



Agenda 2063



THE AFRICA WE WANT



**GENDER & AGENDA 2063
CONSULTATIVE MEETINGS CONCEPT NOTE**

Synopsis

The African Union (AU) is undertaking an evaluation of its 2009 gender policy and developing a Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment (GEWE) Strategy 2018 – 2023 with an accompanying communication strategy. The AU Gender Strategy will be aligned to the Agenda 2063 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It will encompass all key global, continental and sub-regional instruments for attaining gender equality. This concept note concerns the consultative meetings with stakeholders for input and validation of the new African Union Gender & Agenda 2063 Strategy to be adopted at the AU Heads of State Summit in January 2018.

These consultative meetings will share the draft gender strategy, assess the capacity requirements for its implementation, agree on monitoring tools, produce key elements for harmonisation of the strategy with that of Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and Organs and produce an action plan for its operationalisation. The consultative meetings will take place in October (see **Annex A**), ahead of the Specialised Technical Committee (STC) meeting of gender ministers in Lilongwe, Malawi from 4-8 December 2017. A draft programme for the consultative meetings is attached at **Annex B**. Attached at **Annex C** is a mapping of key themes emerging from the analysis of gender normative frameworks aligned to Agenda 2063.

Objectives of the consultative meetings

The overall objective of the consultative meetings is to define priority intervention areas for the AU and build relationships to carry forward implementation of targets between the African Union Commission (AUC) and RECs, Organs, AU liaison offices, and international organisations. Specifically, the consultative meetings seek to:

- Present the draft gender strategy to key stakeholders and seek input for its finalisation.
- Assess the capacity and resources required by different stakeholders to operationalise the strategy.
- Share best practices and lessons learned on the GEWE form identified institutions such as NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA).
- Finalise the policy framework of the gender strategy.
- Establish monitoring tools for tracking implementation of the gender strategy.
- Harmonise different strategies from RECs, Organs and other AU offices with the continental gender strategy
- Draw up an action plan for the implementation of the gender strategy.

The three T’s of the strategy are:

- **Timing:** Agenda 2063 and SDGs-2030.
- **Traction:** the strategy will propel the pace of implementation of commitment.
- **Transformation:** The new Gender Strategy will reflect changing social and economic realities, and achieve the goals and objectives for GEWE.

Background

The African Union is developing a gender strategy through which it will achieve the goal of Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE), a goal that is common to both Agenda 2063 and Agenda 2030. The new gender strategy will take into account successes and lessons learned in the development of Agenda 2063 and 2030, as well as to take into account other recent commitments of importance to women, such as COP21/22 Declaration and UN Resolution 1325.

The new gender strategy will build on the current AUC policy on GEWE, adopted in 2009, which is the first continent-wide policy of its kind. The 2009 policy has guided the AU's work in operationalising its commitment to GEWE as set forth in Article 4L of the Constitutive Act. It is anchored in predecessor policy decisions and legal instruments, including UN frameworks, the Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa (SDGEA) and the *Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa-Maputo Protocol*, the African women Decade.

The African Union Agenda 2063 adopted in April 2015 raises the bar for gender equality and especially empowerment of women. In Aspiration number six, Agenda 2063 calls for people driven, inclusive development through:

- Including women through decision making regardless of gender, political affiliation, religion, ethnic affiliation, locality, age or other factors.
- Fully empowering women in all spheres, with equal social, political and economic rights, including the rights to own and inherit property, sign contracts, register and manage businesses.
- Enabling rural women to have access to productive assets: land, credit, inputs and financial services.
- Eliminating gender-based violence and discrimination (social, economic, political) against women and girls.
- Attain full gender parity, with women occupying at least 50% of elected public offices at all levels and half of managerial positions in the public and the private sectors.
- Ensure women's and girls' access to higher education as well as Science, technology and mathematics.

Format

The consultative meetings will be used to present the draft gender strategy, ascertain the capacity needs of different RECs. organs and stakeholders in operationalising the strategy, propose monitoring tools for the Implementation of the strategy, propose ways of harmonising the strategy with that of different RECs and how to popularise the strategy to the African citizens online and through IEC materials. Please see draft programme at *Annex A*.

