



ECA SUB-REGIONAL OFFICE FOR WEST AFRICA

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CoM2023: Africa must urgently invest in economic recovery, Finance Ministers Urge



Africa should deploy innovative resource mobilization and accelerate economic recovery from multiple crises which have eroded two decades of development gains and increased poverty, Ministers of Finance have urged.

In a Ministerial Statement adopted at the 55th session of the Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, ministers reiterated

the urgency of transforming Africa's economies and driving industrialization. They underscored the need to expedite economic recovery in Africa which is likely to miss many of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Theme: *“Fostering recovery and transformation in Africa to reduce inequalities and vulnerabilities”.*



“In order to foster recovery and transformation in Africa, the continent should prioritize skills enhancement, industrialization and economic diversification, infrastructure development, intra-Africa trade and innovative financing”,

Antonio Pedro, ECA Acting Executive Secretary.

“The international context of crises requires rethinking our paradigm to build more dynamic and resilient economies”,

Madam Rose Pola Pricemou, Minister of Planning and International Cooperation of Guinea



At COM2023 Ngone Diop, Director of the ECA Sub regional Office for West Africa delivered the good results obtained by the ECA Sub-Regional Office for West Africa in terms of harnessing the demographic dividend, regional integration, strengthening national development plans and supporting the implementation of the AfCFTA



“Our wish is that the recommendations of the Intergovernmental Committee of Senior Officials and Experts for North and West Africa on food insecurity and the energy crisis be brought to the level of the Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development.

The ultimate goal is to make our economies more resilient in a context of multiple crises”,

Amadou Diouf, Chief of the Subregional Initiatives Section, ECA West Africa.



The Government of Niger, ECA, UNWOMEN and ITU co- organize the 7th edition of coding camp



The United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), in collaboration with the Government of Niger and UNWOMEN, organized from February 20 to March 1 in Niamey, Niger, its 7th edition of coding training for young girls in Africa.

Approximately 100 Nigerien girls aged 12 to 25 participated in person in this coding camp in Niamey.

This training, which is part of the ECA's ***“Young African Women Connected Coding Camp”*** initiative, aimed to promote access to ICTs for these girls, provide them with a good foundation for long-term success in their employment, business creation or further education, and build important partnerships.

“Technology skills can lift women out of poverty by providing them with middle and higher level jobs. It is also a stepping stone for high-potential women to higher levels. It also reduces the gender gap between men and women”,

Mr. Hassane Moussa Baraze, Minister of Post and New Information Technology of Niger,



“In Niger, 70% of the population does not yet have access to the Internet and this segment of the population excluded from its use is mainly made up of women, young people and the elderly. More than ever, Africa must accelerate digital transformation initiatives by strengthening the participation of youth in STEM activities”,

Ms. Ngone Diop, Director of the ECA Sub-Regional Office for West Africa.

“ECA has already had to train more than 20,000 young women and girls, with 239 innovative projects and 49 awards for the best prototypes designed to solve the socio-economic challenges of the continent across the continent”,

Jean Paul Adam, ECA's Director of Technology, Climate Change and Natural Resources.



9th ARFSD : In Niger, Africa is looking for ways to reduce poverty and accelerate the achievement of SDGs by 2030



Le Président de la République du Niger, SEM Mohamed Bazoum a officiellement présidé le 28 février dernier les travaux d'ouverture du 9ème Forum Régional Africain pour le Développement Durable (FRADD).

The President of the Republic of Niger, H.E. Mohamed Bazoum, officially presided over the opening ceremony of the 9th African Regional Forum for Sustainable Development (FRADD) on February 28.

It was in the presence of the Minister of Environment and Desertification Control of Niger, Mrs. Garama Saratou Rabiou Inoussa, the Deputy Secretary General of the United Nations, Mrs. Amina Mohammed, the Acting Executive Secretary of the ECA Antonio Pedro.

