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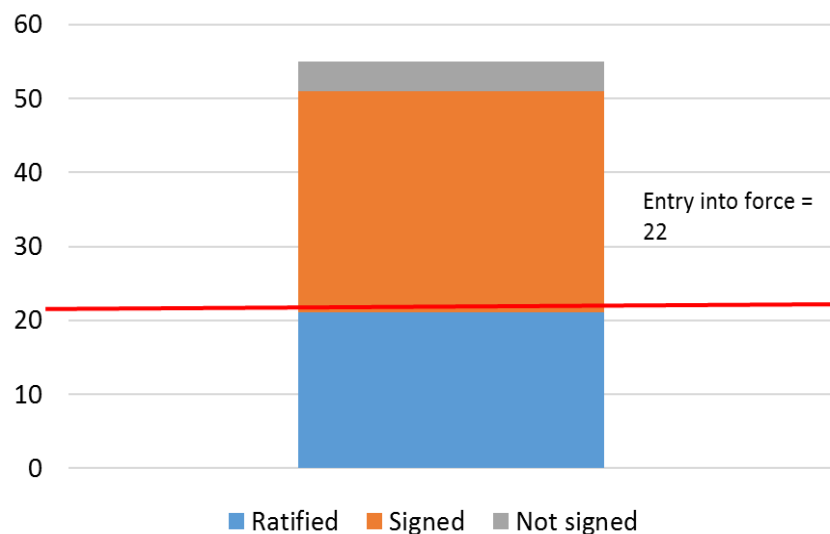
Gender considerations in FTAs, regional integration agreements and preferential trade schemes

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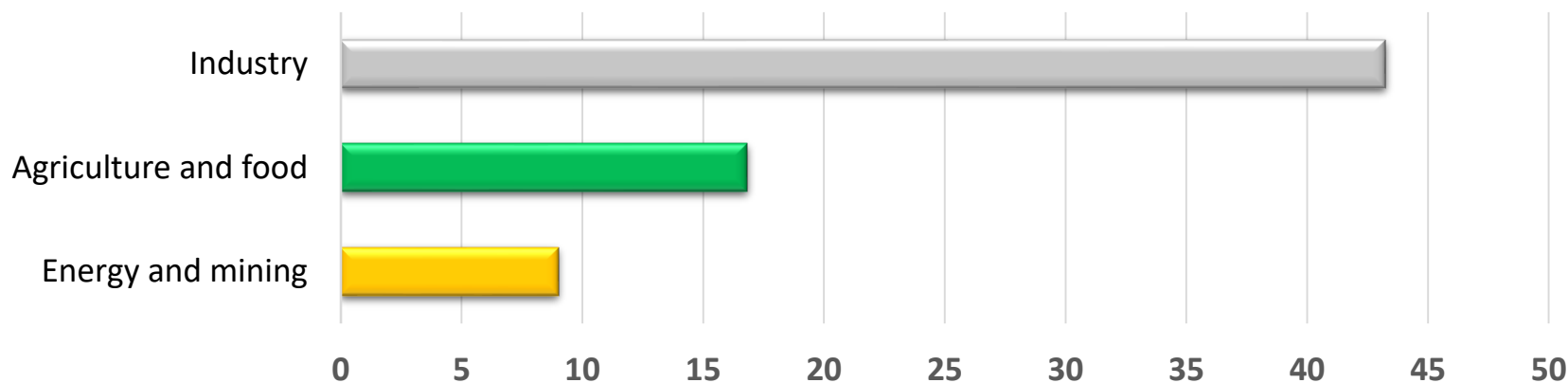
Geneva

