

GovernanceLink

an APRM Newsletter

TOWARDS UNIVERSAL ACCESSION & PARTICIPATION





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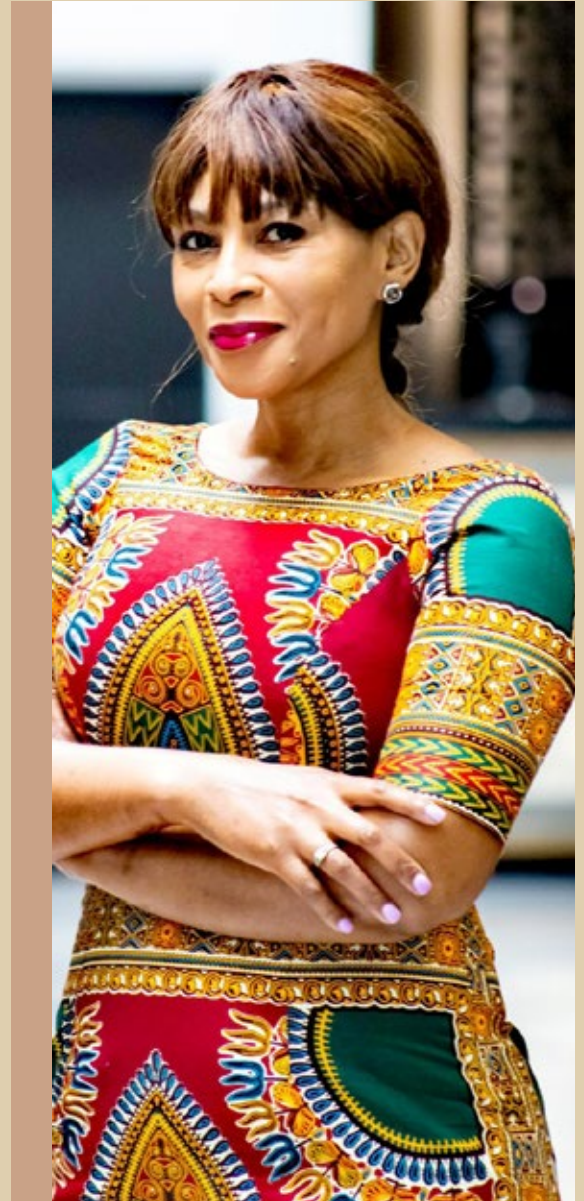
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Editor's Note

It seems to have been a minute, but not a moment too soon, to present another exciting edition of the APRM Newsletter.

The world has been through a number of major changes since our last letter to you, including witnessing internal conflicts in the Horn of Africa, several unconstitutional changes of government in the Sahel, and, in the wider world, the withdrawal of US troops from Afghanistan, the ongoing war between Russia and Ukraine, and the record high price of crude oil and essential commodities such as wheat. On the other hand, we seem to have prevailed over the silent killer that is Covid-19. The World Health Organisation reports that the Corona Virus numbers world-wide have gradually declined, and continue to remain low in Africa, although there are additional waves in parts of Africa, Europe, Australia, and North America. As a much-welcomed consequence of the milder mortality rates from this wave, we have also seen the world re-opening its doors and loosening restrictions on borders. For policy makers and other stakeholders engaged in integrating our dear Africa, this is a very welcome relief. We are thankful that life is also gradually returning to normal, albeit a "new normal," as we have it.

We must admit, it has been a challenging two and half years, however we have PREVAILED! We have stared the giant in the eye and conquered, having implemented our programmes and met our major objectives. We can proudly proclaim we are a RESILIENT people! Yes, there is much that still needs to be done to ensure recovery of our economies from the effects of lockdowns and the adverse ripple effects thereof in all sectors of our society. We are witnesses to unprecedented levels of unemployment, and, arguably, unprecedented levels of inflation for recent times, accompanied by the heart-breaking cumulative mortality rates from the pandemic. However, the African and global community has prevailed.



Mrs. Liziwe Masilela



The APRM has beyond doubt proven its agility and resilience even during the testing and trying times of COVID-19. We are proud to inform you that, in 2021, in addition to completing four full review missions to Namibia, Niger, Nigeria and South Africa, APRM national and continental structures also completed targeted reviews of Uganda and Kenya. The Uganda Targeted Review Mission took place in October 2021, and focused on three thematic clusters. The Kenya Targeted Review Mission took place in November and December 2021, and focused on the Big 4 Agenda, covering key issues in four broad sectors as well as in salient cross-cutting issues.

We further submitted the Africa Governance Report 2021 on African Governance Futures to 2063 to the AU Assembly in February 2021, with formal tabling and deliberation at the AU Assembly meeting held in Addis Ababa in February 2022. Additionally, the APRM published the Second and Third Editions of the African Sovereign Credit Ratings Review Report in 2021, and the Fourth Edition in January 2022. Read more on these and other highlights in this newsletter.

As we commemorate Africa Day 2022, I would like to wish the African Union a Happy 20th Anniversary. This day marks Africa's triumph over colonialism and is a celebration of our rights and freedoms and serves as a reminder of our endeavours in achieving the Africa We all Want.

I hope this edition of the APRM Governance Link gives the reader a glimpse of the immense work of the Mechanism across Africa in promoting good governance.

Asante

Liziwe

SIERRA LEONE'S ASPIRATIONS AS CHAIR OF THE APRM



At the 31st Summit of the African Peer Review (APR) Forum of Heads of State and Government held virtually on February 3rd, 2022, H.E Cyril Ramaphosa, having dutifully led the APRM from 2020 to 2022, passed the baton to H.E Julius Maada Bio. To maintain regional equilibrium, the chairmanship of the APRM rotates every two years.

Following East Africa (Kenya), Central Africa (Chad) and Southern Africa (South Africa) in recent years, the honour of presiding over the organisation is West Africa's and Sierra Leone has been chosen to represent it from 2022 to 2024.

The last two years have been excruciating for our world. COVID-19 jolted us out of our intellectual and material fastness, led us to interrogate our deeply-held assumptions and worry about the quality and even durability of our lives as well as those of subsequent generations which will inherit a world that is fundamentally different from the one which

we once knew.

The pandemic's spread constituted a real threat to the hard-earned gains made by the Mechanism since its revitalisation in 2016. Initially, health concerns were thought to supplant governance objectives but the nexus between global health and global governance was soon established. Increasingly, academics are making calls for overhauling the global governance apparatus in order to make the world safer, more prosperous and more sustainable¹.

In view of the pandemic, the APRM's achievements have been truly remarkable. From the revision of its questionnaire to the record number of reviews conducted in 2021, to the accession of new member-states, it has successfully navigated the tempestuous times into which it was thrust. Now with a

¹ One such example is found in Ian Goldin, *Rescue: From Global Crisis to a Better World* (London: Sceptre, 2021), 224-242.

new country at the helm of our continental body, which areas will be given impetus?

1. Universal Accession

In the lives of individuals and organisations, the celebration of milestones is an opportunity to pause, look back on the distance travelled, and look forward to the future. The APRM came of age in 2021. In 2023, it will mark 20 years of existence. This significant event will coincide with the end of the universal accession programme which seeks to bring all African Union (AU) member-states into the APRM fold. Today, the APRM is a 42 AU member-state-strong entity. However, thanks to the expanded mandate it received from the AU Assembly of Heads of State and Government in 2017, it is already providing support to all of the AU membership by monitoring headway on the realisation of the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals and of the AU Agenda 2063.

To accentuate the APRM's relevance in governance colloquies and enable it to fully discharge its mandate, it is important to reach out to the ten-odd countries that have not joined the Mechanism. Over the course of this year, the APRM Continental Secretariat under Sierra Leone's leadership, will thus make overtures to AU member-states that are not in the APRM in order to turn universal accession into reality and allow them to learn from one another as governance takes root in all spheres of society.

