

---

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

Rabat (Morocco)

1 – 4 March 2015

## **Proposed Strategic Framework for the period 2018-2019**

**Programme 15: Economic and social development in Africa**

**Subprogramme 7: Sub regional activities for development**

**Component 1: Sub regional activities in North Africa**

**OBJECTIVE OF THE ORGANIZATION:** To achieve structural transformation for inclusive and sustainable development in North Africa.

Expected accomplishments	Indicators of achievement
(a) Enhanced capacity of member States in the North Africa sub-region to produce and disseminate quality and timely data for evidence-based planning, policymaking and improved economic management, with due consideration to gender perspectives, at the national and sub-regional level	<p>(a) (i) Increased number of member States and regional economic communities that have responded to surveys expressing a high level of satisfaction to country profiles</p> <p><i>Performance Measures:</i>  Baseline 2014-2015: N/A  Estimate 2016-2017: N/A  Target 2018-2019: N/A</p>
	<p>(b) (ii) Increased number of ECA policies and programmes that strengthen the capacity of member States, regional economic communities and intergovernmental organizations in the areas of statistics and economic planning to support structural transformation</p> <p><i>Performance Measures:</i>  Baseline 2014-2015: N/A  Estimate 2016-2017: N/A  Target 2018-2019: N/A</p>
(b) Strengthened capacity of member States in the Northern Africa sub-region and the Arab Maghreb Union to implement subregional development priorities with due consideration to gender perspectives and in support of the implementation of continental development programmes and the SDGs	<p>(b) (i) Number of sub-regional initiatives designed or implemented by member States, the Arab Maghreb Union and other sub-regional intergovernmental organizations, with assistance from ECA, to promote sub-regional cooperation and integration, with due consideration to gender perspective.</p> <p><i>Performance Measures:</i>  Baseline 2014-2015: 3  Estimate 2016-2017: 4</p>

Expected accomplishments	Indicators of achievement
	<p>Target 2018-2019: 6</p> <p>(b) (ii) Number of policy dialogues and platforms in support of structural transformation in Northern Africa, with due consideration to gender perspective.</p> <p><i>Performance Measures:</i>  Baseline 2014-2015: N/A  Estimate 2016-2017: N/A  Target 2018-2019: 4</p>

## STRATEGY

The overall strategic orientation falls under the global and regional agendas involving member states and which will engage commitments for the agreed goals, objectives and action plans. The sub-program will support North African countries to conceive and implement policies, programmes and projects aiming at achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and the African agendas. Countries commitments to the financing for development, as agreed with the framework of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, will also be supported by the programme of work.

The strategy will focus on providing relevant technical support to member States and the RECs to improve their capacities to sustain economic, social and political transformation, with particular focus on regional integration, gender and industrialization.

The sub-program will continue to sustain its capacity development activities in the benefit of the national statistical systems to produce accurate and regular data. Policy recommendations produced will systematically be based on the evidence driven from up-to-date statistics.

Assistance will be provided to Union du Maghreb Arabe (UMA) to implement its road map for a more integrated Maghreb taking into account the new development at continental level for the implementation of the Continental Free Trade Area. Involvement of North African countries in the implementation process of the Arab Custom Union will also be supported by the sub-programme's activities. This includes the designing and the implementation of the policies of integrated zone as well as the implementation of self-financing mechanisms to support policies designing and implementation by UMA.

Special focus will be on building and maintaining knowledge and information networks for harnessing and disseminating best practices and lessons learned elsewhere, and within the region to the member States and their organizations, in particular by enhancing and popularizing the Communities of Practice (COP). Collaboration with Capacity Development Division will

continue in providing technical assistance to the RECs and member states on the harmonization of the legal framework for the regional development issues. The sub regional office in North Africa (SRO NA) will work closely with The African Institute for Development Planning (IDEP) to deliver relevant training workshops to member states.

SRO NA will continue to work in close partnerships with UN agencies at both national and regional level and other sub regional development partners in the sub region so as to enhance ECA's presence and effectiveness. The Sub regional Coordination Mechanism is an adequate platform to continue to promote cooperation with the national institutions and actors for a coherent support for the process of regional integration. SRO NA will also work closely with other stakeholders, such as the private sector, universities and civil society's organizations, and will strengthen the linkages with the different think tanks of the sub-region to develop relations and build networks across the continent, as in the past through innovative dialogue within the framework of the North African Development Forum.

Quality assurance and evaluation systems will be integrated into the entirety of the programme's work to monitor quality and impact hence adjust the strategy accordingly.

## **EXTERNAL FACTORS**

This component is expected to achieve its objective and expected accomplishments on the assumption that:

- (a) Member States and RECs continue their commitments and support to SRO-NA;
- (b) Member states experience political stability;
- (c) Member States and RECs accelerate the pace of implementation of the regional integration agenda of the sub-region through allocation of more resources and promotion of the functioning of the decision organs related to the concerned RECs;
- (d) Development partners allocate more extra budgetary resources, to match the increasing demand for capacity-building and technical support from member States (who are experiencing political and social transformation) and RECs.

## **SPECIFIC LEGISLATIVE MANDATES RELATED TO SUB REGIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT**

### *General Assembly resolutions*

- 56/180 Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries
- 61/51 Cooperation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Community
- 61/234 Enhancing the role of the sub regional offices of the Economic Commission for Africa
- 66/201 Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa
- 66/214 Groups of countries in special situations: specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation

### *Economic and Social Council resolutions*

- 2011/7 Progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 62/208 on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
- 2011/12 Europe-Africa fixed link through the Strait of Gibraltar (E/2011/L.14)
- 2011/43 Support to the Republic of South Sudan

### *Economic Commission for Africa resolutions*

- 828 (XXXII) The Multinational Programming and Operational Centres: Strengthening the Economic Commission for Africa's sub regional presence
- 830(MFC1A) Reform of the regional commissions: Relationships between the Economic Commission for Africa, United Nations agencies and the regional and sub regional organizations in Africa (resolution of the 1st meeting of the Ministerial Follow-up Committee)
- 874 (XLI) Strengthening the Sub regional Offices of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
- 849 (XL) Statistics and statistical capacity-building in Africa
- 871 (XLI) Strategy for the Harmonization of Statistics and implementation of the African Charter on Statistics
- 882 (XLIV) Implementation of the African Charter on Statistics and the Strategy for the Harmonization of Statistics in Africa