Theme: *“Accelerating the inclusive and green recovery from multiple crises and the integrated and full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063.”*





“Many challenges beset Africa, but it is up to us to give ourselves the means to transform them into opportunities to promote the sustainable development of our states,”

H.E. Mohamed Bazoum President of the Republic of Niger



“Africa’s GDP is expected to decelerate in 2023 in a volatile global environment. Business as usual will not work for Africa. This forum seeks to build on this vision to accelerate the implementation of the SDGs and Agenda2063 “

Antonio Pedro, ECA's Executive Secretary



« Through African-led solutions; born on African soil, we can change course and rise to the challenge of the 2030 Agenda and the African Union’s Agenda 2063”,

**Madam Amina Mohammed, United Nations
Deputy Secretary-General.**



“Major Groups play critical role to hastening SDGs achievement in Africa”,

**Ms. Ngone Diop, Director of the ECA Sub-Regional
Office for West Africa**

PRE-COM2023 : Addressing structural inequalities and vulnerabilities in West Africa

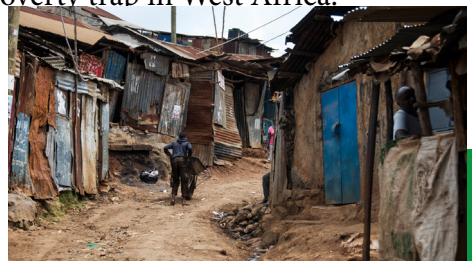


the objective of the Dialogue was to discuss structural inequalities and vulnerabilities in West Africa that have been exacerbated by multiple crises (Covid 19 pandemic, climate change and war in Ukraine) and to identify appropriate policies to address them.

The Sub-Regional Office for West Africa of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (SRO/WA-UNECA), organized in March a High-Level Dialogue as a prelude to the 55th Session of the Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development.

Theme: ***“Inequalities and Vulnerabilities in West Africa in a Context of Multiple Crises. Policy Responses for an Inclusive and Resilient Economic Recovery”,***

This sub-regional dialogue, which brought together some one hundred senior government officials, Regional Economic Communities (RECs), UN Resident Coordinators and UN Country Teams, representatives of the private sector, civil society, academia, and members of the West African Economic Journalists Network, enabled participants to make recommendations for addressing inequalities, vulnerabilities and the poverty trap in West Africa.



RECOMMENDATIONS

- * • Effective planning of socio-economic policies that are inclusive, resilient and poor
- * • Address the peace-security and development nexus by tackling the root causes of conflict including development deficit
- * • Economic diversification in support of structural transformation of the economy through the creation of value chains to harness the region's important resources endowment; raise domestic revenues
- * • Harness demographic dividend by investing in the youth and women's education and skills, health and decent jobs
- * • Expand social protection and security to tackle inequality, vulnerability and poverty;
- * • Create conducive environment for the private sector including SMEs, to play an effective role in economic diversification using the AfCFTA as an anchor
- * • Need for massive investment on Agricultural development to modernize farming and enhance use of fertilizers to improve productivity in order to reduce vulnerability with the ultimate goal of reducing poverty
- * • Enhance collaboration between researchers, practitioners, and policy makers with the view to ensure that policies are designed based on customized models and the needs of the African population.
- * • Empower women, girls and youth by equipping them with the necessary skills and knowledge to tackle poverty..

The Office and partners championing industrialization as an accelerator to peaceful, prosperous and transformational development in the Sahel

As part of the African Union Summit on Industrialization and Economic Diversification being held November 20-25 in Niamey, Niger, a side event on inclusive and sustainable industrialization as a driver of resilience and stability for the Sahel was organized on November 22 by the Government of Niger, the African Union, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) Subregional Office for West Africa, the Office of the Special Coordinator for Sahel Development, and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO).

The objectives of this side event are essentially to present a new narrative for the Sahel based on the opportunities for youth and women offered by industrialization and economic diversification, to sensitize private and public sector par-



ticipants on the potential of agribusiness activities in various value chains to further support resilience in the Sahel through growth and job creation, to create a better understanding by participants of the strategic investments needed to support agribusiness in the Sahel, and to present Niger's industrial priorities and best practices.





