



**DECISIONS OF THE FIRST MEETING OF
THE AFRICAN INTERGOVERNMENTAL
COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY
AND INNOVATION INDICATORS**

Maputo, Mozambique

18 September 2007

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The 1st Meeting of the African Inter-Governmental Committee on Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Indicators was hosted by the Government of the Republic of Mozambique in Maputo 17-18 September 2007. The Meeting was organized by the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) Office of Science and Technology (OST) and attended by representatives of Algeria, Angola, Botswana, Burundi, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, Uganda, Tanzania, Tunisia, Zambia and Zimbabwe and the Southern African Development Community (SADC), the African Development Bank (ADB), United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), United Nations Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (UNESCO), Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), Research Policy Institute at the University of Lund, University of Pretoria, Human Sciences Research Council (HRSC) of South Africa, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) and Steadman Company.

The meeting considered the following issues: (a) terms of reference for the Committee and Election of Bureau; (b) the role of indicators in science, technology and innovation policy making and implementation; (c) experiences in developing and using science, technology and innovation indicators; (d) proposed NEPAD guidelines for science, technology and innovation survey; (e) criteria for identifying and selecting countries that will participate in the pilot phase of the survey; and (f) the work-plan

The Committee decided that:

1. Bureau of the Inter-Government Committee on STI Indicators

The Steering Committee of the African Ministerial Council on Science and Technology (AMCOST) shall serve as the Bureau of the Inter-Governmental Committee on STI Indicators. The following countries constitute the first Bureau: Algeria, Congo Brazzaville, Cote D'voire, Ghana, Malawi, Madagascar, Mozambique, Rwanda, South Africa, Senegal and Tunisia.

2. Guidelines/manuals for STI Indicators

African countries shall use the existing internationally recognized STI manuals and/or guidelines, particularly the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development

(OECD) Frascati and Oslo Manuals to undertake Research and Development (R&D) and innovation surveys respectively. They may gradually use these manuals and experiences gained in undertaking surveys to develop African STI manuals or guidelines.

3. National Focal Points

Each African country shall designate a focal point or a competent national authority to coordinate the conduct of national STI surveys and development of indicators. The focal point shall have the following features:

- (a) be cross-sectoral, inter-ministerial and multidisciplinary in nature;
- (b) have ability to convene meetings of all relevant stakeholders;
- (c) have legislative or at least administrative authority to collect or cause to be collected statistics and participate in national sectoral surveys of relevance to the ASTII initiative; and
- (d) possess a critical mass of expertise for the development of STI indicators, or it should have ability to mobilize such expertise from other institutions.

It shall undertake the following:

- (e) Prepare (or cause to be prepared) national STI surveys questionnaires;
- (f) Organize training for and assemble national teams to conduct surveys;
- (g) Enter into an agreement with NEPAD OST in order to receive and account for financial resources provided by NEPAD;
- (h) Prepare and submit to NEPAD OST authorized national STI surveys and/or indicators; and
- (i) Participate in meetings of the ASTII Inter-governmental Committee.

4. Criteria for Selecting Countries to Participate in the Pilot STI Indicators Surveys

The following criteria will be used to select countries that will participate in the pilot STI indicators surveys:

- (a) Membership of the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) and indication of when the peer review will be conducted;
- (b) Demonstrated participation in at least one meeting of AMCOST;
- (c) Commitment to adopt and use NEPAD framework/guidelines;
- (d) Demonstration of an existing overall STI policy process;

- (e) Commitment to provide at least 25% of the total costs / budget for undertaking the national STI survey;
- (f) Commitment to make available to NEPAD and share with other countries data/ statistics as well as the national STI survey reports;
- (g) Commitment to allow NEPAD/AMCOST to use the national STI data/ survey report to undertake regional comparisons as well as produce the African Science and Innovation Outlook;
- (h) Commitment to use the national STI data/survey report to improve existing policies and institutional arrangements;
- (i) Commitment to the overall ASTII work plan; and
- (j) Ensure regional balance as much as possible.

The Bureau of the Inter-Government Committee with the assistance of the NEPAD OST shall select countries that will participate in the pilot phase.

5. Tentative Work-plan

The work-plan shall be revised to provide more details.

ACTIVITY	DURATION (October 2007 – October 2009)							
	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 5	Qtr 6	Qtr 7	Qtr 8
Development and adoption of Science, Technology & Innovation survey guidelines (Secretariat/Countries)								
Preparation of background studies on experiences and approaches (Secretariat)								
Establishing national focal points and surveys teams (Countries)								
Conducting training and data validation workshops (Secretariat)								
Conducting pilot surveys (Countries)								
Conduct second round surveys (Countries)								
Production of the first African Innovation Outlook (AIO) (Secretariat/Countries)								
Publication and dissemination of the AIO (Secretariat/Countries)								
Conducting public media sessions and outreach (Secretariat/Countries)								

The Committee thanked the Government and people of the Republic of Mozambique for hosting the first meeting and for the warm hospitality.

The Committee thanked the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) for providing financial support to the NEPAD African Science, Technology and Innovation Indicators Initiative (ASTII).