



EU-AU Joint Session on Infrastructure for the Minerals Sector

**Organised by the African Union Commission & the European Commission
within the Joint Africa-EU Strategy**

Brussels, 19-20 March 2015

Draft Concept Note

Aim

The African Mineral Resources sector provides high potential and opportunity of generating growth and jobs in the mining industry and as an input for industrial production and manufacturing and thus contributing to the continents' social and economic structural transformation as envisioned by Agenda 2063. It provides that opportunity for accelerating industrialisation as defined by the Accelerated Industrial Development of Africa (AIDA) and the African Mining Vision (AMV). On the other hand, the EU Raw Materials Initiative aimed to address the challenges the EU industry faces with ensuring sustainable supply of raw materials foresees in its international co-operation pillar supporting Africa in developing its raw materials potential apart from fostering own EU supply and promoting recycling and resource efficiency.

The aim of this Joint Session is to discuss the infrastructure needs of the minerals sector in Africa and identify ways in which those can find support in the broader context of existing and planned infrastructure projects and networks, including transport, ICT, water and energy as well as all other types of infrastructure necessary for the sector to play its transformative role. The Joint Session should look into existing support programs for infrastructure and industrial development in Africa such as PIDA as well as the on-going Resource Corridors across Africa and for Accelerating Industrial Development of Africa AIDA. The Joint Session will also be a first attempt to map the needs of the different African countries in terms of infrastructure for the minerals sector and look into innovative approaches to stimulate investment in the sector. It will also explore the barriers to investment in infrastructure and look at infrastructure financing strategies of the mining industry and financial institutions active in the sector.

Time

19-20 March 2015

Venue

Brussels, Thon hotel, Rue de la Loi 75, 1040 Bruxelles

Participants

The Joint Session is intended for government officials at senior management level and high level experts of the African Union and its Member States working in areas of extractive industries and/or infrastructure. Participation of private sector, international organisations staff and civil society stakeholders as panellists should ensure a balanced discussion taking into account different viewpoints in the area of infrastructure. Due to the fact that this Joint Session aims to link the two streams of work within JAES – on infrastructure and on raw materials – participation of the different actors involved in infrastructure projects is crucial. The invitations to the event will be managed respectively by the African Union Commission and by the European Commission.

Organisers

European Commission and the African Union Commission jointly assume the lead on this event and designate officers responsible for its organisations.

Speakers and partners foreseen

NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA), AfDB, African Regional Economic Communities (RECs), UNECA, EIB, EBRD, World Bank as well as civil society and private sector partners, European/African Geological Services (EGS/OAGS), transport and mining industry representatives, Regional Economic Communities. The EU will be represented by DG DEVCO and DG GROW as well as EU Member States and its industry and research community representatives.

Discussion form

The high-level Joint Session will be organized in 8 panels, each consisting of 3-4 speakers from public sector, private sector or NGOs and will be led by a moderator. The speakers will present experiences, lessons learnt, case studies, policies and facilitate panel and floor discussion.

Preparatory work

Organisation and logistics will be handled by an external contractor. The consultant will ensure booking of meeting rooms, travel and accommodation arrangements, and assistance during the event, conference material and prepare press statements (before and after the event).

Budget

The budget for this event is provided by the European Commission.

Context

Joint Africa-EU Strategy and the 4th Africa-EU Summit

The Joint Africa-EU Strategy (JAES) agreed upon during the Lisbon Summit (2007) established a political partnership and cooperation at all levels between both continents. At operational level the agreed JAES Action Plan served to implement the Strategy in 2011-13.

The fourth EU-Africa Summit after the ones organised in Cairo (2000), Lisbon (2007) and Tripoli (2010) took place in Brussels in April 2014. The Summit adopted a Declaration of EU and AU Heads of State and Government and a Road Map 2014-2017. The Roadmap, which follows the previous Action Plan, revises the implementation of the Joint Africa-EU Strategy to focus on the following five priority areas (instead of the eight thematic partnerships previously):

1. Peace and Security
2. Democracy, Good Governance and Human Rights
3. Human development
4. Sustainable and inclusive development and growth and continental integration
5. Global and emerging issues

For each of these objectives, a number of actions have been identified at inter-regional, continental or global levels which are expected to have a real impact on the people of both continents. It is important to note that these actions come in addition to cooperation at country and regional levels.