“At the level of intra-African sectoral trade, it is estimated that full implementation of the AfCF-TA will increase exports in agribusiness by 41%, industry and services by about 40%, and energy/mining by 16% by 2045. In West Africa, including the Sahel region, exports are expected to increase by 24.0% in industry, 23.0% in agribusiness, and 11.0% in energy and mining. As a result, in absolute terms, nearly three-quarters of the gains in exports from West Africa to Africa would come from industry,”

Antonio Pedro, ECA's Executive Secretary



“We tend to forget the youth and women. We cannot achieve industrialization or economic diversification if we do not include them in the industrialization value chains”,

Ms. Salamatou Gourouza, Minister of Industry and Youth Entrepreneurship of the Republic of Niger.



“The time for speeches and strategy design is over. Niamey Summit must be a time for action to change the narrative of the Sahel”,

Abdoulaye Mar Dieye Under-Secretary General of the United Nations, Special Coordinator for Development in the Sahel,



“The industrialization of Africa is possible, it is just a matter of leadership, access to land and energy, Agro-Industrial Poles establishing, barriers reducing and governance improvement”,

Christophe Yvetot, UNIDO Representative in Senegal.

Dialogue with Parliamentarians on the process of capturing the demographic dividend in Niger



The United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) Sub-Regional Office for West Africa, in collaboration with the Office Nigérien de la Population (ONP), organized a policy dialogue on budgetary financing of the demographic dividend in Niger on February 8, 2023.

The purpose of the meeting was to inform parliamentarians about the process of capturing the demographic dividend in Niger and the preliminary results of the implementation of demographic dividend budgeting.

The Office, a key partner of the 5th Symposium of the Africa Economic Zones Organization



From 3 November to 2 December 2022, the Director of the Sub regional for West Africa of ECA, Ngone Diop participated in Abuja Nigeria in the 5th Symposium of the Africa Economic Zones Organization on the theme: *“African Special Economic Zones: Engine for Resilience and Accelerator for Sustainable Industrial Value Chains Development”*.

During this Symposium, Ngone Diop chaired a panel and received an Award



Institutionalizing the Gender Responsive Planning and Budgeting in Niger



The United Nations System, through UN-Women, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), in collaboration with the Government of Niger, organized the fourth edition of the Gender Café in Niamey on 25th January 2023.

chain of strategic planning in Niger, for a sustainable and inclusive development.

Specifically, it is about intensifying communication and advocacy in favor of the institutionalization of Gender Responsive Planning and Budgeting (GRPB) in Niger

Theme: «Gender Sensitive Planning and Budgeting»,

The meeting aimed at conducting a frank, inclusive and participatory dialogue between development actors for a better inclusion of women and the taking into account of their specific needs, on the whole



Moderating a panel on «Issues around Gender Responsive Planning, Budgeting and Engagement Strategies of International Organizations», the Director of ECA's Sub-Regional Office for West Africa, Ngone Diop noted the inequalities in education in Niger.

“In Niger, 60% of girls are enrolled in primary school, 14% in secondary school and 5% in high school”.



Validation of the AfCFTA outreach guides in Senegal



The Ministry of Commerce, Consumption and Small and Medium Enterprises of Senegal, through the Directorate of Foreign Trade, the Sub-Regional Office for West Africa of the ECA, in collaboration with the International Islamic Trade Finance Corporation (ITFC), the Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF), the World Trade Organization (WTO) organized from 20 to 21 March 2023 in Dakar a national workshop for the validation of the AfCFTA popularization guides and the study on the compliance of sanitary and phytosanitary measures (SPS) and technical barriers to trade (TBT) under the AfCFTA in Senegal.

The overall objective of this meeting was to gather the views and comments of stakeholders, including government agencies, the private sector, civil society organizations, research institutes and universities on the guides on the popularization of the provisions of the AfCFTA and the study on the compliance of SPS/TBT measures under the AfCFTA.





United Nations
Economic Commission for Africa

SUB REGIONAL OFFICE FOR WEST AFRICA

P.O. BOX 744 Niamey, Niger

Tél : (+227) 20 72 73 21

Registry : eca-sro-wa-registry@un.org

Website : www.uneca.org

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