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Economic Commission for Africa
Committee of Experts of the Conference of African
Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development
Forty-first meeting

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Item 6 (b) of the provisional agenda*

Statutory issues**Report on the follow-up to the resolutions of the
Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning
and Economic Development****I. Introduction**

1. The present report contains highlights of the progress made in the implementation by the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) of the resolutions adopted by the Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development at its meeting, held in Dakar on 16 and 17 May 2022 in a hybrid format, during the fifty-fourth session of the Commission.

2. The Conference adopted 10 resolutions, which were submitted to the Economic and Social Council for review and endorsement. In the present report, the progress made towards the implementation of the resolutions that require action to be taken by the Commission is highlighted.

II. Progress made by the Commission**A. Resolution 982 (LIV): Financing the recovery of Africa and beyond****Paragraph 2****(a) Text**

Calls upon the Economic Commission for Africa to continue to provide thought leadership and technical support in the deliberations of the high-level working group and to serve as its secretariat;

(b) Progress

ECA supported the revamping of the high-level working group on the global financial architecture to help to address the pressing financial needs of the continent. Since March 2022, the working group has convened nine meetings, including three in-person meetings on the margins of the spring meeting and the annual meeting of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank Group held in Washington, D.C. in April and October 2022, respectively, and the Conference of

* E/ECA/COE/41/1.



African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development held in Dakar in May 2022. The Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund attended two of the online meetings of the working group in order to consult with African ministers of finance, planning and economic development ahead of the meeting of the Group of 20 ministers of finance and central bank governors held in Bali, Indonesia in 2022.

ECA is leading the development of the report on the future of the global financial architecture, in consultation with African finance ministries and other members of the working group. The report includes a proposal for a new work agenda for IMF to better respond to the challenges that Africa faces in the current global financial architecture.

Paragraph 3

(a) Text

Also calls upon the Economic Commission for Africa to support the extension of the Debt Service Suspension Initiative for two more years and the rescheduling of the Initiative at the end of those two years for an additional period of five years for interested countries;

(b) Progress

In October 2022, ECA presented to member States the findings and results of the debt research project on the African debt profile and bond yields as well as findings from research on special drawing rights (SDRs) and the establishment of the Liquidity and Sustainability Facility. Member States were provided with a platform for exchanging information on challenges and solutions in relation to debt management, in the context of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and the crisis between the Russian Federation and Ukraine, and for sharing their knowledge in that regard.

Paragraph 5

(a) Text

Urges countries, development partners and international, regional, and subregional organizations to welcome and extend support in financing and advocacy to the newly founded Liquidity and Sustainability Facility;

(b) Progress

ECA, in collaboration with the African Export-Import Bank, supported the Liquidity and Sustainability Facility in concluding the inaugural repurchase agreement transaction with Citibank with a diversified basket of sovereign Eurobonds, including those issued by Angola, Egypt and Kenya.

Paragraph 6

(a) Text

Calls upon the Economic Commission for Africa to facilitate the operationalization of the Liquidity and Sustainability Facility, notably by mobilizing financial resources from supportive countries, development partners and international, regional and subregional organizations, and also by exploring the opportunity for support through the new issuance of special drawing rights by the International Monetary Fund;

(b) Progress

ECA supported the operationalization of the Facility through the conclusion of its first \$100 million transaction, on 14 November 2022, covering sovereign Eurobonds issued by Angola, Egypt and Kenya. ECA further contributed to the launch of the sustainable debt coalition initiative at the twenty-seventh session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change by drafting the concept note and declaration for the initiative.

Paragraph 7**(a) Text**

Also calls upon the Economic Commission for Africa to continue its advocacy for the reform of the international financial architecture to allow African countries, including upper-middle-income countries, to gain access to resources more easily and at a lower cost from multilateral and regional financial institutions;

(b) Progress

In May 2022, ECA supported a meeting of finance ministers that was convened in order to find a common African position on reforming the international finance and development architecture ahead of the twenty-seventh session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. The ministers called for greater, more appropriate and more predictable financing for the African sustainable development agenda that addresses recurring debt issues, is sensitive to the specific finance-related vulnerabilities of African countries and builds resilience to shocks, such as the COVID-19 pandemic and the war in Ukraine.

