



Dialogue of the Executive Secretaries of the Regional Commissions

with the UN General Assembly Second Committee

UNGA 72nd session - Monday, 23 October 2017, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. CR- 2 UN Headquarters, New York

Financing for Development

Regional perspectives and the role of the UN Regional Commissions

Concept Note

Objective

To share best practices and lessons learned from experiences and effective policies in the regions on implementing the Addis Ababa Action Agenda framework and unlocking the resources needed to achieve the 2030 Agenda.

Expected Outcomes

Member States and other stakeholders will have a better understanding of shared priorities across different regions for the implementation of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda framework, as well as a better appreciation of the role of the regional commissions in reinforcing the Addis Ababa framework through their intergovernmental platforms and the services that they offer, based on their policy and analytical strength, as well as knowledge of their respective regions.

Focus Areas

The regional commissions have taken steps to further prioritize and factor “regional realities, contexts and levels of development”, within the broad scope of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, which entails more than a hundred and fifty commitments and global mandates. Some of the shared priorities across different regions, which will be addressed during the event, include the following:

- (i) Improving domestic revenue mobilization
- (ii) Strengthening public expenditure management
- (iii) Private sector engagement and financing
- (iv) Public-private partnerships for infrastructure
- (v) Enhancing financial inclusion
- (vi) Promoting regional financial integration
- (vii) Financing for Development advocacy, consultation and institutional networking



Modality and Participation

The Chair of the General Assembly Second Committee will deliver opening remarks. The Executive Secretaries of the five UN regional commissions will make presentations. Interactive rounds of discussions with the floor will follow.

Background

Financing for Development is an integral component and a key means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda. It will be a fundamental factor in determining the speed of regional progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. Accordingly, all regional commissions contributed regional inputs to the Third International Conference on Financing for Development in Addis Ababa in 2015, and continue to support its follow-up, which is led by the ECOSOC Financing for Development Forum.

The regional commissions are well structured to reinforce the overall global Addis Ababa Action Agenda framework through their intergovernmental platforms. For the last few years, dedicated deliberations have been held on different components of the Addis Ababa framework with a diverse set of regional stakeholders. The main aim of the deliberations has been to seek their support for developing a deeper understanding of regional finance and trade as well as enhanced capacity to exploit and effectively deploy a diverse set of resources towards achieving the 2030 Agenda.

In the meantime, the regional commissions are cognizant of the changing global financial landscape in terms of instruments, actors and new form of cooperation, such as South-South cooperation and other non-traditional financing partners. While these changes increase the options of funding for development, they also indicate a need to develop coherent development financing architecture and policies.