2. Revitalisation of the APRM Process in Dormant Countries

Though the APRM encompasses more than three-fourths of the AU's membership, its member-states do not exhibit the same commitment and responsiveness to calls for greater participation. In many countries, the APRM process has been lackadaisical or non-existent although all APRM member-states ought to match rhetoric with action. At the inception of the APRM, its various

stakeholders recognised that member-states were at different levels of economic or political development. This fact remains true today. But, our quest for good governance can only be fulfilled if all APRM member-states have the same understanding of Africa's impediments and opportunities and the solution to overcoming the former which lies in fully owning, nurturing and strengthening the APRM.

H.E Julius Maada Bio will see to it that countries which have been absent from APRM fora are engaged with to restart the APRM process, and encourage them to be more involved in APRM activities.



3. Unconstitutional Changes of Government

It is not just the lack of political will that characterises inertia vis-à-vis the APRM. Sometimes, it is also internal developments that prevent member-states from being dynamic. A spate of coups, which some have argued will increase², has shaken many corners of our continent in the last two years.

In West Africa, coups were witnessed in Mali (twice), Guinea and Burkina Faso. An attempt to seize power unconstitutionally was made in Guinea Bissau earlier this year. In addition,

2 Aina, F. & Al-Bakri Nyei, I. 2022. "Why Africa should expect more coups." <https://www.theafricareport.com/185024/why-africa-should-expect-more-coups/>. Accessed on April 27, 2022.

Sudan has been engulfed in a crisis since the fallout between the military and civilians in October 2021 and Chad is pursuing a comprehensive national dialogue following the demise in April 2021 of H.E Idriss Deby Itno, former Chair of the APR Forum (2018-2020).

Such trends have naturally alarmed the APRM community. As a neighbour to some of the countries currently facing instability, Sierra Leone has a stake in seeing them return rapidly to peace, democracy, the rule of law and constitutionalism. It is expected that under the aegis of H.E Julius Maada Bio, a conference on unconstitutional changes of government will be organised and a declaration adopted against tampering with constitutions. Indeed, unconstitutional changes of government on the continent are sometimes precipitated by attempts to meddle with constitutions to prolong time in office.

Furthermore, technical assistance will continue to be extended to countries that are in transition to facilitate their recovery.

4. Second-Generation Country Review

Sierra Leone’s first-generation Country Review (CR) was completed in 2012. Since then, it has partaken in a Targeted Review (TR) on “Health Governance and COVID-19 response” in 2020, the report of which was peer-reviewed at the 30th Summit of the APR Forum of Heads of

State and Government on March 25th, 2021.

The second-generation CR will be carried out this year to assess the country’s progress in all the four traditional thematic areas as well as state resilience which is the latest addition to the APRM questionnaire. The lessons Sierra Leone have drawn from its tenacious fight against Ebola have been noted during the TR and the second-generation CR will certainly record other best practices.

5. Global Partnerships

The APRM’s engagements with partners such as the Centre for Global Africa at Delaware State University and the UN Human Rights Council will be pursued during Sierra Leone’s chairmanship. COVID-19 taught humanity that there is no protection to be found in borders. More than ever, we live in a global village and our destinies are intertwined. As Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. asserted, “[w]e are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly affects all indirectly.”³

Sierra Leone will therefore advance the APRM’s sundry partnerships, mobilise resources on its behalf and raise awareness of its mission to support its growth and position it in such a way that it is fit for decades to come.

³ Martin Luther King Jr., “Letter from a Birmingham Jail,” April 16, 1963: quoted at www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2013/04/martin-luther-king-jr-letter-from-birmingham-jail/274668/. Accessed on April 29, 2022.



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International Credit Rating Agencies are Expanding in Africa.

WHY IT'S BAD NEWS

Moody's Investors Service, one of the three dominant global credit rating agencies, is acquiring a majority shareholding in Global Credit Rating (GCR), a leading credit rating agency in Africa. The move is based on Moody's anticipation that there will be a robust increase in demand for credit rating services in Africa. Moody's also has a significant stake in the Egypt-based Middle East Rating and Investors

Service or MERIS.

Credit ratings agencies are key players in financial markets. They provide a quantified assessment of the creditworthiness of a borrower. In Africa, the demand for borrowing through financial markets is growing exponentially as traditional funding sources dry up. GCR is the largest rating agency headquartered in Africa. It accounts for most of the ratings issued on



the continent. It was established in 1996 and is based in Mauritius, with offices in South Africa, Nigeria, Kenya and Senegal.

The 'big three' rating agencies – Moody's, S&P Global Ratings and Fitch – control more than 95% of the global credit rating business. They have been accused of monopolising the credit rating market by implementing anti-competition tactics to maintain their market dominance. In the US and Europe, they were fined for anti-competition practices.

Other shortcomings include a lack of understanding of the domestic context of African economies. This is because their primary analysts barely conduct field visits in rated countries. Moody's only has one office in South Africa which covers all the 28 African countries that it assigns ratings.

Having an increased presence in Africa will

certainly enhance Moody's understanding of the local context in rated countries. Nevertheless, its acquisitions are a huge setback for the development of alternative rating agencies to compete against the monopoly of the 'big three'.

Home-Grown Capabilities

GCR has pioneered the ratings of domestic instruments that were aligned with Africa's long-term strategy for promoting access to affordable capital and promoting the development of domestic financial markets. An example is an innovative financing initiative that's supporting governments to mobilise domestic resources through domestic financial markets. It's been supported by the African Union and United Nations Economic Commission for Africa.

African-based rating agencies mainly assign ratings for domestic issuances. Their ratings are more detailed and significantly higher than both international ratings issued by the 'big three'. This is because they understand the local contexts and that domestic borrowings have no exposures to exchange rate risk.

The danger is that Moody's entrance into the domestic ratings market ushers in the challenge of negative analyst biases against African countries. This trend has been visible in the international ratings market.

There is also a problem of regulation when it comes to international rating agencies operating on the continent. They are largely unregulated. Most rated African countries have domestic bond markets. But they lack legislation for credit rating services. In addition, they do not have competent authorities to oversee the regulation and licensing of international rating agencies.

The exception is South Africa which has the G20 comparable laws requiring international rating agencies to be registered and licensed locally. They are also required to operate within

the country's credit rating services regulations.

Without competent authorities that enforce regulations in each country, there is no central coordination to keep the work of international rating agencies under check.

This is true too when it comes to the issue of anti-competitive behaviour. In a well regulated environment, Moody's acquisition of GCR would have been assessed on the basis of anti-competitive considerations.

highest number of countries it assigned unsolicited ratings. There are a number of downsides to unsolicited ratings. Firstly, the rating agency does not consult adequately with government representatives during the review process. This means it doesn't gain an understanding of the sovereign risk exposures and the government's strategy in addressing the downside risk factors.

Secondly, the lack of an agreement with the country being rated opens the door to rating agencies using unfavourable unsolicited ratings as a credible 'threat', forcing countries into contracts.

Over and above the issue of unsolicited ratings, a number of African countries have registered their displeasure with credit ratings, especially from Moody's. Media statements have been issued advising stakeholders that the ratings aren't reflective of the countries' creditworthiness. In some instances, countries have appealed the ratings.

Examples include:

- The Zambian government rejecting Moody's rating downgrade in 2015;
- The Namibian Government appealed Moody's downgrade of the country to junk status in 2017;
- Nigeria strongly contested Moody's downgrade in both 2016 and 2017;
- Tanzania appealed against Moody's inaccurate rating in 2018;
- Ghana recently appealed against its rating by Fitch and Moody's, which is not reflective of the country's risk factors.

No country has successfully appealed a decision. This is for a number of reasons. Firstly,



Moody's Failures

Moody's has been called out for issuing unsolicited credit ratings. These are sovereign ratings that are assigned without being requested by either the rated country or its agents. Effectively, the rated country does not have any formal contractual relationship with the rating agency. So it's not paid for.