Paragraph 8**(a) Text**

Requests the Economic Commission for Africa to provide substantive technical assistance and capacity-building services to countries that are willing and eligible to participate in the Liquidity and Sustainability Facility initiative;

(b) Progress

In September 2022, during the second edition of the Egypt–International Cooperation Forum and Meeting of African Ministers of Finance, Economy and Environment, ECA supported member States in their dialogue with rating agencies in enhancing understanding of the methodologies, requirements and considerations, including environmental, social and governance criteria, in a sovereign rating process, as well as with the secretariat of the Facility in understanding the repurchase agreement mechanism and its role in expanding the fiscal space for member States in the secondary market.

Paragraph 9**(a) Text**

Also requests the Economic Commission for Africa to assist countries and facilitate their issuance of green, blue and Sustainable Development Goal-linked bonds to stimulate investment in climate adaptation actions and natural resource conservation, by leveraging the functional Liquidity and Sustainability Facility;

(b) Progress

ECA, in collaboration with the World Bank Group, supported capacity-building among policymakers, government officials and representatives of central banks from 24 member States on the issuance of green, blue and Sustainable Development Goal-linked bonds in Africa. Two workshops were organized in May and July 2022, which featured a presentation on the Facility mechanism and were aimed at raising awareness and enhancing the understanding of the mechanism among member States.

Paragraph 10**(a) Text**

Calls upon the Economic Commission for Africa to advocate and mobilize support for the reallocation of special drawing rights to countries that are most in need, with a view to addressing social, economic and environmental challenges, including the on-lending of special drawing rights to regional development banks to

support the development financing priorities of Africa, so as to build forward better and achieve green and sustainable development as envisaged by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want, of the African Union;

(b) Progress

ECA supported the development of a guide on the utilization of SDRs that will help policymakers to understand the essential elements of SDRs, support informed decision-making regarding their use and adopt a common position on how SDRs should be recycled from developed to developing countries, with a view to increasing investment and liquidity in Africa.

Paragraph 11

(a) Text

Requests the Economic Commission for Africa to create an African credit rating agency in collaboration with the African Union Commission;

(b) Progress

ECA undertook an analytical review of the African debt landscape and the determinants of sovereign bond coupon rates, which will contribute to the work commenced by the African Union Commission, through the African Peer Review Mechanism, on establishing an African credit rating agency as an independent entity that will provide alternative and complementary rating assessments.

Paragraph 12

(a) Text

Calls upon all countries to actively use the Africa Trade Exchange platform for trading within the African Continental Free Trade Area.

(b) Progress

By November 2022, a total of 204 suppliers of coffee, wheat, maize, other foods, fertilizer and construction materials had been onboarded to the Africa Trade Exchange platform. Among them, 104 suppliers are African suppliers, of which 15 are fertilizer producers.

B. Resolution 983 (LIV): Importance of digital transformation for breaking new ground

Paragraph 1

(a) Text

Requests the Economic Commission for Africa to further support the development of digital identity capacity across the African continent as a means of promoting inclusive sustainable development, moving beyond the informality of African economies, improving domestic resource mobilization, accelerating the operationalization of the African Continental Free Trade Area and ensuring that no one is left behind;

(b) Progress

ECA supported Ethiopia and Nigeria in aligning their national digital transformation strategies with the digital identity framework principles. The two member States are in the process of implementing their national digital identity programmes and developing use-cases, on the basis of the framework principles and with technical support from ECA.

Paragraph 2**(a) Text**

Also requests the Economic Commission for Africa to continue its pursuit of initiatives that enhance the participation of women and girls in digital transformation strategies;

(b) Progress

Through the Connected African Girls hybrid coding camp, ECA has been supporting the development of the technical and soft skills of approximately 25,000 girls and young women aged between 12 and 25 years across the continent, which will prepare them for the fourth industrial revolution and make them fully involved in the African digital economy.