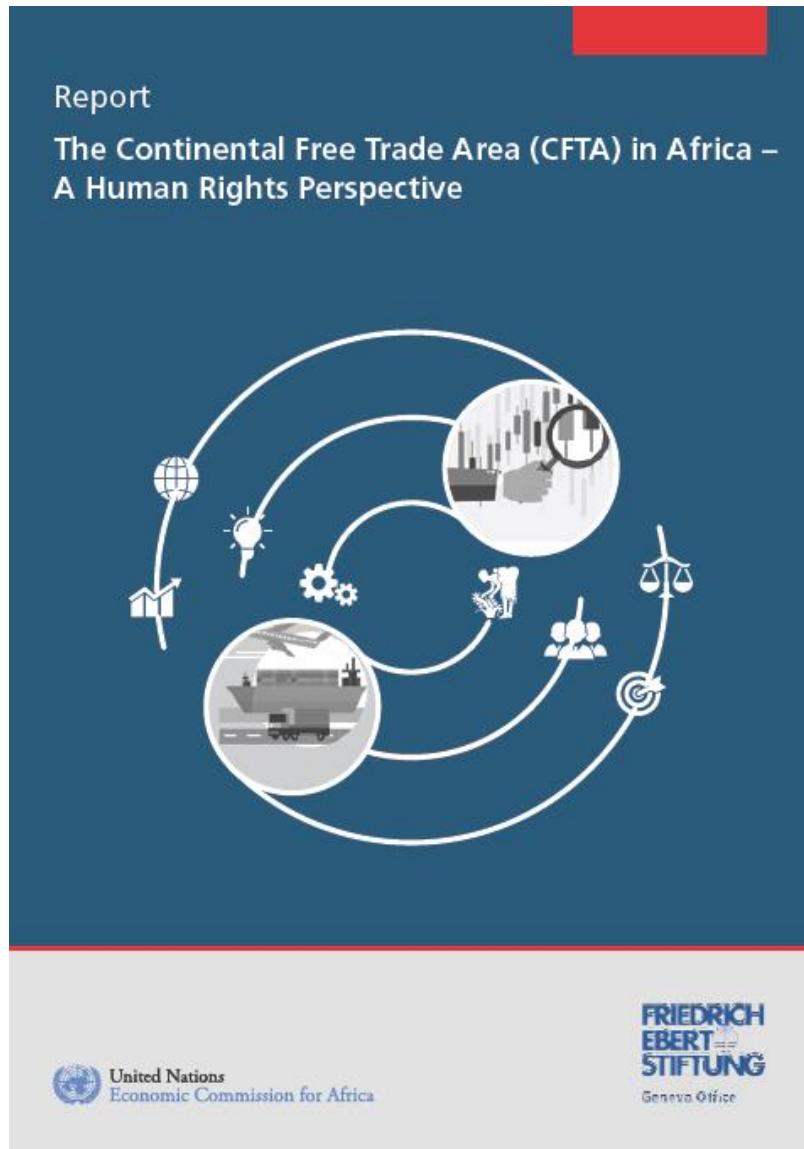
GENDER CONSIDERATIONS IN TRADE AGREEMENTS



- As of 26 March 2019, 21 African Union member states have ratified the Agreement.
- All but 3 (Benin, Eritrea, and Nigeria) have signed the Agreement since Kigali Summit 21 March 2018.

Change in Africa's exports to Africa, by main sectors, most ambitious scenario (as compared to baseline) – in 2040 - US\$ bn





Gender equality impacts of the AfCFTA can be derived from differences in:

- Higher barriers to trade
- Different levels of formalization
- Formal qualifications
- Information gaps
- Sectoral distribution
- Stage of value chain

ECA and FES (2017) ex-ante human rights analysis of the AfCFTA identified risks to small holder farmers and informal traders in particular.

Explicit text in trade agreements addressing the issue of gender equality can increase commitments and provide an avenue for civil society and citizens to hold the government responsible for gender-equality in implementation.

- The AfCFTA does not have a separate gender chapter.
- However its provisions can directly or indirectly support gender equality.

DIRECT	INDIRECT
Preamble	Trade facilitation
General objective	Customs cooperation
Technical Assistance, Capacity Building & Cooperation	NTB reporting mechanism
	Double qualification approach
	Sensitive goods and exclusion lists
	Rules of origin
	Liberalization of services

Design/negotiations

- "Gender" text
- Provisions indirectly supporting gender equality

Governance

- Continental working group on gender and inclusion
- Women's participation in national AfCFTA committees

Implementation

- Gender dimension/chapter of the national AfCFTA strategy
- Supporting policies/programmes
- Advocacy on the AfCFTA (national, REC, continental)
- Support to women's business networks on AfCFTA (national, REC)
- Exchange of best practices in supporting women's participation in trade (REC, continental)

M&E

- Gender equality indicators in the AfCFTA M&E framework (national, REC, continental)
- Gender dimension of the AfCFTA Country Business Index



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FIRST

THANK YOU!

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