Among the 'big three', Moody's has the

there is no appeal authority on the continent that can conduct a fair hearing of the country's submissions and pronounce a decision. Instead the appeals are in accordance with the agency's own rules provided under the Procedures and Methodologies Used to Determine Credit Ratings.

Secondly, the rating agencies are both 'the player and referee in Africa'. This is not the case in other territories.

Solutions

There is a growing appetite for African-issued financial instruments. An indication of this is bond issuances being oversubscribed by at least three times. This has resulted in rating agencies positioning themselves for more business on the continent.

As their dominance and influence continue to expand through mergers and takeovers, African countries need to consider taking the following steps.


Firstly, enact legislation on credit rating services to ensure that regulation of international credit rating agencies is at least on a par with international requirements. They should be in line with the G20 requirement of regulated and accountable credit rating agencies at a global level.

Second, competent authorities responsible for enforcing the credit rating services legislation, should be mandated to issue rules and guidelines to provide additional guidance and ensure uniform implementation of the laws.


In addition, the African Union and its agencies should coordinate national competent authorities to institute a continental regulatory body as a platform of appeal for countries that seek recourse from the unfair practices by rating agencies. This should be an equivalent of the European Securities and Markets Authority and the US Securities and Exchange Commission.


Expedite the establishment of an African Credit Rating Agency to compliment the 'big three' by offering an alternative credit rating opinion to the investing public.


Without these, African countries will continue to face the challenges of unsustainable borrowing in both domestic and international markets.



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Pan-African Dialogue of Political Parties FOR ENHANCING GOVERNANCE

Since the establishment of the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) on 9th March 2003 by the NEPAD Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee (HSGIC) in Abuja, Nigeria¹⁰, the mechanism has engaged various communities to implement the assessments and reforms it was mandated to undertake. Essentially, and most notably, the APRM works with governments, academic and research institutions, international and continental multilateral organizations, and others in different stages of the APRM process.

The establishment of the APRM followed the evolution of the Organisation of the African Unity to the African Union (AU) in 2002 and it is important to note that during this transition the Union emphasized the primacy and centrality of citizens in the AU. This agenda, referred to by some as the 'A union of peoples' sought to answer the question, Can the African Union truly become a union of African peoples as opposed to simply a club of leaders? At the time there was no debate that the OAU had succeeded in efforts towards the political liberation of African states and ending apartheid, but it was still largely viewed as a Union of Leaders.

Accordingly, the 2002 Constitutive Act of the African Union, in its principles, explicitly provides for the participation of the African peoples in the activities of the Union¹. To give effect to this principle, the APRM reexamined its engagement with the governance ecosystem at the national level where the 'people' are more directly represented. Preliminary assessments suggested that almost all institutions that the APRM deals with at a country level were affiliated to the executive and judiciary arms of



¹ Mukundi Wachira, George. 2015. How is the AU addressing concerns of the African citizen? GREAT Insights Magazine, Volume 4, Issue 3. April/May 2015

government. The legislature was engaged on at the level of leadership and in very limited terms through consultations with the Speakers of national assemblies and/or committees. There has, therefore, been no deliberated and targeted engagement of the legislature in as far as political parties represented in national assemblies are concerned.

Nineteen years after its establishment the APRM has now embarked on an initiative to regularly engage major political parties represented in national assemblies across the divide in the delivery of its mandate. The proposal to undertake these regular engagements emerged out of the recognition that political parties are the foundational unit



of any multiparty democratic political system. Further, the initiative is also inspired by the OAU/AU 50th Anniversary Solemn Declaration (25th May, 2013)² in which the AU Assembly of Heads of State and Government declared amongst others its: Strong commitment to accelerate the 'African Renaissance' by ensuring the integration of the principles of Pan Africanism in all policies and initiatives; Unflinching belief in the common destiny, African shared values, and the affirmation of the African identity as well as the celebration of unity in diversity and institution of African citizenship; Promotion of people to people engagements including youth and civil society exchanges in order to strengthen Pan Africanism; and Foster the participation of the people through democratic elections and ensure accountability and transparency. The envisaged party to party dialogue seek to translate these values into lived realities.

The initiative also responds to the African Union Act of 2002, Article 3. objectives: c) accelerate the political and socio-economic integration of the continent and g) promote democratic principles and institutions, popular participation, and good governance, both of which make it an imperative for the African Union as an institution to engage all levels of political actors and stakeholders in its engagement. Similarly, the African Charter on Democracy Elections and Governance (ACDEG), Chapter 3 on Principles, Article 11 also stipulates that the AU and African states will strengthen political pluralism and recognises the role, rights and responsibilities of legally constituted political parties, including opposition political parties, which should be given a status under national law. Other instruments of the AU such as the protocol establishing the Peace and Security Council, Chapter 3, objectives (a) anticipate, prevent, manage and resolve conflicts and (b) promote and encourage democratic practices, good governance and the rule of law, protect human rights and fundamental freedoms, respect for the sanctity of human life and international humanitarian law, both buttress the call to engage political parties.

It is based on these pronouncements that the APRM proposes to establish a pan-African dialogue of African Political Parties aimed at enhancing effectiveness of political parties in democratic governance on the continent. It is envisaged that the APRM will first coordinate

two Pan -African Inter-Party Dialogue (PAIPD) events, the first half of which is scheduled for July 2022.

It is envisaged that the 1st PAIPD dialogue may also resolve to establish a PanAfrican Inter-Party Dialogue platform which will hold annual events. The dialogue will thus provide a political party platform for peer learning that would contribute towards addressing governance challenges which constitute major impediments to socio-economic development on the continent. Political parties will jointly explore common standards defining modalities for the promotion of democratic principles and institutions, popular participation, and good governance within their organisations and ultimately in their respective countries.

The dialogues which will take the format of a conference, bringing together ruling political parties and main opposition political parties represented in national assemblies to deliberate among others on how intraparty governance can enhance the effectiveness of political parties in the promotion of good governance and democracy on the continent.

This initiative also contributes to existing efforts of regional (pan-African) and sub-regional institutionalized parliamentary groupings all of which will be invited to support and encourage pan-African or sub-regional party to-party partnerships.

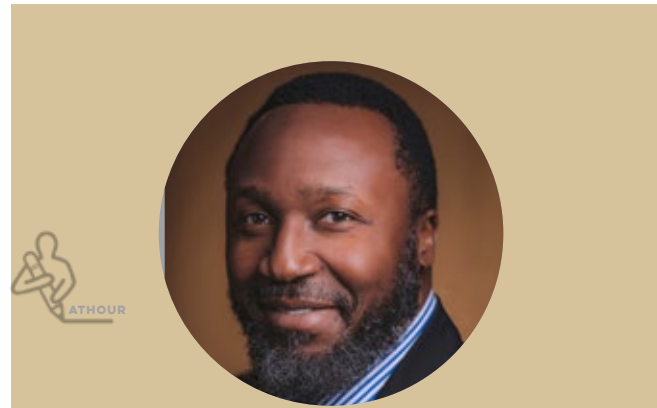
The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the African Union Commission (AUC) through the Department of Political Affairs and Peace and Security as well as the Pan-African Parliament have already undertaken significant work on inter-party partnerships promoting dialogue and cooperation between the political parties, the media and civil society. The APRM would like to contribute to these efforts with a particular focus on governance as defined in its mandate.

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TOWARDS SOUND POLICIES BACKED BY credible and up-to-date governance data

Since 2020, the African Peer Review Mechanism launched a programme to provide technical support to all African Union Member States in developing National Governance Reports. The APRM was given this mandate by the 32nd Ordinary Assembly of African Union Heads of State and Government Summit held on 10th and 11th February 2019 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. In its Decision, the AU Assembly urged Member States to develop National Governance Reports as a self-assessment tool for promoting good governance, on a regular basis.

Firstly the programme seeks to provide

credible, reliable, and up-to-date data on the performance of governance indicators. Secondly, to ensure periodic and continuous assessment of selected governance areas to detect areas requiring improvement. Thirdly, the design of the programme also seeks to imbue a sense of ownership of the country's governance, while enable the formulation of realistic, actionable, and institution-targeted recommendations for governance improvement, and lastly, the programme will assist governments to formulate informed policies and accurately guided governance reforms among others.