Other contributions include the work carried out with Tech African Women, which is an organization that prioritizes a holistic focus on digital technologies, encompassing social and economic benefits for greater equality and consistent efforts to narrow the digital skills gap.

Paragraph 3**(a) Text**

Urges the Economic Commission for Africa, in collaboration with the African Union Commission and other partners, to support the implementation of the Lomé Declaration on cybersecurity and the fight against cybercrime;

(b) Progress

In August 2022, the Government of Togo and ECA signed a memorandum of understanding to collaborate on establishing an African centre for coordination and research in cybersecurity, which will support African countries in implementing the Lomé Declaration.

Paragraph 4**(a) Text**

Requests the Economic Commission for Africa to strengthen its work on leveraging digital technologies and innovation to enable its member States to explore new areas of the data economy for increased trade and development opportunities and to harness the benefits of digitalization for the recovery and stabilization of their respective economies;

(b) Progress

ECA supported the development of a continental approach to and strategy on artificial intelligence to enable African countries to unlock and harness effectively the huge and transformative potential of that technology to safeguard national interests and drive the development of inclusive and contemporary economies and societies. In addition, ECA has developed an African artificial intelligence road map.

Paragraph 5**(a) Text**

Calls upon the Economic Commission for Africa, in collaboration with the African Union Commission and other partners, to support member States of the Economic Commission for Africa in devising additional innovative mechanisms for the financing and implementation of digital transformation strategies;

(b) Progress

ECA is supporting Botswana, Ethiopia, Guinea, Nigeria and Rwanda in achieving digital transformation and ensuring efficiency in the delivery of services. ECA supported the development of the data policy framework of the African Union,

which was endorsed by the Executive Council of the African Union in February 2022, and which provides a continental framework for the governance of data.

Paragraph 6

(a) Text

Also calls upon the Economic Commission for Africa to expedite efforts to support the development of digital trade on the African continent to accelerate the operationalization of the African Continental Free Trade Area.

(b) Progress

ECA supported capacity-building for member States in the regulatory integration of digital trade and in data collection to assess the readiness of African countries to take advantage of digital trade and e-commerce, including in the context of the African Continental Free Trade Area. As a result, 17 national data sets on digital services trade restrictions and on digital trade integration were built, and 17 country profiles, for Botswana, Burundi, the Congo, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Eswatini, Ethiopia, the Gambia, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Mozambique, Namibia, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo, were developed.

In November 2022, on the margins of the twenty-seventh session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, ECA and the United Nations University Institute for Natural Resources in Africa launched a digital portal called JUSTIS to support the transition of the informal sector to cleaner energy.

C. Resolution 984 (LIV): Role of Partnerships for African Vaccine Manufacturing in improving African health outcomes

Paragraph 1

(a) Text

Calls upon the Economic Commission for Africa, other pan-African organizations, key global health entities, development partners, regional and international financial institutions and the private sector to mobilize financing to achieve the target of Partnerships for African Vaccine Manufacturing of ensuring uninterrupted access to affordable, high-quality vaccines in Africa by fulfilling 60 per cent of the continent's vaccine demand through local production by 2040;

(b) Progress

Partnerships for African Vaccine Manufacturing has produced the first version of a continental strategy and framework for action that will guide African initiatives for scaling up vaccine manufacturing on the continent. In February 2022, the Executive Council of the African Union, in decision 1147(XL), directed the African Union Commission to expeditiously implement the Partnerships for African Vaccine Manufacturing programmes in a collaborative manner.

Paragraph 2

(a) Text

Requests the Economic Commission for Africa to work in collaboration with the African Union Commission, the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention and the African Vaccine Acquisition Task Team to develop an African Union model law on pooled procurement, for possible adoption, so as to enhance coherence on mechanisms to pool resources and to create demand certainty for vaccines produced in Africa;

(b) Progress

No update.

