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**AUC – ETTIM SUMMARY NOTES FOR THE SUSTAINABILITY
WORKSHOP HELD AT THE AFRIMETS 17TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

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ARGYLE GRAND HOTEL (AIRPORT), NAIROBI, KENYA**

**DR OSWALD S CHINYAMAKOBVU
SENIOR TECHNICAL ADVISOR – QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TRADE, TOURISM,
INDUSTRY AND MINERALS (AUC-ETTIM)
AFRICAN UNION COMMISSION**

1. The Quality Infrastructure programme at the AUC is coordinated from within the Department of Economic development, Trade, Tourism, Industry and Minerals (ETTİM) in the Directorate responsible for Industry.
2. Working with the Pan African Quality Infrastructure (PAQI) institutions, the AUC ETTİM facilitated drafting of the Africa Quality Policy (AQP) which was adopted at the AU Summit in February 2024. Implementation of the AQP is overseen by an AQP Implementation Council (AQPC) whose membership is derived from PAQI Institutions, RECs, Private sector, Consumers and Academia. The AUC ETTİM is the Secretariat of the AQP Council. Central to the AQP objectives is the need to have a robust continental quality infrastructure to facilitate trade and industrial development on the continent.
3. The AQP Council was formally endorsed by the AU Ministers responsible for Industry at the fourth meeting of the Specialised Technical Committee for Trade, Tourism, **Industry** and Minerals (STC-TTİM) held in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea in May 2024 where their Rules of Procedure (RoP) were also adopted.
4. The AQPC has held three meetings since adoption of the AQP in 2022 and will hold their next meeting in September 2024. At the September 2024 meeting the AQPC will draft an Action Plan for the AQP and brainstorm on resource mobilization strategies for implementation of AQP activities.
5. The AUC engages with development partners including the PTB Germany, ITC, Afreximbank, UNIDO etc. to secure technical and financial support for QI activities on the continent. The AUC generally works with Quality Infrastructure (QI) institutions through the PAQI Joint Committee. Following the establishment of the Quality Standards Unit within AUC-ETTİM, some QI activities will be supported from the AUC directly but are likely to be those that are of an overarching nature for all QI.
6. As part of the strategies to widen the net for obtaining financial support for QI activities, the following suggestions are made:
 - It is noted first that support to **national** metrology institutions results in stronger regional or continental metrology organisation;
 - The AUC will always lobby for AU Member States governments to provide sufficient funding, at the national level, for QI activities;
 - National QI organisations are encouraged to get involved at national level in the organisation and deliberations taking place around trade and industry especially where regional and international agreements are concerned. For example, under the AfCFTA there is a sub-committee on Technical Barriers to Trade (AfCFTA SC-TBT). National QI bodies must liaise

with their government authorities to get space to participate in the activities of such committees – including being part of the national delegations that carry out negotiations in this area;

- QI institutions deal with subjects that tend to be complex and highly technical. Sometimes this makes it difficult for policy makers to clearly understand their funding needs. However, when you link the work you do to the solutions for daily societal challenges such as health, environment, transport, safety etc., it becomes easier to justify budgetary requests;
- Member States are requested to align their national quality policies to the AQP to make it easier to align support for QI programmes at national and continental level.