The APRM Continental Secretariat recognises that national governance reporting is key in revitalising, strengthening, and supporting the APRM at country level, including other existing national institutions whose national mandate focuses on governance.

The APRM National Structures, specifically the National Governing Councils are the pillars of the APRM processes at national level and they provide an interactive platform for governments and citizens. The programme will thus invest in capacitating and sustaining these national structures.

Given the undeniable strategic importance of the programme, the Mechanism will work with Member States to ensure that this programme becomes a reality and contribute towards the improvement of governance data on our continent. In this regard, in 2022, the APRM has partnered with the governments of Senegal, Djibouti and Namibia to complete their National Governance Report.


The APRM Continental Secretariat also calls on and encourages all member States to capacitate and sustain national governing councils to enable them work effectively with their respective governments in producing/developing on a regular basis their National Governance Report.

It is therefore, implicit, that the NGR Programme will not only support member states in the preparation of the national policy report on the performance of governance indicators in their respective countries but also offers institutional capacity support to the implementation of recommendations in the report as well as measuring the performance of the most important aspects of governance to inform policy makers.


The NGR is based on an agreed Framework of key governance indicators and presents a trend analysis of the national progress on the performance of the indicator. In 2020

the Republic of Kenya voluntarily committed to pilot-test the Framework for developing National Governance Report; becoming the first APRM country to undertake such a programme. The APRM-Kenya Secretariat was not dissuaded by COVID-19 Pandemic and the country has completed its first National Governance Report.

This year, 2022, has seen more APRM Member States requesting support to develop their national governance reports in recognition to their relevant efforts in sustainable socio-economic development and the APRM will continue to engage member states to encourage their participation in this milestone programme for both countries and the AU.



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TOWARDS UNIVERSAL ACCESSION:

APRM Engagement With AU Member States to Enhance Monitoring and Evaluation of Agenda 2030 and Agenda 2063

Guided by the AU institutional reforms for further coherent, aligned, and complementary working approach between the AU organs, the APRM has been assigned an expanded mandate pertinent to improving reporting on national governance issues and monitoring and evaluation of Agenda 2030 and Agenda 2063. The APRM, hereafter has developed various programs and partnerships to comply with this mandate and support member states's efforts to enhance the governance and implementation of both agendas. This article highlights the activities conquered by APRM towards this goal.



□ **Capacitate African Countries to Report on SDGs and Agenda 2063 For The High-Level Political Forum (HLPF)**

The APRM regional platform for Voluntary National Reporting (VNRs) was launched in 2018 to support the AU-UN framework for the implementation of both Agenda 2063 and the agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development (SDGs). The APRM capacity building continental workshops on VNRs offered an open regional

dialogue which allowed African countries to share experiences, best practices and lessons learnt concerning VNRs. It also took stork on the overall implementation progress of both Agenda 2030 and Agenda 2063 and invited various donors and development partners to provide insights on these issues.

The VNRs proved to be an efficient approach to enhance the institutional arrangements and coordination mechanisms for SDGs

planning and reprioritization of goals and indicators on the national development plans (NDPs). Further, it was noted from the African countries' submissions that engagement of youth, civil society organs, and women in VNR/VLR national processes has increased since 2017 till date. More than 40 African countries and 200 national experts benefited from these technical capacity building workshops. It is expected that 53 countries will submit their VNRs to the United Nations at the HLPF which will be held in July 2022.

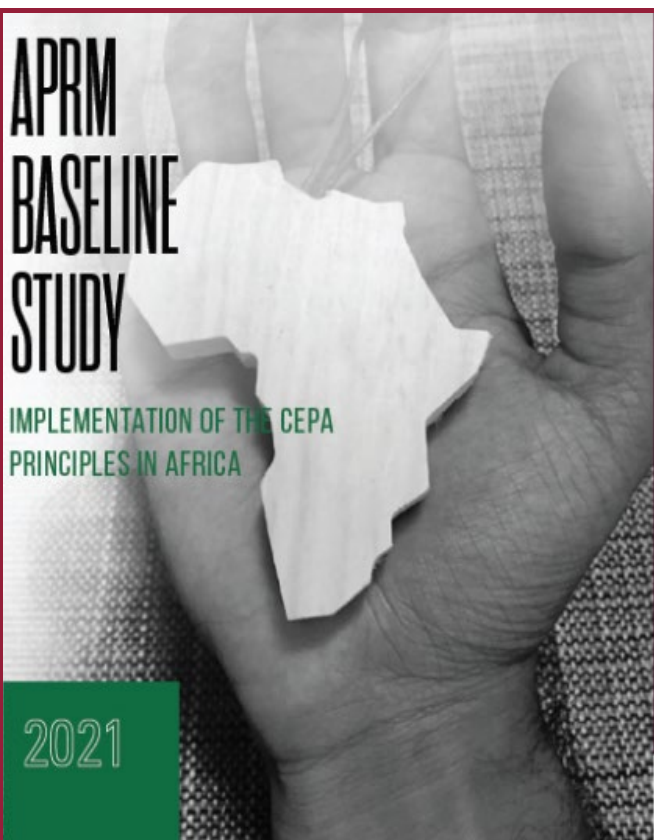
APRM Workshop on Africa's Voluntary National Reporting and Agenda 2063, March 28-30, 2022 – Abuja

□ **Advocacy and Support the Implementation of CEPA Principles for Effective Governance of SDGs**

In addition to the VNRs support at continental level, the APRM took the lead in advocating and raising awareness amongst AU member states on the principles of effective governance for sustainable development which are endorsed by UN ECOSOC and adopted by the Committee of Experts on Public Administration. The APRM-CEPA continental program is one the most successful examples of UN CEPA-AU partnership programs. Over the years it has grown to provide evidence-based reporting on the implementation of the eleven CEPA Principles (Competence, integrity, sound policy making, transparency, inclusiveness, leaving no-one behind, subsidiarity, participation. etc) in Africa alongside assessing the impact of COVID-19. Further, South Africa has led continental efforts to host CEPA continental workshop on an annual basis in partnership with the UN Resident Coordinator in South Africa and UNDES/CEPA Secretariat to raise awareness on the CEPA principles and its application on national and sub-national level.

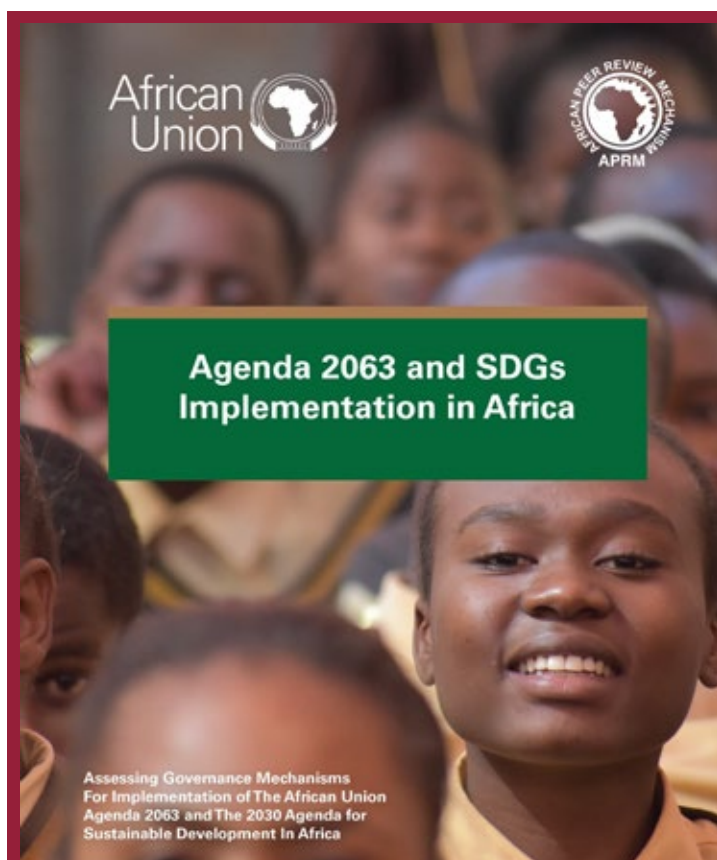
While the pandemic threatens the implementation of these principles, the first APRM Baseline Study on the implementation of CEPA Principles in Africa highlighted that 17 African countries agreed that the pandemic offered a positive opportunity to improve various strategies including sound -policy making and collaboration amongst government bodies. It also offered an opportunity to invest e-government, gender-sensitive budgeting, access to information, social-welfare, and assistance programs for vulnerable groups as well as leaving no one behind strategies.