Paragraph 3**(a) Text**

Urges the Economic Commission for Africa to support its member States in identifying, securing and developing the workforce, intellectual properties, industrial know-how, technology and financing required for a commercially viable and financially sustainable vaccine manufacturing sector in Africa.

(b) Progress

No update.

D. Resolution 986 (LIV): Data and statistics**Paragraph 1****(a) Text**

Calls upon member States of the Economic Commission for Africa to continue to support work on the transformation and modernization of official statistics by the African group created by the Statistical Commission for Africa of the Economic Commission for Africa and comprising heads of national statistical offices in Africa, and to adopt and implement a national statistical system transformation and modernization road map;

(b) Progress

The secretariat of the African group supported technical teams in assessing the national statistical systems in Africa, in the digitalization and integration of data science initiatives, in the survey methodology coordination of the national statistical systems and in statistical legislation, including administrative data systems and other sources. The secretariat further supported the development of the road map for the transformation and modernization of official statistics in Africa.

In collaboration with the Office for National Statistics of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, ECA supported capacity-building for senior managers of national statistical offices in Botswana, Egypt, Ethiopia, the Gambia and Lesotho, so as to provide them with the skills required to lead their institutions. ECA is also assisting member States in modernizing their national statistical legal frameworks so as to build agile and resilient statistical systems.

Paragraph 2**(a) Text**

Calls upon pan-African organizations and partners to steer and coordinate their support towards modernizing national statistical systems;

(b) Progress

In October 2022, ECA hosted the eighth session of the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Africa, leading to the establishment of a working group on the integration of geography and statistics, which aims to modernize national statistical systems.

ECA convened the tenth Forum on African Statistical Development in October 2022 with the aim of establishing and strengthening networks among countries, partners and institutions that support statistical capacity-building to leverage existing opportunities to accelerate the transformation and modernization of national statistical systems.

Paragraph 3**(a) Text**

Urges member States of the Economic Commission for Africa to devote adequate financial resources to building modern statistical systems that adequately respond to the need for official statistics and data for planning and decision-making;

(b) Progress

During the sixteenth session of the Committee of Directors General of National Statistics Offices, held in December 2022, ECA advocated the adequate allocation of financial resources for the building of modern statistical systems.

Paragraph 5**(a) Text**

Calls upon Governments, entities of the United Nations system and development partners to provide financial, material and technical support to member States of the Economic Commission for Africa that have not undertaken a census in the 2020 round to undertake censuses before the end of the 2020 round in 2024 and to support the implementation of the fully technologically driven censuses in Africa during the 2030 round (2025–2034);

(b) Progress

ECA is deploying information technology tools that have been developed in-house, including a census field-monitoring dashboard, a census field-support and issue tracking system and a tablet provisioning tool, and a census e-question repository to support digital census undertakings in Africa.

ECA provided technical support to several member States to assist with planning and conducting censuses during the 2020 round, including the capacity-building of national statisticians in the dissemination of census results in order to expand the use, accessibility and impact of those results.

In collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund and the Office for National Statistics of the United Kingdom, ECA conducted missions in 13 African countries, namely Ghana, Kenya, Mauritius, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Togo, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe, to assess their preparedness to carry out a national population census and provide technical assistance, including the provision of tablets for data collection.

Paragraph 6**(a) Text**

Requests the Economic Commission for Africa, working with other key regional partners, including the African Union Commission and the African Development Bank, to continue to support its member States in strengthening the capacity of their statistical and data systems;

(b) Progress

In collaboration with the African Development Bank and the African Union Commission, ECA supported the formulation of national strategies for the development of statistics in 20 countries, namely Burundi, the Congo, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Gabon, the Gambia, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mozambique, Namibia, the Niger, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Togo, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

ECA supported the Intergovernmental Authority on Development in developing the Regional Strategy for the Development of Statistics, 2021–2025. Alongside the strategy, technical working groups of the statistics committee of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development established key migration priority

indicators, developed the first edition of the migration statistics report and developed and adopted draft frameworks on data-sharing policy and on data quality assessment.