African Mining Vision

In 2009, the Heads of State and Government of the African Union adopted the African Mining Vision for “Transparent, equitable and optimal exploitation of mineral resources to underpin broad-based sustainable growth and socio-economic development”

This shared vision calls on all parties involved in the Mineral Sector development in Africa to ensure, inter-alia the following:

- A knowledge-driven African mining sector that catalyses & contributes to the broad-based growth & development of, and is fully integrated into, a single African market through:
 - Down-stream linkages into mineral beneficiation and manufacturing;
 - Up-stream linkages into mining capital goods, consumables & services industries;
 - Side-stream linkages into infrastructure (power, logistics; communications, water) and skills & technology development (HRD and R&D);
 - Mutually beneficial partnerships between the state, the private sector, civil society, local communities and other stakeholders; and

- A comprehensive knowledge of its mineral endowment.
- A sustainable and well-governed mining sector that effectively garners and deploys resource rents and that is safe, healthy, gender & ethnically inclusive, environmentally friendly, socially responsible and appreciated by surrounding communities;
- A mining sector that can play its key role in a diversified, vibrant and globally competitive industrialising African economy;

Agenda 2063 and the Common African Position on Post 2015 Development AGENDA

In January 2014 and January 2015, the Heads of State and Government of the African Union adopted the Common African Position on post 2015 development Agenda and the Agenda 2063 respectively; both of which envision “a socially and economically transformed African that translates into job and wealth creation inclusive growth and sustainable development”

Minerals Sector in the Joint Africa-EU Strategy

With reference to raw materials the Heads of State and Government stated in April 2014 in the Declaration of the fourth EU-Africa Summit *“we recognise that preserving existing and creating new jobs including in the manufacturing sector is a high priority for both continents. Faster industrialisation and modernisation of the enterprise sector is essential for many African countries which is to be premised inter alia on the transformation and value-addition of raw materials at the source as a catalyst for industrial development which is essential to reach middle income status. We commit to ensure prudent and transparent management of respective natural resources in the interest of our populations in particular in conflict affected areas in line with principles of good governance. In order to complement the African policies in the above field, the EU recalls its approach to responsible mineral sourcing and proposes a dialogue on these issues.”*

The Action Plan 2011-13 identified three priority co-operation areas with regards to raw materials: governance; investment and infrastructure; and geological knowledge and skills. These priorities were generally confirmed in the Roadmap 2014-17 (as part of the Priority area 4: Sustainable and inclusive development and growth and continental integration) and put in the broader context of Africa’s industrialisation agenda that raw materials transformation shall contribute to. Waste management and skills development were added as further areas for co-operation. Responsible mineral sourcing received particular attention in the document.

“Recognizing that faster industrialisation is essential for the African countries, we will support the transformation of raw material at the source in order to enable them to reach a middle income status. We shall also work toward prudent and transparent management of respective natural resources in the interest of our populations, in particular in conflict-affected areas in line with principles of good governance. We will endeavour to cooperate in such fields as geological surveys, mineral resources governance, investments, infrastructures, skills development and waste management. In order to complement the

African policies in the above field, the EU recalls its approach to responsible mineral sourcing and proposes a dialogue on these issues.”

Stocktaking of AU-EU Co-operation on Minerals Sector Development

Workshop on Mining Taxation "Transforming mineral wealth into sustainable development" took place in Addis Ababa on 9-10 December 2011 as back to back event with the Mining Ministerial of the AU. The Workshop aimed to reinforce the governance angle of the cooperation under the Joint Africa-EU Strategy through achieving a better understanding of issues related to government management of mineral resources specifically in the area of mining taxation. The workshop was aimed to deliver on the governance angle of the JAES raw materials co-operation.

High-Level Conference EU-Africa Partnership on Raw Materials Translating Mineral Resource Wealth into Real Development for Africa was organised on 26 January 2012 in Brussels. The conference aimed to create the political momentum for the implementation of the Joint Africa-EU Strategy Action Plan 2011-2013 on raw materials and engage all stakeholders in this process. The conference was well attended with participants from Europe and 22 African countries. The conference has delivered recommendations for progress in each of the cooperation areas.

In the area of geological knowledge and skills a **scoping study on co-operation between the European and African geological surveys** (EuroGeoSurveys and Organisation of African Geological Surveys – OAGS respectively) was completed in 2014. A joint workshop of both organisations took place in March 2014 to discuss the findings. Geological knowledge and skills and progress of the study were discussed at the EU-Africa Business Forum Roundtable on Raw Materials in April 2014 with participation of AU Commissioner for Trade and Industry Fatima Haram Acyl and EU Commissioner for Trade Karel de Gucht.

A Joint Technical Working Session on EU-Africa Cooperation in Mineral Resources between the European Commission and the African Union Commission took place on 22 November 2014 on the side of the Extraordinary Session of the Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Mineral Resource Development (CAMRMRD) (Senior Official session in Livingstone, Zambia, on 22-23 November 2014 and Ministerial meeting in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, on 25-26 November 2014). The meeting discussed cooperation in mineral resources with a view to continue dialogue in this area within the framework of the Joint Africa-EU Strategy. The following subjects were covered EU and AU strategies on minerals, infrastructure and investment, EU and AU trade strategies for raw materials, with a focus for AU on linkage between trade and industrialisation and geological cooperation.

The EU also strongly supports the developments with regards to the Africa Minerals Development Center, which has presented its Business Plan and aim to operationalise the Africa Mining Vision on behalf of the African Union.