Perceived impact of COVID 19 on all the UN-CEPA strategies individually (APRM study)



[Download the Study here](#)

□ Supporting the AU TWG on Tracking the Implementation of Agenda 2030 and Agenda 2063



[Download report](#)



The APRM also supported AU efforts in enhance reporting on Agenda 2063 especially with the lack of awareness on the agenda compared to Agenda 2030 at national levels. The APRM is member of the technical working group on Agenda 2063 with other AU organs including AUDA-NEPAD, AU Commission and Regional Economic Communities. The APRM contributed to the second continental report on Agenda 2063 Aspirations 3 and 4 (An Africa of Good Governance, Democracy, Respect for Human Rights, Justice and the Rule of Law).

While the continent faces various challenges towards democratic governance, further reforms were adopted amongst African countries to improve inclusiveness of decision making and adherence to AU standards and codes i.e the AU Charter on Democracy and good governance (ACDG).

Besides the Agenda 2063 Continental Report, the APRM produced special knowledge products on various issues pertinent to Governance mechanisms of the implementation of both Agenda 2063 and Agenda 2030. The APRM also provided various Monitoring and Evaluation training to enhance alignment between Agenda 2030 and Agenda 2063 in some African countries including Uganda, Nigeria, and Kenya. In 2022, the APRM continues its support to the TWG to produce the evacuation of the first ten-year implementation plan (FTYIP) which shall be submitted to the heads of states by 2023.

Because of the necessity for multi-stakeholder approach, coordination and coherence with other organs and agencies to implement all these programs, the APRM forged various partnerships throughout the last few years to maximize benefits for AU member states. Institutional partnerships were conquered with the SDGs centre for Africa, in Kigali African Association for Public Administration and Management (AAPM), National Institute for Good Governance and Anti-Corruption Authority in Egypt, and the APC-Colombia for international Cooperation.



□ **South-South Cooperation for Building Back Resilient African Economies Post COVID-19**

The fourth and most advanced area of engagement by APRM to accelerate the implementation of SDGs and Agenda 2063 is the role of South-South and trilateral cooperation in boosting governance policies and practices in Africa. The APRM seeks to position itself as a catalytical mechanism for boosting SSTRc for the implementation and monitoring SDGs and Agenda 2063 in Africa. South-South cooperation becomes one of the most advanced tools for knowledge sharing.

Thanks to the concrete partnerships with different partners including UNOSSC, APC-Columbia, Islamic Development Bank, and USAID, the APRM organised the first High Level Peer Review Forum on SSTRc under the theme of Resilience in Cairo from 24-25 November and took stock of the implementation of BAPA+40 outcome document in Africa. It also aimed to build synergies between national and continental initiatives for the implementation of Agenda 2063. The forum addressed challenges and best practices on persistent issues including food security, health resilience, private sector engagement in regional integration programs as well as the role of youth

and women in promoting solidarity amongst societies of global south and e-platforms for knowledge sharing between African countries.

The year 2022 will witness stronger and institutionalised role of APRM in promoting SSC for peer-learning programs on good governance in Africa especially in areas of National Development Planning and study tours between African countries on public service delivery.

The second version of the SSTRc Forum will take place in September 2022 in Uganda Kampala under the auspices of the Presidency of Uganda and APRM National structure. The UNOSSC, Islamic Development Bank, Rwanda Cooperation initiative and the Egyptian Agency for Partnerships for Development are strategic partners for the APRM in this important regional forum.



Ms. Sara Hamouda has eleven years of professional experience in the international cooperation and development field. Currently, she works for the African Union Secretariat for Peer Review Mechanism as an officer in charge of the agenda 2063/SDGs Unit and South-South Cooperation, based in Johannesburg South Africa. Earlier, she worked for the Cabinet of Minister of International Cooperation in Egypt as Senior Economic Researcher in charge of cooperation with Arab and Regional Funding Institutions and China. Ms. Hamouda contributes to various publications pertinent to governance, SDGs and Agenda 2063 progress in Africa.

Ms. Hamouda holds a Master of Arts in International Development from Hankuk University of Foreign Studies in Seoul, a Diploma in Peace promotion and disarmament from the University for Peace and Vienna Centre for Disarmament, and a Bachelor's in Political Sciences from the Faculty of Economics and Political Sciences, Cairo University. She is also an alumnus of the College of Europe in Warsaw. She is named as TOP 50 influential women in Egypt for Leadership and Community service under the Auspices of the Prime Minister Cabinet.



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THE AFRICAN PEER REVIEW MECHANISM STRENGTHENS ITS COOPERATION WITH JAPAN



HE. Ahmed Arita ALI is a seasoned educator and ambassador who spent about 13 years as Ambassador of the Republic of Djibouti to Japan. In recognition of his contribution to bilateral relations between both countries, he was awarded the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Star by His Imperial Majesty Emperor of Japan, Naruhito. After years of dedicated service to his country, H.E. Ahmed Arita ALI has just been appointed by the APR Forum of Heads of States to serve as Member of the African Review Panel of Eminent Persons. His Excellency was accompanied by Dr. Valery Yao. Ambassador YONETANI Koji, Director-General for African Affairs, the Ambassador of the Republic of Tunisia and Hisafumi KOGA, President of Asia Africa 20, also attended the meeting.

The APRM delegation participated in a series of meetings scheduled on the sidelines of the award ceremony to capitalise on Amb. ALI's knowledge of Japan and work strategically to strengthen the relations between the continent and Japan.

Participating in the 'Asia Africa 20' Meeting hosted by the Embassy of Tunisia, HE. Ahmed Arita ALI extended the sincere appreciation of the Panel and Prof Eddy Maloka, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the APRM Continental Secretariat to Asia Africa 20, the Government and the people of Japan, for their remarkable efforts in facilitating APRM participation in the meeting. The Panel Member explained the philosophy of the Mechanism and highlighted its successes in the promotion of good governance in Africa, including the conduct of twenty-six (26) country review reports, the completion of five second-generation reviews, the production of two (2) Africa Governance Reports (AGR, 2019 and 2021), technical assistance to Member States, and the increase in its membership to 42 Member States to date. To ensure more effectiveness in the implementation of his mandates, the Panel member requested the support of the Japanese Government and institutions. Ambassadors of non-APRM member States were also sensitised and committed to accede to the Mechanism in a bid to secure universal accession to APRM by 2023.



14 May 2022 - The delegation was later received by the Director of 'Inspire Africa Association', Mr. Koji YAMAGUCHI who promised to reach out to various institutions to mobilise support both from public and private institutions to APRM.



15 May 2022 – HE. Ambassador Arita was received by Prof. Mieko IKEGAME who served at various national and international positions as former Director, United Nation's Office of Under Secretary General, New York Representative of Japan-UN Friendship Association as well as

Senior Consultant for Private Sector Companies in Japan, USA and Africa.