Target groups for the consultative meetings

The consultative meetings will include key participants from Organs, RECs, Member States, civil society, Private Sector, academia and media. These will contribute to the validation of the draft gender strategy and include key region specific aspects of the gender strategy. The consultations will also include additional data collection for the finalisation of the gender strategy. Consultations outputs will support primary and secondary research in the draft gender strategy. The stakeholder mapping for the consultative meetings is as follows:

| Stakeholder Group | Target |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| African Union Commission | Directorate of Women, Gender and Development, AUC Departments and liaisons offices |
| African Union Organs | NEPAD, ACHPR, PAP, etc. |
| Regional Economic Communities (RECs) | Gender Units or Directorates from SADC, EAC, West Africa and Arab regions |
| Member States | Anglophone countries, Lusophone, Francophone and Arab region |
| Gender Commissions | Anglophone countries, Lusophone, Francophone and Arab region |
| Civil society organisations | Pan African gender movements Regional organisations National gender movements |
| Private sector | Development Banks, Key companies supporting gender causes. |
| Academia | Selected academics from tertiary institutions in the field of Gender or Development studies. |
| Media | |

Outputs

The following are the specific expected outputs from the meetings:

- Harmonisation** – Consultations will include a review of existing gender equality and women empowerment strategies at AUC, Organs, RECs and sample Member States. The review of existing strategies will enable the finalisation priority areas, examples of approaches and activities for the continental strategy to the regional and national strategies. This will strengthen and build on existing efforts at, AUC, REC, Organ and national level to achieve gender equality and women empowerment. Harmonisation will provide a clear mutual space for close collaboration while complying with Agenda 2063 requirements to harmonise gender practices across the AU. The harmonisation process will define components of gender management systems; creation of an enabling environment through political will, legislature and resources; capacity enhancement and institutional strengthening; establishing appropriate institutional structures where these do not exist; effective monitoring and evaluation; synergy with regional and national Development Plans; communication and knowledge management.
- Comments on draft strategy** – the AUC will present the draft strategy to the key stakeholders in each of the consultative meetings. Wherever possible, Gender Links, the consultants assisting with the development of the strategy, will be part of the presentation. Stakeholders are expected to critique the draft and provide input on how to improve the strategy for finalisation. The meetings are expected to agree on identified key gender gaps (Areas where WGDD, REC's and should prioritise to aid in closing gaps; objectives, guiding principles of the gender strategy as well as additional comments or suggestions.

- **Monitoring and tracking** – The meetings will propose quantitative and qualitative measures that will be used to monitor progress of implementation of the strategy annually. Agenda 2030 and the African Union Agenda 2063 will form part of the guiding framework to develop the tools for monitoring. The meetings will discuss the data collection methodology for the monitoring, frequency of collection and reporting over the years up to 2023. All monitoring tools and indicators will be included in the results framework, which defines key indicators and how progress will be tracked and reported against.
- **Action planning** – Consultations will develop detailed action plans to set out objectives, activities, resources and timeframes for implementing the gender strategy. The plan will provide resource estimates, types, and potential resources required to successfully implement each aspect of the strategy. The action plan will include popularising the strategy. This will include reaching out to the four main language blocks of the African Union (English, French, Portuguese and Arabic). Popularisation of the strategy will include a simplified version of the strategy to be used for programming by Member States, RECs, Organs, Gender Commissions, civil society organisations and other stakeholders.
- **Capacity assessment** – The consultation meetings will share a capacity assessment to identify skills and resources, levers of change and solutions required to successfully implement the new AU gender strategy. The meetings will determine what backstopping and support is required by different stakeholders and the AUC in implementing the strategy.