Paragraph 7

(a) Text

Requests the Economic Commission for Africa to work with countries and development partners to mobilize special funding to assist member States of the Commission that face financial challenges in the development of their statistical and data systems.

(b) Progress

ECA mobilized around 2 million euros from the European Union through Eurostat to support the monitoring of the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and statistics in Africa from 2021 to 2023. The programme covers three areas, namely administrative data, a Sustainable Development Goals dashboard and the integration of geospatial data and statistical processes.

E. Resolution 987 (LIV): Support by the Economic Commission for Africa for least developed countries in the context of the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

Paragraph 1

(a) Text

Requests the Economic Commission for Africa to report on the progress made by African least developed countries in their implementation of the Doha Programme of Action;

(b) Progress

ECA has started to draft a preliminary report on the implementation of priority areas of the Doha Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries, which is focused on the key elements of the Programme of Action and provides baselines to track performance against it.

Paragraph 2

(a) Text

Also requests the Economic Commission for Africa to deploy all appropriate tools and resources to support evidence-based planning, macroeconomic policymaking and debt management in African least developed countries;

(b) Progress

ECA deployed a range of tools and resources, including a macroeconomic model and an integrated planning and reporting toolkit, to support evidence-based planning, macroeconomic policymaking and debt management. The toolkit has supported the alignment of national development plans in Botswana, Burkina Faso, Egypt, Ghana, Malawi, Seychelles and Zambia with the continental and global development agendas – Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want, of the African Union, and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, respectively.

Paragraph 3

(a) Text

Further requests the Economic Commission for Africa, working with the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, to continue to support the least developed countries in the implementation and monitoring of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development

and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development through coordination with various United Nations entities, raising global awareness, mobilizing international support and resources in favour of the least developed countries, building multi-stakeholder partnerships and reaching out to all stakeholders, including by establishing partnerships with civil society and the private sector, to enhance support for those countries.

(b) Progress

ECA coordinates the work of the inter-agency task force on graduation and smooth transition on the delivery of six service offering lines to countries that are eligible for graduation. In collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme, the African Union Commission and the African Development Bank, ECA tracks and reports on the progress made by the least developed countries and small island developing States towards the implementation of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063.

F. Resolution 988 (LIV): Scaling up investment in transport to optimize the benefits of the African Continental Free Trade Area

Paragraph 2

(a) Text

Requests the Economic Commission for Africa to widely disseminate the findings of the study and to undertake further studies, if necessary, in that regard;

(b) Progress

In May 2022, ECA published a summary report entitled “Implications of the African Continental Free Trade Area for demand for transport infrastructure and services”. The report contains an analysis of the effects of the African Continental Free Trade Area on trade flows in the African region and includes an assessment of how the signatories to the Agreement Establishing the African Continental Free Trade Area can reap its benefits in full through the integrated planning of trade and transport.

Paragraph 3

(a) Text

Calls upon the Economic Commission for Africa to continue to support its member States in implementing the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa and the Single African Air Transport Market;

(b) Progress

ECA supported consultations, held in February 2022 between technical officials of South Sudan and the Director General of the Lamu Port-South Sudan-Ethiopia Transport Corridor project and other high-level officials, on how to mobilize accelerated support for the implementation of the project in South Sudan. In addition, a panel discussion was held in March 2022 on the investment potential of the project to create a “land bridge” from Lamu, Kenya to Douala, Cameroon.

Paragraph 4

(a) Text

Requests the Economic Commission for Africa, in collaboration with key partners, including the African Union Commission and the African Development Bank, to support its member States in mobilizing financial resources for the upgrading of transport links that are critical to the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area and for investment in the transport equipment required

to accommodate increased trade volumes resulting from the African Continental Free Trade Area.

(b) Progress

In September 2022, ECA spearheaded the establishment of the Lamu Port-South Sudan-Ethiopia Transport Business Council to facilitate the participation of the private sector in the implementation of the Corridor project. The Business Council will be the premier advocacy arm and platform for private sector cooperation and engagement.

