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**Agenda 2063**

*The AFRICA We Want*

## THE CRITICAL FACTORS FOR SUCCESS

### Leadership and political commitment

This is a critical factor that would shape Africa's future and determine the success of Agenda 2063. The leadership challenge for accelerated economic growth, transformation and sustainable development that Africa faces today is more complex, albeit not less demanding, than at the time of the struggle for independence from colonialism. There is a need for visionary leadership in all fields and at all levels: politics, business, industry, science, religion, education, and culture. Experiences from across the world suggest that success comes from a political leadership that has vision and commitment as well as the will and capacity to implement it.

### Capable development state

Effective, accountable and development oriented institutions, efficient and strong bureaucracy, clear and pragmatic development vision and planning, public policy that supports national entrepreneurial class and builds public trust, and governance structure based on transparent laws and rules are critical for the realization of Agenda 2063. In cases where structural transformation has succeeded, the state has played a crucial role in the process. State capacities and institutions need to be strengthened to build a vibrant private sector, mobilize the population and build national consensus around a common development agenda, and ensure that adequate resources are committed to achieve it. Above all, the African state must be accountable and responsive to the needs of its population.

### Participation, inclusion and empowerment of citizens

Effective participation of all stakeholders in the conception, design, implementation and monitoring and evaluation of Agenda 2063 is a critical success factor. Thus, Agenda 2063 must be fully participatory and be owned by all the continent's stakeholders – the whole continent must be part of it to rekindle the spirit of working together to forge the destiny of the continent – the engagement of women and the youth in particular is critical. With empowered citizens, a responsive civil society, social and economic transformation can become a reality. The active engagement of the Diaspora can be one of the key drivers of change for Africa's development; contributing to strengthening of African economic independence through investment, expertise and general political, cultural and social solidarity.

### A results-based approach

A results-based approach with concrete targets that are measurable and can be tracked and monitored. While providing a general framework and a common set of goals and targets, Agenda 2063 also takes account of Africa's diversity and defines trajectories and addresses issues related to this diversity.

## **Revitalizing strategic planning**

Revitalizing strategic planning and ensuring effective interface among national plans, regional initiatives and Agenda 2063. Integrated continental, regional and national planning based on series of short, medium and long term time horizons is vital for sound economic management, the pursuit of holistic and integrated (across sectors and physical space) development and, in a word, for ensuring the realization of Agenda 2063. Interface among national plans, regional development initiatives and Agenda 2063 is also critical for the success of Agenda 2063. While the ultimate responsibility for plan implementation rests with national governments, there is need for coordination and interface at all stages of the planning cycle, including in defining priority issues, setting of goals, plan formulation, implementation and monitoring and follow up.

## **Making Agenda 2063 an integral part of the African Renaissance**

The African Renaissance calls for changes in attitudes, values and mind-sets and inculcates the values of Pan Africanism, self-esteem, hard work, entrepreneurship and collective prosperity. Therefore, promoting the values of discipline, focus, honesty, integrity, an ethos of hard work are key for the realization of Agenda 2063, making it different from preceding continental frameworks and be successfully implemented. Agenda 2063 provides the opportunity for Africa to break away from the syndrome of “always coming up with new ideas but no significant achievements”.

## **Africa taking charge of its global narrative**

Africa needs to take charge of its global narrative and brand, to ensure that it reflects the continent’s realities, aspirations and priorities and Africa’s position in the world. In this regard, Agenda 2063 reaffirms African unity and solidarity in the face of continued external interference including by multi-national corporations, attempts to divide the continent and undue pressures and illegal sanctions on some countries.

## **THE RISKS AND THREATS ARE:**

- a. Conflict, instability and insecurity.
- b. Social and economic inequalities.
- c. Organized crime, drugs trade and illicit financial flows.
- d. Poor management of diversities; religious extremism, ethnicism and corruption.
- e. Failure to harness the demographic dividend.
- f. Escalation of Africa’s disease burden.
- g. Climate risks and natural disasters.
- h. External shocks e.g. caused by global market forces.

***Yet, all the challenges can be overcome if all the stakeholders work diligently together.***