ANNEX A
Schedule of consultative meetings

| Consultations | No (approx) | Dates | Venue | Comment |
|--|--------------------|-------------------------|--------------|--|
| Meeting on unpaid care work: side event on the AU gender strategy | | 3-6 October | Zimbabwe | Organised by OXFAM |
| Meeting on a common position on Women Land Right with 5 region in Africa: side event on the AU gender strategy | | 11-12 October | Ghana | Organised by OXFAM |
| Gender Pre-forum to the Sixth Annual High Level Dialogue on Democracy, Human Rights and Governance: Trends, Challenges and Prospects: Meeting with young women | | 19 October | October | DPA WGDD |
| Consultation with rural women | 70 | 22-24 October | Accra | Organised by FAO |
| Meeting with CSOs | 40 | 23 October - 24 October | Addis Ababa | Organised by GIMAC/Actionaid/FEM NET(TBC) |
| Meeting with International organizations | 50 | 25-26 October | Addis Ababa | Organised by OXFAM |
| Meeting with international partners | 25 | 27 October (Morning) | Addis Ababa | Organised by WGDD |
| Meeting with UN system | 25 | 27 October (Afternoon) | Addis Ababa | Organised by UNECA |
| Inter-faith meeting | 25 | 23-25 Oct | Nairobi | Organised by All Africa Conference of Churches |
| Working group consolidation meeting with RECs. | 50 | 2-4 Nov | Johannesburg | Organised by WGDD, UNDP and NEPAD |
| Consultative meeting with the Private Sector | 100 | 4 November | Johannesburg | Organised with UN Women and NEPAD. |
| Special Technical Committee preceded by validation meeting | 230 | 4-8 Dec | Lilongwe | Organised by WGDD |

ANNEX B: PROPOSED PROGRAMME FOR AU GEWE CONSULTATIVE MEETINGS

| DAY/ TIME | ACTIVITY | WHO | DOCUMENTS |
|---|--|-------------|---|
| Opening | | | |
| 08.30 – 09.00 | Registration | | |
| 09.00 – 10.30 | Introductions and ice breaker | Facilitator | Name cards |
| | Objectives | AUC | |
| | Key note address | | |
| 10.30 -11.00 | TEA | | |
| Presentation of draft strategy, capacity assessment, harmonisation, monitoring tools | | | |
| 11.00 -11.30 | Context | | |
| | Africa Agenda 2063 | AU | African Agenda 2063 |
| | SDGs | UN rep | SDGs |
| 11.30 -12.00 | Presentation of key documents | | |
| | Key definitions report | GL | Key definitions report |
| | Harmonisation matrix | | |
| | Draft strategy | | Draft gender strategy, Priority definition report |
| | Results framework | | |
| | Capacity assessment | | |
| 12.00 -13.00 | Comments from the stakeholders | | |
| 13.00 – 14.00 | LUNCH | | |
| 14.00 – 15.30 | SWOT exercise | Facilitator | Cards and draft SWOT |
| 15.30 – 15.45 | TEA | | |
| 15.45 – 17.00 | Theory of Change Exercise | Facilitator | Theory of Change |
| 17.00 – 17.30 | Gallery exercise on actions being taken by partners and pledges for future action by theme | Facilitator | Signup sheet |
| Action planning for operationalisation, popularisation and branding | | | |
| 08.00 – 08.30 | Registration | | |
| 08.30 – 09.30 | Action plan template | GL | |
| | Branding and communications strategy | | |
| 9.30 – 10.00 | Briefing on group work | | |
| 10.00 – 10.30 | TEA | | |
| 10.30 – 13.00 | Action planning and messaging | AUC/GL/All | Planning framework Key messages framework |
| | 1. Economic prosperity | | |
| | 2. Democracy | | |
| | 3. Rule of law | | |
| | 4. Capable institutions | | |
| | 5. Peace and security | | |
| | 6. Culture and identity; media and communication | | |
| | 7. Financing for development and Gender Responsive Governance | | |
| 13.00 – 14.00 | LUNCH | | |
| 14.00 – 15.00 | Report back on group work | | Google doc action plan sheets |
| 15.00 -16.00 | Overarching messages | | Power point presentations |
| 16.00 – 16.30 | TEA | | |
| 16.30 -17.00 | Next steps and closure | | |

