

**CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF THE DRAFT REPORT  
AND DRAFT RESOLUTIONS OF THE COMMITTEE OF  
EXPERTS**

**INTRODUCTORY REMARKS BY THE RAPPORTEUR**

**Mrs. ELOMBAT MBEDEY CHANTAL**  
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**Ministry of Economy, Planning and Economic Development**  
**Cameroon**

**24 March 2013**  
**Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire**

Thank you Mr. Chairman,

Prof. Lambert N'Galadjo BAMBA Special Adviser to the Minister of Finance of Côte d'Ivoire

Your Excellency, Mr. Maxwell Mkwezalamba, Commissioner for Economic Affairs of the African Union Commission,

Your Excellency, Mr. Abdallah Hamdok, Deputy Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa,

Distinguished Colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is an honour and a privilege to welcome you this evening to this session and to submit to you, for your consideration and subsequent adoption, the report of the Committee of Experts of the sixth Joint Annual Meetings of the AU Conference of Ministers of Economy and Finance and ECA Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development. The report carries the dual symbol, E/ECA/COE/32/LAU/CAMEF/EXP/Draft/Rpt(VII) dated 24th March 2013.

This report contains the outcome of our deliberations over the past three days

Allow me, Dear Colleagues, to thank the secretariat for the hard work in preparing this report under very tight deadlines.

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen, the report, which is before you has four main sections as follows:

**Section A** deals with Attendance.

**Section B** contains the agenda of the meeting and a list of the members elected to constitute the new Bureau.

**Section C**, the most important part of the report contains the account of proceedings of our meeting. I believe that it truly reflects the outcomes of our deliberations and discussions.

This section includes:

- A summary of the opening addresses; and
- A summary of our discussion as per the adopted agenda of our meeting, including the major recommendations on the issues we discussed during our meeting. This is reflected in paragraphs 7 to 87.

The last Section of the report is an annex that contains six draft resolutions for your commendation to the Conference of Ministers for their consideration and adoption. The six draft resolutions are on the following important topics considered by the Committee:

- **Draft Resolution 1** - Industrialization for an Emerging Africa
- Draft Resolution 2 - Refocusing and recalibrating the Economic Commission for Africa to support Africa's transformation
- **Draft Resolution 3** - Realizing and Harnessing Demographic Dividend in Africa
- **Draft Resolution 4** - African common position on the post 2015 development agenda
- **Draft Resolution 5** - Statistics and Statistical Development
- **Draft Resolution 6** - Extraordinary African Union Conference of African Ministers of Economy and Finance

- Mr. Chairman, in considering the draft report, I would like to suggest, with your permission, that we adopt it focusing mainly on issues dealing with the substantive agenda items in the report. Under each agenda item, we may wish to proceed, for its adoption, paragraph by paragraph.
- In this connection, I would like to kindly suggest that any contribution - grammatical errors, typos or approved substantive amendments - be forwarded in writing to the secretariat for incorporation into the report.
- With these preliminary remarks, I am pleased to submit the draft report to this Distinguished Committee, for its consideration and adoption.

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I thank you for your attention.