



United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

Distr.: Restricted
18 April 2017
English
Original: French

Trade and Development Board

Sixty-fifth executive session

Geneva, 27 June 2017

Agenda item 3

Designation of non-governmental organizations for the purposes of rule 77 of the Rules of Procedure of the Trade and Development Board

Application from Africa 21

Note by the UNCTAD secretariat

Summary

The UNCTAD secretariat has received an application from Africa 21 requesting the inclusion of that organization by the Trade and Development Board in the list provided for in rule 77 of the Rules of Procedure of the Trade and Development Board.

Having reviewed the information provided, the secretariat is of the opinion that, subject to the assent of the Bureau of the Board, Africa 21 may be classified in the general category under the provisions of paragraph 12 (a) of Board decision 43 (VII).

The Board may wish to take action on the above-mentioned application at its sixty-fifth executive session.

Information concerning Africa 21 is annexed to this note.



Annex

Background information on Africa 21

History

1. Africa 21 is a public-interest, non-profit association recognized by the tax authorities of the Canton of Geneva. A think tank with roots in international Geneva which, by making available facts and analysis and encouraging discussion, tries to improve understanding of the international challenges shaping sustainable socio-economic development in Africa, including in the context of regional integration policies, Africa 21 is firmly committed to supporting the debate on the future of the African continent.

Aims and objectives

2. Africa 21 aims to address several challenges:

(a) Create a genuine nexus of information and analysis at the heart of international Geneva on the challenges of sustainable development and, in particular, the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Africa;

(b) Strengthening the capacity of development actors (governments, NGOs, the private sector and the media) with regard to the key challenges for the future of the African continent;

(c) Sensitize African populations to the challenges of sustainable development by creating expert networks, partnerships and local offices, and by publishing the results of our work;

(d) Give young Africa specialists the opportunity to obtain recognition in the international community through their publications and by attending events organized by Africa 21 or to which the association is invited.

Membership

3. The board of Africa 21 has eight members, elected by the Annual General Meeting for a term of one year, renewable:

Mr. Mouhamadou Diop, Chair

Mr. Alejandro Gómez López, Treasurer

Mr. Malick Sanghare, Science Adviser and Director of Scientific Programmes

Mr. Emmanuel Vianes, in charge of external relations, fund-raising and partnerships

Mr. Julien Chambolle, Director of Strategy and Development

Mr. Youcef Seridj, Legal Counsel

Mr. Richard Mukundji, Senior Consultancy Adviser

Mr. Michel Sintès, Consultancy Adviser

Structure

4. Africa 21 is structured as follows:

(a) Annual General Meeting, the governing body; the AGM adopts the budget and the road map for the coming year and every year elects the Board by simple majority. It adopts the annual accounts and the auditor's report for the past year. The AGM comprises

all members of the Association who are up-to-date with their dues. It is convened by invitation of the Executive Secretariat, which draws up the agenda;

(b) Board: elected at the AGM. It is responsible for the implementation of policy decisions taken at the AGM. It meets on a monthly basis and a chair and a secretary are appointed for each meeting;

(c) Executive Secretariat: comprises members of the Association who implement the policies decided by the Board in the context of the annual road map. The Secretariat is divided into two sections: strategy and development, and scientific programmes;

(d) Auditor: an individual who is independent of the association and not a member, and is qualified in accountancy, who once a year inspects the records and accounts of the Association and prepares an annual report to the AGM on the status of the accounts;

5. Africa 21 Senegal is a branch of Africa 21 in Dakar. An association recognized by the local authorities and constitutionally dependent on Africa 21, it implements the Association's aims in Senegal.

Financial resources

6. The assets of Africa 21 were 1,280 Swiss francs at 31 December 2015. This amount corresponds to the amount held by the Association in the bank.

7. Liabilities totalled 765.60 Swiss francs at 31 December 2015. This amount corresponds to the Association's final result for the previous financial year. The Association had a positive balance of 514 Swiss francs in 2015.

Estimated budget of Africa 21 for 2016

Estimated budget for 2016 in Swiss francs

Membership dues (basic annual subscription 50 Swiss francs)	2 000
Gifts and bequests (natural persons)	500
Grants (Municipality of Carouge subsidy maintained)	500
Services provided	0
Sale of goods	0
Financials	0
Total	3 000
Office expenses	0
Administrative expenses	2 820
Taxes and charges	0
Website management	180
Debt repayments	0
Total	3 000
Balance	0
Carried forward to 2017	1 279.54

Relations with other international organizations

8. Africa 21 has special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.

Publications

9. Africa 21 publishes various online publications, including:
 - (a) *Horizon 2015*, a review covering the negotiations on the Sustainable Development Goals, Africa and the mobilization of international Geneva (<http://www.africa21.org/horizon-2015-n15-mars-avril-2015/>; accessed 27 February 2017).
 - (b) Analytical papers: International regulation of chemicals and hazardous waste in Africa: A sustainable development perspective (Study No. 1, April 2012); Union for the Mediterranean: origins, principles and perspectives (Note No. 1, October 2012); Governance of global health financing : challenges and opportunities in Africa (Note No. 2, February 2013); Union for the Mediterranean, demise to rebirth (2008-2012) (Note No. 3, May 2013); Official Development Assistance and the 2030 Agenda: case study of Switzerland (Note No. 4, October 2015, at <http://www.africa21.org/analyses-3/> (accessed 27 February 2017).

Liaison

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Languages

12. The working languages of Africa 21 are English and French.
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