

# AFRIMETS General Assembly

NEPAD Projects and the Pan-African Quality  
Infrastructure

Lusaka

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*NEPAD Agency*



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# NEPAD Agency

In February, 2010, African leaders at the 14<sup>th</sup> African Union summit, established the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA), as a technical body of the African Union in replacement of the NEPAD Secretariat. NEPAD is therefore fully integrated into the AU structures and processes as a technical body of the AU and was given the mandate to:

- Facilitate and coordinate the implementation of the continental and regional priority programmes and projects;
- Mobilize resources and partners in support of the implementation of Africa's priority programmes and projects;
- Conduct and coordinate research and knowledge management;
- Monitor and evaluate the implementation of programmes and projects; and
- Advocate on the AU and NEPAD vision, mission and core principles/values



# NEPAD Projects

- The NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency has a number of projects running all over the continent:-
- **PIDA**- The NEPAD project for Infrastructure Development in Africa
- **CAADP**-The Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme
- **PAQI**- The Pan-African Quality Infrastructure
- Biosciences Area-eg **MRH**
- **NSTIH**- The NEPAD Science and Technology Innovation Hub



# Regional Integration & Regional Trade

- Africa is the most fragmented continent in the world
- 47 small economies of Sub Saharan Africa=Economy of Belgium=50% of economy of Spain.
- RI as spelt out in LPA, is designed to respond to idea of creation of viable Mkts for sustainable trade.
- It is a political decision which can have good economic outcome.
- It is a step towards establishment of “Common Markets and FTAs”.
- Can lead to Jobs creation , poverty reduction, wealth and Jobs creation, better conflict resolution and better security.



# Quality Infrastructure

- Quality infrastructure designates the entirety of all elements of metrology, standardization, testing systems, quality management, conformity assessment, including certification and accreditation.
- These elements are not only closely linked with one another, but rather form a network based on a technical hierarchy.



### Accreditation

Recognition of technical competence

### Accreditation

### Certification

Conformity with requirements defined by standards

### Certification

### Testing

Analysis of properties, ingredients, characteristics, etc.

### Testing

### Standards

Definition of properties, dimensions, tolerances, etc.

### Standards

### Metrology

Guarantee of exact and reliable measurements

### Metrology

# QI Elements

## **METROLOGY(AFRIMETS)**

Establishment of accurate, reliable, traceable measurement  
(Basis for performance requirements in standards)

## **ACCREDITATION(AFRAC)**

Demonstration of competence of testing and calibration laboratories, certification bodies and inspection bodies

## **STANDARDISATION(ARSO/AFSEC)**

Standards facilitate trade, provide basis for technical regulations  
Developed by international, regional and national standards bodies

## **CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT**

Sampling, inspection, testing, certification

## **EFFICIENT TRADING SYSTEM**

Reduction of unnecessary variety, facilitate interoperability, economies of scale and quality assurance.  
Consumers empowered to demand fitness- for-purpose products and services that conform to standards and technical regulations.



