**African Governance Architecture Support Project**

**(AGA-SP)**

**Contract: PANAF/2020/419-773**

**Technical Assistance - Short-Term Expertise Mission**

**Terms of Reference**

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| **Subject** | | **ECONOMIC GOVERNANCE EXPERT** | | |
| **Country** | | **Home Based** | | |
| **Number of working days** | | 1. **Preparation phase: Research Planning and Data Collection (8 days)** 2. **Realisation phase: Analysis and Report witing (17 days)** 3. **Reporting phase: Incorporation of Feedback and Comment (5 days)**   **A total of 30 days spread across three months.** | | |
| **Responsible expert** | | **Dr. Rachel Mukamunana** | | |
| **Author** | **Dr. Rachel Mukamunana** | | **Date** | **27/01/2022** |

##### **Background of the technical assistance mission**

Regional integration and trade being one of the key governance areas in Africa, the APRM has a critical role to play in the ratification and domestication of the African Continental Free Trade Area Agreement (AfCFTA) and the various protocols embedded therein.

It is against this backdrop that the APRM seeks to hire an economist to undertake a baseline study on situational analysis of the policies and practices with the AfCFTA State Parties to identify the potential benefits offered by the implementation of the AfCFTA agreement and identify challenges which State parties must address for the successful implementation of the agreement.

Furthermore, this study will produce current competent research materials that will be used to build the capacity of stakeholders (Youth, Women, Government, Private sector, informal and formal sector among others) engaged in either implementing, monitoring or evaluation of the agreement within the state parties. The capacity building will be done in three strands namely at the national level within the State Party, regional within the specific economic blocks and continental levels.

The situational analysis study on readiness of state parties to will be clustered according to the already existing Regional Economic Communities (RECs) Free Trade Areas which are acknowledged as building blocks towards the establishment of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). Before rolling out this study continental wise, focus will be put on a single REC and specifically the state parties within that specific REC, with the intention of covering all the RECs.

##### **Objectives of the technical assistance mission**

The main objective of this study is to assess the benefits and the factors that could make African countries participation to the AfCFTA a success. Specifically, this study aims to:

1. Review the capacities of African countries to benefit from the AfCFTA in terms of increasing in trade, investment, growth and consumption per capita.
2. Identify the factors determining the success of African countries in the participation to the AfCFTA, and
3. make suggestions to African countries in order to benefit from AfCFTA based on the structure of their respective economies.

##### **Participants and institutions involved**

##### The study will be done by the APRM in collaboration with AfCFTA. The study will use a mix of approaches to collect the required data and information. The methods include desktop research in order to determine the prevailing policy frameworks as well as focused group discussions with relevant government Ministries of trade and industry, Civil Society and think thanks.

##### **Expected results and deliverables of the technical assistance mission**

##### The outcome of the study is expected to fast-track the implementation of AfCFTA agreement in AU Member States. The expected results of this study are:

1. Draft report on the situational analysis of readiness of state parties to implement the AfCFTA agreement
2. Final report detailing the various challenges and possible remedies, or solutions/ actions plans for state parties.

##### **Profile of the non key expert**

##### **Qualifications & Experience:**

* A master’s degree in Economics, International Trade, International Economics, or related field. A PhD in any of the above courses will be an added advantage.
* Must have ten (10) years’ working experience in providing services to national governments, international organizations, or teaching and researching in this area at recognized academic institutions.
* Proven experience working with national governments and/ or international organizations on issues of international trade, trade policies, etc.
* Expert knowledge of the multilateral trading system of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and regional trade agreements within the African continent
* A track record of high-level research and publications in the field of international trade economics and policy in general and African economic policy, and negotiations.
* Able to work under minimum supervision.
* Good interpersonal skills
* Has networks with various relevant national, regional, and/ or global organizations.

1. **Dates and location of the technical assistance mission**

Date: 1 March 2022- 31 May 2022 (30 days across 3 months)

Location: Home based