
Thirty-First session of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts (ICE)

Rabat (Morocco)
1 – 4 March 2016

Under the Theme:

«Green Economy to Accelerate Industrialization in North Africa »

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening Session
2. Election of the Bureau
3. Adoption of the agenda and the programme of work
4. The social and economic conditions in North Africa
5. Special Session: Green Economy to Accelerate Industrialization in North Africa
 - Economic Report on Africa: Green Industrialization in Africa
 - Industry and green economy in North Africa
6. Panel Discussion/Expert Group Meeting: « industrializing through trade in North Africa in a context marked by multiple agreements »
7. Regional and international agendas and other special initiatives
8. Statutory matters
 - Report on the activities of the Office (March 2015 – February 2016)
 - Report of ECA activities
 - Presentation of the 2018-2019 strategic framework
9. Review and approval of the recommendations of the Experts Group meeting on: « industrializing through trade in North Africa in a context marked by multiple agreements »
10. Review and adoption of the recommendations of the report of the ICE
11. Date and venue of the next ICE meeting
12. Any other business
13. Closure of the meeting

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ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening Session

The 31st meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts (ICE) will begin work on Tuesday 1st March 2016 at 9 am at Hotel Tour Hassan, Rabat. Opening statements will be delivered on this occasion.

2. Election of the meeting Bureau

The outgoing Chairman will invite the Committee to elect the new Bureau members, which will be comprised of a Chair, a vice-chair and a Rapporteur.

3. Adoption of the agenda and the program of work

The Committee will be invited to adopt the agenda and the program of work of the meeting.

4. Economic and social conditions in North Africa: North Africa regional profile

The ECA Office for North Africa will present the regional profile of North Africa to the ICE, for its comments and approval. This document provides a summary of the economic and social conditions which have prevailed in North Africa in 2015, along with outlooks for 2016. Recommendations will also be made on the main topics covered during the presentation.

5. Special Session: Green Economy to Accelerate Industrialization in North Africa

- Economic Report on Africa: Green Industrialization in Africa

This theme is based on earlier analyses initiated by the ECA in 2012 on the determinants of a more sustained industrialization in Africa, a prerequisite for the structural transformation and social development of the Continent.

Participants will attend two presentations. In the first one, “Industry and Green Economy in North Africa”, the ECA Office for North Africa will address the situation in the sub-region; it will be followed by a second, short presentation on the Economic Report on Africa 'ERA 2016' which will focus this year on green industrialization in Africa.

6. Panel Discussion/Expert Group Meeting: “Industrialization through trade in North Africa in the Context of the Continental Free Trade Area and Mega Trade Agreements”

A panel discussion / ad hoc experts meeting will take place concurrently with the ICE meeting, on the theme: **“Industrialization through trade in North Africa in the Context of the Continental Free Trade Area and Mega Trade Agreements”**. Objectives include identifying the conditions required to ensure that trade liberalization becomes an actual industrialization factor in Africa, to stimulate intra-African trade in order to foster the emergence of growth drivers in strategic industrial sectors, and to turn RECs preferential agreements into tools for the promotion of regional value chains. This calls for the prior identification of options with trade and income-generating effects for North African countries which have to deal with multiple free-trade agreements, some of which have already come into force and others are still under discussion.

7. Regional and international agendas and other special initiatives

The Office will submit to the Committee a report on the activities related to the other international and regional agendas, particularly those relating to the Post-2015 development agenda and climate change (COP 21 and COP22). Recommendations will also be made to States, regional cooperation institutions and other stakeholders and partners working on these development-related issues.

8. Statutory matters

The ECA will submit to the Committee a report on the Office for North Africa activities between March 2015 and February 2016 and its 2018-2019 draft strategic framework. Participants will also attend a presentation on general ECA activities.

9. Review and approval of the recommendations of the Experts Group Meeting on: “Industrialization through trade in North Africa in the Context of the Continental Free Trade Area and Mega Trade Agreements”

The Committee will be informed about the findings and recommendations of the EGM panel discussions, which will be submitted to it for approval.

10. Examination and adoption of the ICE report recommendations

The Committee will review and endorse the conclusions and recommendations emerging from the works of the 31st ICE session and from the Meeting report.

11. Date and venue of the next ICE meeting

The Committee will decide on the date and venue of its 32nd meeting.

12. Any other business

Where appropriate, the Committee will consider business and questions raised by the participants.

13. Closure of the meeting

After reviewing the various items on the agenda, the Chairman will declare the 31st ICE meeting closed.