Prof. IKEGAME emphasised that most Africa's challenges result from governance deficiencies. She further said that some gaps exist in the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) which is traditionally viewed as the 'voice of Africa'. As the premier home-grown governance institution on the continent, APRM needs to be brought at the heart of the TICAD process where a key role is expected in terms of value addition. The Mechanism is needed to provide proper monitoring of the Nairobi or Yokohama Plan of Action. Various reports such as country review reports and the Africa Governance Report (AGR) are not only relevant sources aiming at providing the status update on the major governance issues on the continent, but also possible avenues for policy decisions at the continental, national and local levels within the context of TICAD. Finally, the discussion between His Excellency and Prof. Ikegame reached the consensus of submitting a request to persuade the Japanese Government to appoint APRM as a formal member of the TICAD Joint Monitoring Committee.



APRM ACHIEVEMENTS FROM JANUARY 2021 TO DATE

The African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) is an African-owned and African-led platform for self-assessment, peer-learning, and experience-sharing in democracy and good governance, in full respect for democratic principles, human rights, rule of law, the acceleration of political, social, and economic integration in Africa.

from January 2021 to May 2022, the Mechanism realised the following major achievements:

At the 30th of APR Forum of Heads of State and Government, held as a virtual Summit on 30 March 2021, the Democratic Republic of Congo acceded to the APRM as its 41st Member State, and at the 31st APR Forum, held as a virtual Summit on 04 February 2022, the Republic of Burundi acceded to the APRM as its 42nd Member State;

During the 30th APR Forum, the peer review of the Review Report for Liberia was completed. Peer reviews of two targeted review reports on Mineral Resource Governance and Tourism for Zambia, and the health sector and COVID-19 response of Sierra Leone were also completed. During the 31st Forum held on 04 February 2022, the peer reviews of the Country Review Reports for Nigeria, South Africa, and Namibia were completed;

- APRM country review teams completed virtual and physical consultations and preparatory missions with a number of Member States including Nigeria, Ghana, DRC, Cameroon, Senegal, and Niger as well as two RECs (ECOWAS and ECCAS), and fielded review missions to Nigeria, Namibia, Niger, and South Africa in 2021;
- APRM Targeted Review teams completed targeted reviews in 2021 of Uganda and Kenya. The Uganda Targeted Review Mission took place in October 2021, and focused on three thematic clusters, namely Underdevelopment of Agriculture; Unresponsive Civil Service; and Underdevelopment of Infrastructure. The Kenya Targeted Review Mission took place in November and December 2021, and focused on the Big 4 Agenda, covering key issues in the four broad sectors of Affordable Housing, Expansion of Manufacturing, Food Security and Nutrition and Affordable Healthcare as well as salient cross-cutting issues including Corruption, Gender Inequality, Youth Unemployment and Diversity Management;

- At the Summit held in March 2021, the APR Forum of Heads of State and Government adopted the Deepening the Review proposals and called for the implementation of recommendations pertaining to four areas (i) Rethinking the Idea and Original Vision of the APRM; (ii) Reviewing the APRM Institutional Framework both at the Continental and National Levels; (iii) Enhancing the APRM Process; and (iv) Enhancing APRM Tools. On 13 September 2021, the Fourth Annual Methodology Forum was held as a virtual meeting and focused on deliberations on the Action Plan for Deepening the Reviews Proposals. The outcome of that meeting was a detailed Road Map for implementation of the Proposals;
- In February 2022, a Technical Workshop to strengthen the role of non-State Actors in the APRM process was held in Cape Town. APRM also established a Bureau of the APRM Network of Non-State Actors comprising civil society organizations from all five African regions;
- The APRM Continental Secretariat participated at the African Union Reflection Forum on Unconstitutional Changes of Government that was held in Accra, Republic of Ghana from 15-17 March 2022 as well as the Africa Governance Architecture (AGA) Platform Statutory Technical and Political Meeting held in March 2022. The AGA meeting endorsed the APRM Proposal to develop the Third Edition of the Africa Governance Report 2023 with a focus on Unconstitutional Change of Government in Africa.
- During 2021, the APRM launched its Targeted Review Reports on [Youth Unemployment in Namibia](#) and the Health Governance and Response to Covid-19 for Sierra Leone in Freetown and Windhoek;



- The APRM submitted [The Africa Governance Report 2021](#) on African Governance Futures 2063 to the AU Assembly in February 2021, with formal tabling and deliberation at the AU Assembly meeting held in Addis Ababa in February 2022;
- The APRM completed a Baseline Study on the [UN Committee of Experts on Public Administration \(CEPA\) Principles for Effective Governance of SDGs in 2021](#) and convened a virtual CEPA Taskforce Meeting on 15 February 2022 which deliberated on its implementation.
- The APRM conducted a virtual training workshop on the integration of the APRM National Programmes of Action into National Development Plans in March 2021 attended by the following Member States: Benin, Burkina Faso, Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Mali, Mauritius, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, and South Africa;
- The APRM in collaboration with the African Continental Free Trade Area Secretariat (AfCFTA) convened the 1st Meeting of the Technical Trade Expert Taskforce on 7 – 9 March 2022, in Nairobi, Kenya. The outcome of the meeting was a validated AfCFTA Implementation Review Mechanism (AfIRM);
- The APRM assisted AU Member States with Voluntary National Reports through a workshop conducted in Djibouti in 2021 that included representatives from Djibouti, Egypt, Ghana, Kenya, Mali, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, South Africa, and Uganda;
- The APRM Continental Secretariat in collaboration with the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) convened a Continental Workshop on Voluntary National Reporting and Domestication of Agenda 2063 on 28 -30 March 2022, in Abuja, Nigeria. This included a one-day capacity building for National Sustainable Development Goals focal points on Agenda 2063. Eighteen African Union Member States were capacitated for Voluntary National Reporting and Voluntary Local Reporting.
- The APRM published the Second and Third Edition of the [African Sovereign Credit Ratings Review Report in 2021](#), and the Fourth Edition in January 2022. The UN Human Right Council's Office of the Independent Expert on Debt has recognised the report as forming the basis for global reforms of rating agencies, with report editions tabled at the 4th African Union Specialised Technical Committee on Finance, Monetary Affairs, Economic Planning and Integration meetings in 2021 for noting. Starting in February 2021, the APRM has also held regular meetings with Fitch and Moody's to engage on its findings;

- During 2021, the APRM collaborated with the AU Commission on the APRM organisational structure that corresponds with the provisionally approved 2020-2024 Strategic Plan as adopted by the APR Forum and the AU Assembly in February 2020. The Structure was approved by the AU Executive Council in October 2021, and adopted by the AU Assembly in February 2022;
- During 2021, the APRM jointly developed a Framework on collaboration between the APR Panel of Eminent Persons and CEWS/APSA including Femwise and the Pan African Network of the Wise. In line with a PSC decision of March 2020, the APRM and PAPS jointly convened the Annual APRM/PSC Consultation Retreat on country reviews and conflict prevention in December 2021;
- APRM continued its collaboration with other AU organs, as well as African and global strategic and technical partners on projects covering its mandate on improving governance in Africa. In 2021-2022, these included partnerships with the AfDB, AGA Platform, PSC, OGP, OSAA, South-South, UNAIDS, UNDP, Mo Ibrahim, UNECA, OECD, Delaware State University (DSU), the EU and Expertise France, GiZ and SIDA;
- Following adoption in February 2022, the APRM launched the Africa Governance Report 2021 on the margins of the Africa Governance Architecture Consultative Meeting on the Africa Governance Report 2023 held on 25-26 March 2022 in Cape Town, South Africa; and
- The APRM celebrated APRM Day on the 9th of March 2022 both at the headquarters in Midrand, South Africa and at individual Member State level through its national structures.

Challenges and Lessons Learnt

The COVID-19 pandemic, travel restrictions and lockdowns in AU Member States and budget austerity at the African Union have affected the implementation of the APRM annual work plans, including the adoption, publicization and implementation of Africa Governance Report 2021 and the implementation of the publicity campaign for the report.

