

On R & D, science and technology and innovation, member States should:

- allocate adequate financial resources towards Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) and R&D; and
- create an environment which promotes investment in STI and R&D by the private sector.

On infrastructure, member States should:

- accelerate and upscale infrastructure development and explore public private partnership models for addressing this constraint.

On value addition and beneficiation, member States should:

- develop and/or strengthen frameworks to promote domestic value addition, beneficiation and enhancing local linkages.

On investment and finance, member States should:

- create a conducive environment for investment and for nurturing the private sector, and utilize instruments that facilitate industrial maturity and international competitiveness and the development of infrastructure; and
- explore innovative ways of mobilising both domestic and foreign financial resources to spur industrialisation.

On capacity building, member States should:

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

10. Member States should develop an Action Plan indicating priorities, the support needed and the requisite M&E mechanisms taking into consideration other ongoing initiatives on industrialisation including those of UNIDO, Regional Economic Communities and the African Union Commission.

11. The meeting also recommended the AU-SARO to increase its advocacy and popularization of AU programmes and projects within member States of the Southern Africa region.

12. The experts further recommended that the ECA Sub Regional Office for Southern Africa should continue to provide technical support to member States and RECs in addressing development challenges.