



SUC/MISC/2013/9  
(13/248ams)

## NOTIFICATION

### 16th Africa Oil, Gas and Mines Trade and Finance Conference and Exhibition

Niamey, Niger, 19–22 November 2013

The 16th Africa Oil, Gas and Mines Trade and Finance Conference and Exhibition (OILGASMINE), will take place in Niamey, Niger, from 19 to 22 November 2013. The 16th OILGASMINE is being jointly organized by UNCTAD and the Government of Niger, under the high patronage of His Excellency Mr. Mahamadou Issoufou, President of the Republic of Niger. It will be held in partnership with the Tattali Iyali Foundation and the West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA) and in cooperation with private partners.

This annual event is part of UNCTAD's ongoing programme to strengthen the contribution of the natural resources sector to the economic and social development of the African continent. Key decision-makers in African energy and mining sectors, as well as high-level experts from the extractive industries and the financial and legal sectors, are expected to participate. The central theme for this year's conference is *Natural Resources Development: Governance in Extractive Industries and Trades*.

African countries contribute to a sizeable share of the global reserves and production of some minerals, with many African economies highly dependent on their extraction. The continent's participation in the global minerals industry is limited to providing raw materials. The commodity boom experienced over the past decade has contributed to the rapid economic growth of mineral-rich African countries, however development challenges remain. Achieving sustainable development that is based on natural resource wealth would include using these resources to promote the diversification of economies, increased value addition and beneficial integration into global value chains. This highlights the need for a development strategy more closely oriented to societal concerns and rooted in broadening the economic base. The other issues to be discussed range from cross-border matters, particularly for landlocked low-income countries, to security and safety in extractive industries and sustainable management of resources.

The 16th OILGASMINE will be followed by a special event entitled *Women in Extractive Industries: Think, Strategize and Innovate – SEKHMET*, which will be held on Saturday, 23 November. The SEKHMET special event will analyse the significance of women in extractive industries. A detailed programme is available at <http://ogtfafrica.com>.

For any further information, please contact Ms. Claudine Sigam, Special Unit on Commodities ([claudine.sigam@unctad.org](mailto:claudine.sigam@unctad.org), [csigam@gmail.com](mailto:csigam@gmail.com), tel.: +41 22 917 5766; fax: +41 22 917 0509), or visit the official conference website at <http://ogtfafrica.com>.

(signed)

Mukhisa Kituyi  
Secretary-General of UNCTAD

12 November 2013