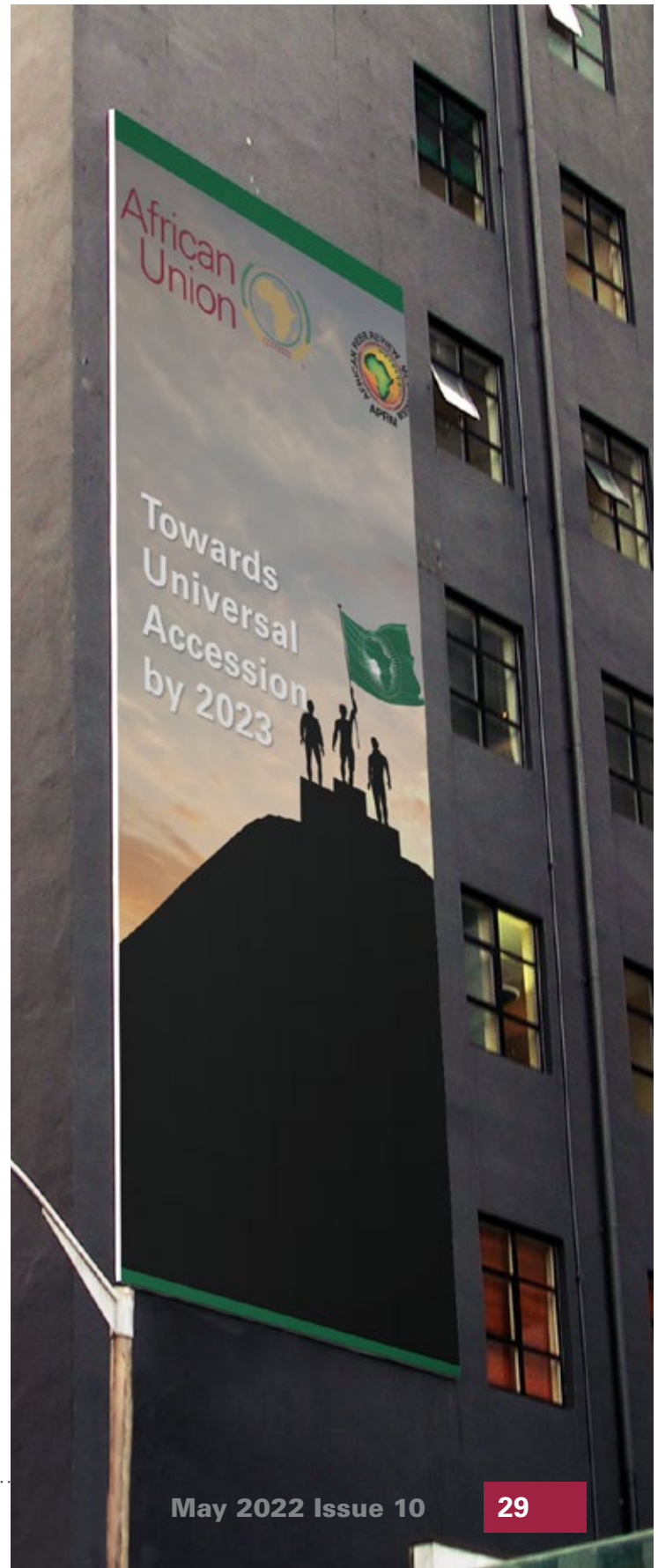
In mitigation of these challenges, IT virtual platforms and tools have been key to implementing the APRM programmes successfully. Consequently, APRM will continue to hold more and better resourced virtual meetings as means of ensuring improved programme delivery.





APRM ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR

2021



FIRST JOINT APRM-PSC RETREAT



The Peace and Security Council (PSC) of the African Union (AU) and the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) held its very First Joint Retreat from 19 – 21 December. The Joint Retreat was co-chaired by H.E Ambassador Tesfaye Yilma Sabo, the Permanent Representative of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and Chairperson of the PSC for December 2021, and H.E Ambassador Ombeni Yohana Sefue, former Chairperson of the APR Panel of Eminent Persons.

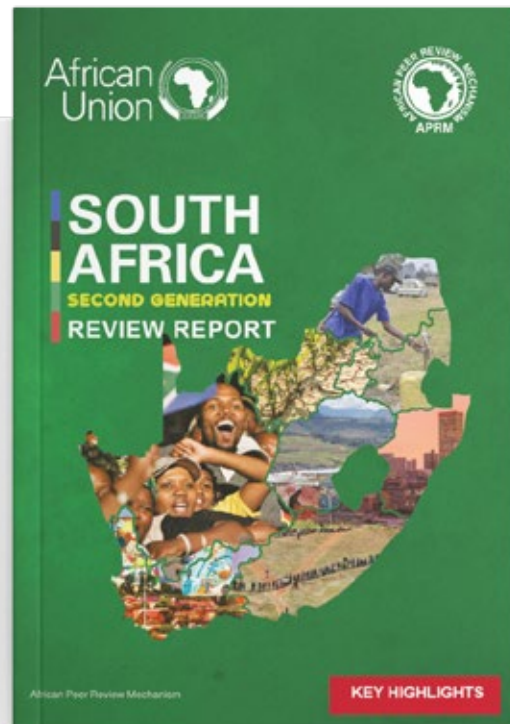
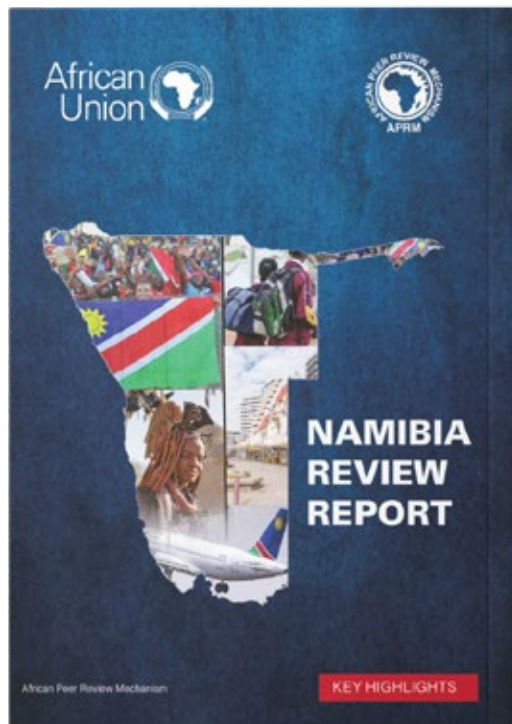


The convening of the Joint Retreat was pursuant to the PSC decision adopted at its 914th meeting held on 5 March 2020 and reaffirmed in a subsequent PSC meeting on 5 November of the same year. As a standing decision-making organ of the AU with a mandate for the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts, the PSC, this meeting underscored the importance of enhancing the contribution of APRM in early warning for conflict prevention in harmony and synergy with the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA) and the African Governance Architecture (AGA). This PSC decision is informed by the critical work done by the APRM in areas of democracy, good governance, human rights, the rule of law, and acceleration of political, social and economic integration in Africa. Furthermore, the PSC stressed the critical role of the APRM in efforts towards the implementation of the AU Master Roadmap of Practical Steps in Silencing the Guns in Africa by 2030.



DURBAN, SOUTH AFRICA | 23 - 26 MARCH 2021

Namibia, South Africa and Nigeria Country Reviews





Namibia Country Review

NAMIBIA
23 OCT - 15 NOV 2021



Namibia acceded to the APRM in January 2017, at the APR Forum of Heads of State and Government meeting of 28 January 2017, held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, as the 36th APRM Member State. At accession, H.E. Dr. Hage G. Geingob, President of the Republic of Namibia, stated his support for the APRM as a process that plays a pivotal role in enabling Africa to achieve the noble Aspirations and Developmental Goals of Agenda 2063 and its First-Ten Year Implementation Plan. The Namibia Country Review Report was peer reviewed at the 31st APR Forum Heads of States and Governments which was held virtually in February 2022, and will be accompanied by a costed National Plan of Action (NPOA) that addresses the governance challenges highlighted in the Namibia Country Review Report. The NPOA will assign responsibility for implementation to institutions including governmental, CSO and private sector bodies and associations, and will be harmonised with the Sixth National Development Plan.