G. Resolution 989 (LIV): Carbon certification

Paragraph 1

(a) Text

Calls upon the Economic Commission for Africa to provide technical and advisory support to its member States that are interested in implementing carbon certification and accreditation processes in terms of accessing carbon credit markets and regional climate commissions, such as the Congo Basin Climate Commission;

(b) Progress

ECA and the Congo Basin Climate Commission have jointly produced a harmonized protocol and toolkits to assist project developers with the coherent monitoring, verification and reporting of carbon emissions reductions, and to support the 16 member States of the Climate Commission in establishing a high-integrity carbon market. In addition, ECA has produced a regional, digital carbon registry for those 16 member States.

Paragraph 2

(a) Text

Requests the Economic Commission for Africa to continue to provide capacity-building support to its member States that express an interest and to regional climate commissions, such as the Congo Basin Climate Commission, in the accounting and reporting of greenhouse gas emission reduction processes;

(b) Progress

ECA has developed and validated training materials on carbon market development, including policy design and implementation, and on carbon verification and certification for senior African government officials, including those from the Congo Basin Climate Commission and the climate commissions for the Sahel region and island States.

In August 2022, ECA led an expert group meeting in Addis Ababa, enabling the focal points of the member States of the Blue Fund for the Congo Basin of the Congo Basin Climate Commission to engage in peer learning with experts from the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, the World Bank Group, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, enterprises from the United States of America and various African countries on the development of carbon emissions reduction and offsetting projects and carbon certification.

Paragraph 3

(a) Text

Calls upon the Economic Commission for Africa to provide technical and advisory support to its member States that express an interest in assessing the carbon sequestration potential of their natural assets;

(b) Progress

A study on the mapping of carbon and forest certification processes and modelling and the related benefits to firms, investors and local communities is near completion. The results of the study will guide capacity-building by ECA on carbon certification market development for the Congo Basin Climate Commission, the climate commissions for the Sahel region and island States, and countries needing support.

Paragraph 4

(a) Text

Also calls upon the Economic Commission for Africa to partner with regional development banks to develop a strategy for mobilizing financial resources, building on the opportunity presented by the issuance of carbon credits.

(b) Progress

An assessment of carbon emissions reduction projects with high market potential for the 16 member States of the Congo Basin Climate Commission, coastal States along the western Indian Ocean, and countries in North and West Africa was prepared in October 2022. ECA, together with the African Export-Import Bank and other partners, will present the identified projects to investors at a business forum to be held in Addis Ababa in February 2023.

H. Resolution 990 (LIV): Curbing illicit financial flows and recovery of lost assets

Paragraph 2

(a) Text

Calls upon the international community to undertake appropriate actions at the national, regional and global levels to ensure that illicit financial flows are treated as a system-wide challenge at the global level and that the international community adopts a mechanism for global coordination to systematically monitor illicit financial flows;

(b) Progress

The General Assembly, in its resolution 76/196, requested the Secretary-General for the first time to report on global and regional initiatives to combat illicit financial flows. Two ECA policy actions informed the report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly entitled “International coordination and cooperation to combat illicit financial flows” (A/77/304) of August 2022.

In his report, the Secretary-General reported that ECA, together with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the two custodians of Sustainable Development Goal indicator 16.4.1, on illicit financial flows, had conducted pilots in 12 African countries of the globally agreed methodologies for measuring illicit financial flows related to tax abuses. The Secretary-General noted the political leadership that is emerging in Africa, as was exhibited in the call by the Committee of Experts, made during the Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development held in May 2022, for the United Nations to begin negotiations under its auspices on an international convention on tax matters.

Paragraph 3**(a) Text**

Requests the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Africa to work with the African Union Commission, the African Development Bank, the African Capacity-Building Foundation, the African Tax Administration Forum and other development partners to build the capacity of States members of the Economic Commission for Africa and institutions, especially in tax policy and administration, international tax cooperation, the countering of money laundering, corruption prevention and related enforcement measures, asset recovery and return, and natural resource governance;

(b) Progress

ECA supported capacity-building in the implementation of excise tax stamps and improved tax regulation in four countries, namely Ethiopia, the Sudan, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania. Notably, ECA organized a study tour to the Revenue Authority of Mozambique for representatives of the Ministries of Finance and Revenues of Ethiopia in November 2022 to facilitate knowledge exchange.

