

AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP



SCB-PHASE II

**AFRICAN GROUP ON NATIONAL ACCOUNTS (AGNA)
9Th MEETING**

**Addis Ababa
11-15 April 2011**

**DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE AFRICAN GROUP ON NATIONAL
ACCOUNTS**

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1. Context

There are many challenges confronting the compilation of National Accounts Statistics in Africa. One of them is the problem of the implementation of the System of National Accounts while the other and prominent one is the issue of the inclusion of the informal sector in the National accounts on regular basis. These problems led the Statistical Commission for Africa (StatCom-Africa) in creating the African Group on National Accounts (AGNA) at its first meeting in Addis Ababa from 21st to 23rd January 2008. .

The African Development Bank was chosen to chair the group and design strategic lines of actions to ensure that the deficiencies and setback suffered by the African countries from the 1968 and 1993 SNA be corrected in the course of the implementation of the 2008 SNA.

AGNA developed a strategy which is made up of strategic lines, objectives and monitoring and evaluation phases to be pursued to ensure the African countries are able to implement the 2008 SNA.

2. Objective

The objective of AGNA is to monitor and evaluate the successful implementation of the “African strategy on the implementation of 2008 SNA: Results based framework” by the respective member states.

3. Outputs

AGNA has 2 specific outputs, namely:

- A. To assist with the development and successful completion of the activities included in the 7 strategic themes of the strategy.: These themes are:
 - i) Equipping African countries with an SNA that is appropriate to their social-economic realities;
 - ii) Strengthening International Comparison Program (ICP – Africa) tools in the field of national accounts;
 - iii) Preparing an optimal and efficient operational system of production and dissemination of national accounts;
 - iv) Building capacity and sustainability of national accounts production and analysis;
 - v) Increasing the availability and improving the quality of the basic data required for the compilation of national accounts , based on the National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS);
 - vi) Increasing human, material and financial resources; and
 - vii) Undertake advocacy at all decision-making levels.
- B. Bi-annual reports of its monitoring and evaluation of progress with the implementation of the strategy, inclusive of recommendations to resolve challenges and obstacles to successful implementation.

4. Scope

The terms of reference are binding to all members of AGNA.

5. Timelines

The terms of reference guides the activities of AGNA for the duration of the implementation of the “African strategy on the implementation of 2008 SNA: Results based framework”.

6. Membership:

The membership of AGNA consists of the following:

A. African Multi-national institutions

These members include the African Union Commission (AUC), Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) the African Development Bank (AfDB), the Organization of African Central Banks and Africa Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF), AFRISTAT.

The AfDB is the Chair of AGNA, supported by AUC and UNECA as co-chairs.

B. Regional Economic Communities (AMU, ECCAS, ECOWAS, COMESA, SADC, etc)

They are responsible for representing the interests of their member countries at AGNA, as well as the roles and responsibilities outlined in their terms of reference.

C. African Central Banks

D. African Member States

All African countries are members of AGNA

Their responsibility is to provide support to AGNA to achieve its goals as set out in these terms of reference.

E. National Accounts experts

To ensure that AGNA is equipped to deliver on the agreed outputs, it extended its membership to include selected experts in National Accounts.

F. Associate membership: Non-African Institutions on their request: UNSD, EUROSTAT, IMF, World Bank, etc

7. Governance

The chair and the co-chairs are responsible for ensuring that the meetings of AGNA are effective and to provide guidance to the activities of AGNA. It will formally approve all documents originating from AGNA and fulfill the role of linking AGNA with other institutions as the need arises. As a committee instituted by StatCom-Africa, AGNA will submit reports on its own activities as well as any other relevant issues to StatCom-Africa as required.

Secretarial services will be provided by AUC and UNECA. This include the accurate recording of proceedings at AGNA meetings as well as the timely distribution of

documentation between meetings. It will also facilitate any other communication between AGNA members as may be decided at meetings.

Meetings will take place twice a year. These will be linked, as far as possible, to other relevant meetings in order to minimize time and cost. The working languages of AGNA are both English and French, therefore documentation need to be completed in both languages. Translation will be provided at all meetings.

Funding for the activities of AGNA will be drawn from the resources of the strategy itself. This is a co-funding arrangement between the regional member countries (RMCs), development partners, regional and continental orga