ANNEX C: SUMMARY OF AU GENDER & AGENDA 2063 MAPPING & ALIGNMENT

| AGENDA 2063 ASPIRATIONS | GOALS OF AGENDA 2063 | KEY THEMES FROM GENDER NORMATIVE FRAMEWORKS | RELEVANT AU PORTFOLIOS |
|---|--|--|--|
| 1) A Prosperous Africa, based on inclusive growth and sustainable development | Goal 1: A High Standard of Living, Quality of Life and Well Being for All | Eradication of poverty | Economic Affairs (DEA) department |
| | | Employment | |
| | Goal 2: Well Educated Citizens and Skills revolution underpinned by Science, Technology and Innovation | Early Child Development | Human Resources, Science and Technology (HRST) department |
| | | Education and Training | |
| | | Science and Technology | |
| | Goal 3: Healthy and Well-Nourished Citizens | Health | Social Affairs (DSA) department Medical services directorate Centre for Disease Control Africa |
| | | SRHR | |
| | | HIV and AIDS | |
| | | Nutrition | |
| | | Water and Sanitation | |
| | | Housing | |
| | Goal 4: Transformed economies | Extractive resources (mining) | Economic Affairs department (DEA) New Partnerships for African Development |
| | | Energy | |
| | | Industrialisation | |
| | | Credit | |
| | | Business | |
| Goal 5: Modern Agriculture for increased productivity and production Goal 6: Blue/ ocean economy for accelerated economic growth | Agriculture | Rural Economy and Agriculture (DREA) department | |
| | Land | | |
| | Food security and nutrition | | |
| Goal 7: Environmentally sustainable climate resilient | Climate change | Scientific, Technical and Research Commission (STRC) | |

| AGENDA 2063 ASPIRATIONS | GOALS OF AGENDA 2063 | KEY THEMES FROM GENDER NORMATIVE FRAMEWORKS | RELEVANT AU PORTFOLIOS |
|---|---|--|--|
| | economies and communities | | |
| 2) An Integrated Continent Politically united and based on the ideals of Pan Africanism and the vision of African Renaissance | Goal 8: United Africa (Federal or Confederate) | Trade, movement of goods and people | Trade and Industry department |
| | | Financial flows | Financial institutions |
| | Goal 10: World Class Infrastructure criss-crosses Africa | Infrastructure and transport | Trade and Industry department |
| 3) An Africa of Good Governance, Democracy, Respect for Human Rights, Justice and the Rule of Law | Goal 11: Democratic values, practices, universal principles of human rights, justice and the rule of law entrenched | Political representation | Political Affairs department |
| | | Political participation | |
| | | Human rights | Judicial and Human Rights Institutions |
| | | Constitutional Rights | Legal counsel office |
| | | Family law | |
| | | Marriage | |
| | | Citizenship | Citizens and Diaspora Directorate |
| | Inheritance | Legal counsel office | |
| | Goal 12: Capable institutions and transformed leadership in place at all levels | Gender Management System | |
| | | AU | Chairperson office Deputy Chairperson's Office AU Academy Women Gender and Development Directorate. Strategic Planning, Policy, Monitoring, Evaluation and Resource Mobilisation directorate Administration and Human Resources Management (AHRM) Directorate |
| RECS | | WGDD | |
| | National Gender Machineries | WGDD | |

| AGENDA 2063 ASPIRATIONS | GOALS OF AGENDA 2063 | KEY THEMES FROM GENDER NORMATIVE FRAMEWORKS | RELEVANT AU PORTFOLIOS |
|--|--|--|---|
| | | Civil Society and diaspora | Citizens and Diaspora Directorate CIDO |
| | | International Co-operating Partners | Partnership management and coordination division |
| 4) A peaceful and secure Africa. | Goal 13: Peace, Security and Stability are preserved. | Peace, Security & Conflict Resolution | Peace and Security (DPS) department Peace and Security Council |
| | Goal 14: A Stable and Peaceful Africa. | | |
| | Goal 15: A Fully Functional and Operational African Peace and Security Architecture. | | |
| 5) Africa with a Strong Cultural Identity Common Heritage, Values and Ethics | Goal 16: African Cultural Renaissance is pre-eminent. | Media | Information and communication Directorate |
| | | ICTS | |
| | | New media | |
| 6) An Africa Whose Development is people driven, relying on the potential offered by African People, especially its Women and Youth, and caring for Children | Goal 17: Full Gender Equality in All Spheres of Life. | GBV | Women Gender and Development Directorate |
| | | Harmful Social Practices | |
| | Goal 18: Engaged and Empowered Youth and Children. | The Girl (and boy) child | |
| 7) An Africa as A Strong, United, Resilient and Influential Global Player and Partner | Goal 19: Africa as a major partner in global affairs and peaceful co-existence | Resource mobilisation | Partnership management and coordination division. |
| | Goal 20: Africa takes full responsibility for financing her development | Gender Responsive Budgeting | Budget Finance and Accounting (PBFA) programme. |