Paragraph 4**(a) Text**

Requests the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Africa and development partners to formulate a plan to build capacity in the above-mentioned tax-related areas, which will be considered by ministers during a proposed online meeting to be held in September 2022;

(b) Progress

No update.

Paragraph 5**(a) Text**

Calls upon the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Africa and other partners to build the capacity of African countries to tackle the gaps in institutional architecture, with a view to developing their ability to track, measure and report on the evolution of illicit financial flows under Sustainable Development Goal indicator 16.4.1, and to devise measures to curb illicit financial flows;

(b) Progress

ECA, in collaboration with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, provided technical support to strengthen the institutional architecture for tackling illicit financial flows in 12 pilot countries, namely Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Egypt, Gabon, Ghana, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa and Zambia. As a result, preliminary statistical estimates of illicit financial flows were produced, and inter-institutional structures to tackle the flows were created.

Paragraph 6**(a) Text**

Calls upon the United Nations to begin negotiations under its auspices on an international convention on tax matters, with the participation of all States members and relevant stakeholders, aimed at eliminating base erosion, profit shifting, tax evasion, including of capital gains tax, and other tax abuses.

(b) Progress

In November 2022, the Second Committee of the General Assembly adopted a draft resolution on the promotion of inclusive and effective international tax cooperation at the United Nations that had been introduced by Nigeria, on behalf of

the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States.¹ On 30 December 2022, upon the recommendation of the Second Committee, the General Assembly adopted resolution 77/244 in which it decided to begin discussions on the possibility of developing an international tax cooperation framework or instrument. Member States will, therefore, be able to begin intergovernmental discussions on ambitious reforms to the global governance structure to curb global tax abuse by multinational corporations.

I. Resolution 991 (LIV): Culture and heritage management programme

Paragraph 1

(a) Text

Calls upon the Economic Commission for Africa to continue to support the heritage management programme with the aim of contributing to the continental initiatives that promote the cultural and creative industries as a lever for sustainable development and to urge its member States to provide technical and financial support for the implementation of the programme;

(b) Progress

ECA supported capacity-building in heritage management for 114 heritage personnel from three member States and provided scholarships to 20 heritage experts from eight member States to attend an executive leadership course and to 17 heritage experts to attend a course on digital tools for cultural heritage management and the engagement of communities in cultural heritage management. Other capacity-building activities included collaboration with the African Union Commission and the Open Society Initiative for West Africa on community engagement by community leaders on the promotion and protection of heritage resources, scholarships for heritage experts to attend heritage courses and targeted capacity development for pilot countries through an implementation partner, The Heritage Management Organization.

Paragraph 2

(a) Text

Urges the Economic Commission for Africa to continue to encourage its member States to accelerate efforts to recognize and acknowledge the economic potential of their heritage resources and provide a significant portion of their budget for their protection, management and development;

(b) Progress

In June 2022, ECA supported capacity-building for 21 community leaders and heritage experts from 12 member States in the promotion and protection of heritage resources to turn communities into positive stakeholders. In addition, ECA supported the development of a draft framework of action to guide community leaders on the promotion and protection of heritage resources.

Paragraph 3

(a) Text

Requests the Economic Commission for Africa to continue to engage key institutions on the African continent and the international organizations involved in the management, development and financing of the arts, culture and heritage sector, in collaborating on the implementation of the programme with a view to enhancing the economic contribution of the sector.

¹ A/C.2/77/L.11/Rev.1.

(b) Progress

In collaboration with other key stakeholders, including the African Union Commission, the African World Heritage Fund, the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the Atlantic Council, ECA aims to facilitate the 2023 annual conference on heritage management in Africa through the planned continental heritage consortiums on issues pertinent to the management, development and financing of the arts, culture and heritage sector.