[Download Key Highlights](#)



Nigeria Second-Generation Review

NIGERIA
28 JUNE TO 21 JULY 2021



Nigeria celebrated its 61st Independence Day on the 1st of October 2021, after attaining its independence in 1960. The country has witnessed an uninterrupted democratic dispensation since 29 May 1999, when Former President Chief Olusegun Obasanjo was elected under a new Constitution, following a series of military rules which had led to a dysfunctional bureaucracy, a collapsed infrastructure, a breakdown in the rule of law, and a highly militarised political system.



Nigeria was among the founding member countries that acceded to the APRM in March 2003, with the Former President Olusegun Obasanjo assuming the role of Chairperson of the APR Forum in June 2003 when the APRM was launched. The country hosted the first Country review Mission in 2008 and was subsequently peer-reviewed in 2009, and further submitted two progress Reports in 2011 and 2013 on the implementation of its National Plan of Action which paved the way for the preparation of the second review.

On 18 January 2021, the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, H.E. Muhammadu Buhari signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the APRM and the Federal Republic of Nigeria. The country hosted the Country Review Mission from 28 June to 21 July 2021, becoming the fourth APRM Member State to undergo a second-generation review, thus joining Kenya, Uganda and Mozambique.



South Africa Second-Generation Review

SOUTH AFRICA
07 - 21 DECEMBER 2021



South Africa is to be commended for its leading role as one of the founding nations of the NEPAD vision, which led to the establishment of the APRM programme on good governance in March 2003. From 2003, South Africa steadily implemented APRM, completing its First Self-Assessment Country Report in 2006, hosting a review mission from 9 to 25 July 2006, and completing its first peer review in Accra, Ghana on the 1st of July 2007. South Africa then produced three progress reports based on the recommendations of the first Country Review Report, with the final progress report tabled at the APR Forum in 2014.

The Review Mission held stakeholder meetings in all nine regions of the country, meeting with MECs, MMCs, mayors, and members of provincial and local councils across all nine provinces of the Country, as well as stakeholders from Chapter 9 State institutions, Civil Society, and the private sector in Pretoria and all the provinces of South Africa.

The South Africa Second Generation Country Review Report is accompanied by a costed National Plan of Action (NPoA) that addresses the governance challenges highlighted in the Report. The NPoA falls within the ambit of the Medium-Term Strategic Framework 2019-2024 which assigns responsibility for implementation to competent agencies, and is in line with the National Development Plan.



[Download Key Highlights](#)

NAIROBI, KENYA | 23 - 28 SEPTEMBER 2021



The APRM hosted a series of meetings in Nairobi, Kenya in Sept 2021. The meetings included a meeting of the APRM Communicators Forum, The Official Launch of the APRM Baseline Study on CEPA Principles for Effective Governance for SDGs Governance in Africa, The Validation of the Roundtable of the Gender Audit Baseline Report and Gender Mainstreaming Guidelines and the 2nd APRM Youth Symposium.

Also on the margins of these meetings the APRM held the inaugural meeting of the African Union's African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) for non-state actors in Nairobi, Kenya. The meeting which brought together African Union Institutions, National and Pan-African Institutions in Africa, Academic and Practitioner Institutions in Africa (Schools of Governance, Universities and Think Tanks), Private Sector entities (Chambers of Commerce), Civil Society Organizations and media to explore modalities for enhancing the institutionalisation of non-state actor participation in the APRM processes. It also sought to define the role of non-state actors in the development of the Africa Governance Report (AGR) and National Governance Reports (NGRs) as well as raising the profile of non-state actors in economic and corporate governance within the African Union (AU).



APRM-UN DESA WORKSHOP ON ACCELERATING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2030 AGENDA AND AU AGENDA 2063 IN AFRICA: BUILDING RESILIENT INSTITUTIONS FOR THE SDGS IN THE TIME OF COVID-19

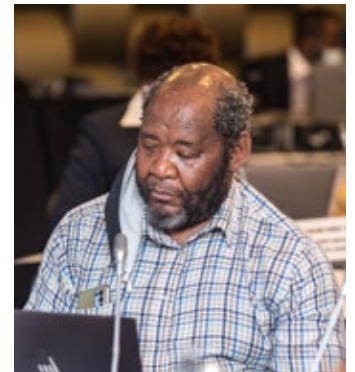
The African Peer Review Mechanism and the United Nations Economic and Social Affairs Department co-organized a continental workshop to stock take on implementing Agenda 2063 and Agenda 2030 for sustainable development from 28 to 30 October in Cape Town.

The workshop was the second edition of the APRM-UN CEPA workshop in Pretoria, which took place in October 2019.

The APRM is privileged to be an "observer" at the UN Committee of Experts of Public Administration (CEPA) and has been dedicated to promote the awareness of CEPA principles amongst African countries since they are strongly imperative for enhancing good governance and strategies for the achievement of both development agendas. The principles were endorsed by ECOSOC in 2018 and provided guidance and concrete strategies to countries for effective governance of SDGs and Agenda 2063.

The Cape Town workshop discussed various topics, including a) Accelerating recovery from the impacts of COVID-19 ; b) Institutions and the Decade of Action and Delivery in Africa; c) African countries' experiences in the implementation of CEPA principles and findings of APRM Baseline Study on this re-

gard; d) Mainstreaming the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 into national planning instruments and strategies; e) Mobilizing Partnerships and Stakeholders for 2030 Agenda and 2063 Agenda implementation and COVID-19 recovery; f) a capacity building segment on enhancing monitoring and evaluation of Agenda 2063 and Agenda 2030 focusing especially on the current effort of the African Union to track Agenda 2063; and the operationalization of CEPA Principles in the Post COVID-19 era.



CAPE TOWN, 27 OCTOBER 2021

APRM MOU COLLABORATIONS



ACCORD AND APRM SIGNED A MOU FOR COLLABORATION

The objective of the MOU is to coordinate and jointly collaborate on activities which promote both parties and their common objectives and joint initiatives. [Read more](#)

DURBAN, SOUTH AFRICA | 04 SEPT 2021



SIGNING CEREMONY OF THE MOU BETWEEN THE AFCFTA SECRETARIAT AND THE APRM SECRETARIAT

The purpose of the MoU is to collaborate on the implementation of the respective mandates of both Parties, including harmonizing efforts in line with policies and practices that conform with the agreed political, economic, and corporate governance values, codes, and standards, and to achieve mutually agreed objectives. [Read more](#)

ACCRA, GHANA | 5 NOVEMBER 2021



MOU BETWEEN APRM AND APC- COLOMBIA

The APRM signed a MoU with the APC-Colombia to forge stronger partnership with Colombia for accelerating the SDGs and Agenda 2063 implementation in Africa. Both partners intend to create a community of practices between African and Colombia for peer-learning and technical support in thematic areas: national planning, monitoring and evaluation, policy coherence for SDGs.



CAIRO, EGYPT | 24 NOVEMBER 2021



MOU BETWEEN APRM AND COALITION FOR DIALOGUE ON AFRICA (CoDA)

In 2019, APRM and CODA agreed to work together to advance the work of the AU-HLP and its Consortium in carrying out the agreed phase two implementation activities towards stemming IFFs. As part of the implementation of phase two activities of the AU-HLP and its Consortium the APRM will assist Secretariat of the AU-HLP (CoDA) in structuring, coordinating, and institutionalizing national responses to the scourge of IFFs. APRM further will facilitate the work of the Secretariat of the AU-HLP (CoDA) at a national level using its national offices in member states. [Read more](#)



SOUTH AFRICA | 30 MARCH 2021

ACTIVITIES FOR 2021

African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM)

230 15th Road, Randjespark
Midrand, South Africa

www.aprm-au.org

THE AFRICA GOVERNANCE REPORT 2021



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