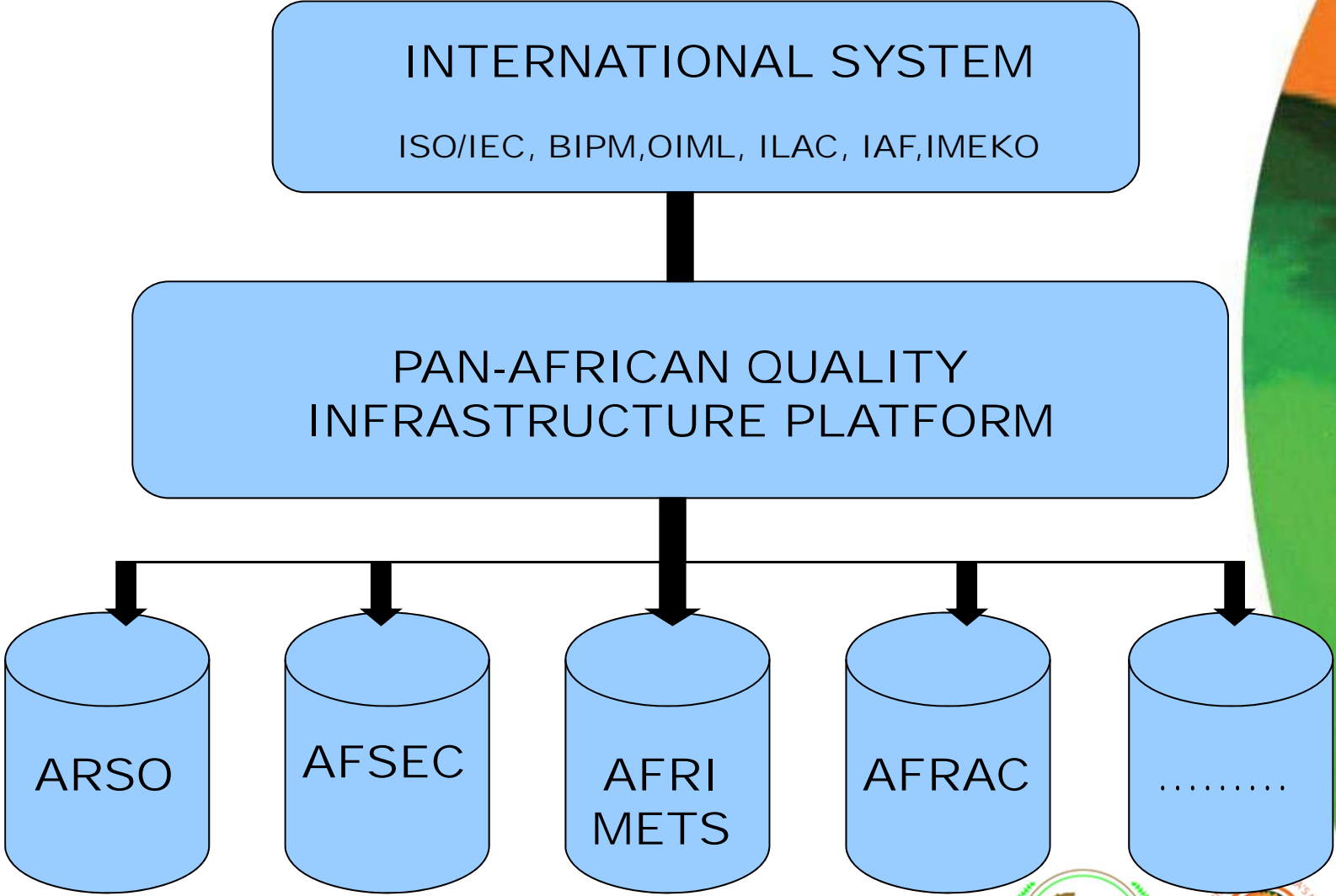


# Pan-African Quality Infrastructure(PAQI)

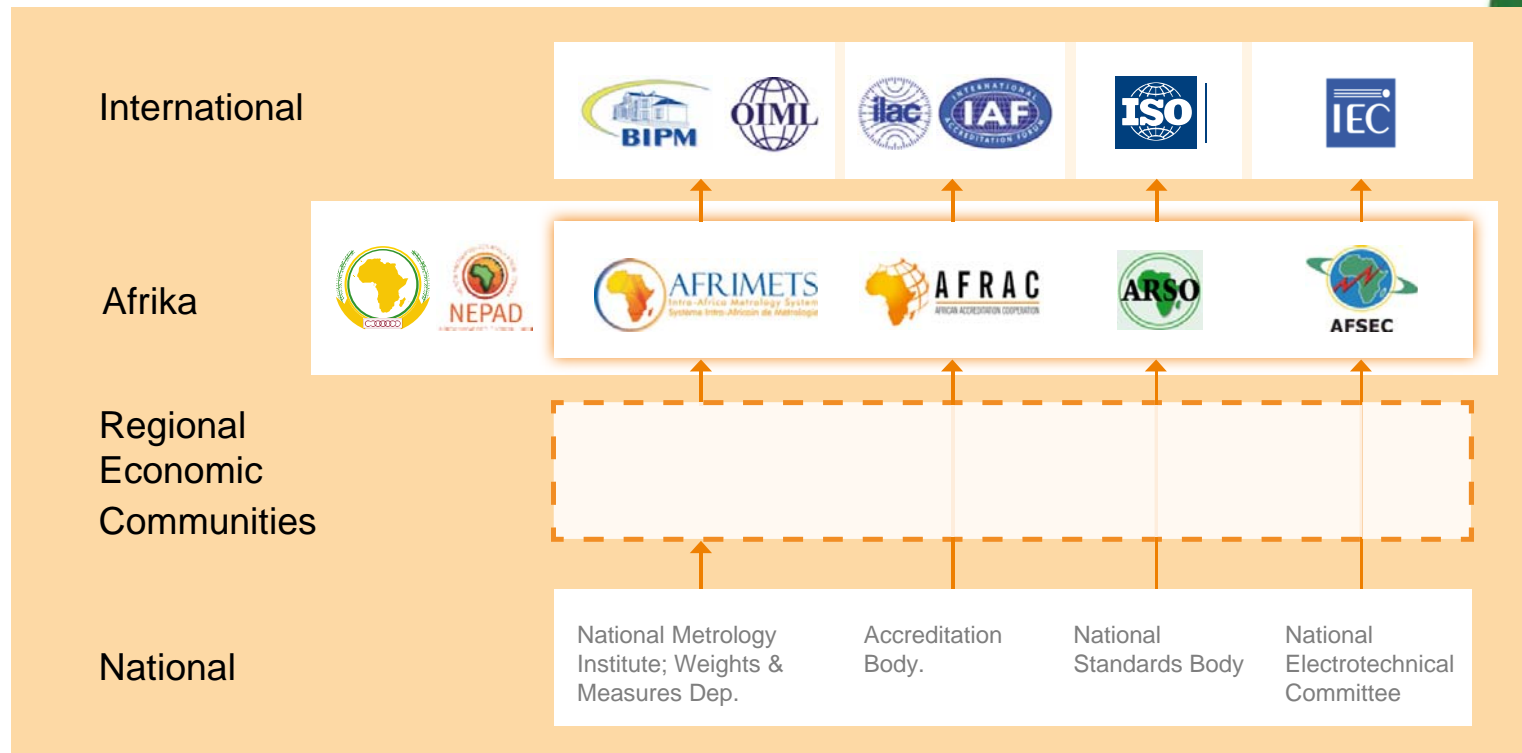
- The PAQI architecture has ARSO, AFRIMETS, AFSEC and AFRAC as the pillars. They are all operational.
- April 2011 first joint meeting of the Secretariats of the PAQI pillars, was held in Nairobi.
- It discussed possibility of AU recognition- idea of regular meetings was also mooted-PAQI Framework document discussed
- Nov 2012 , PAQI Secretariats meeting in Addis Ababa –Idea of MOU discussed.
- Feb 2013, MOU signed at the 3<sup>rd</sup> PAQI Joint meeting
- PAQI discussed at CAMI-20, in Nairobi, June 2013.
- Both framework document and MOU now ready.
- PAQI Presentation template developed.



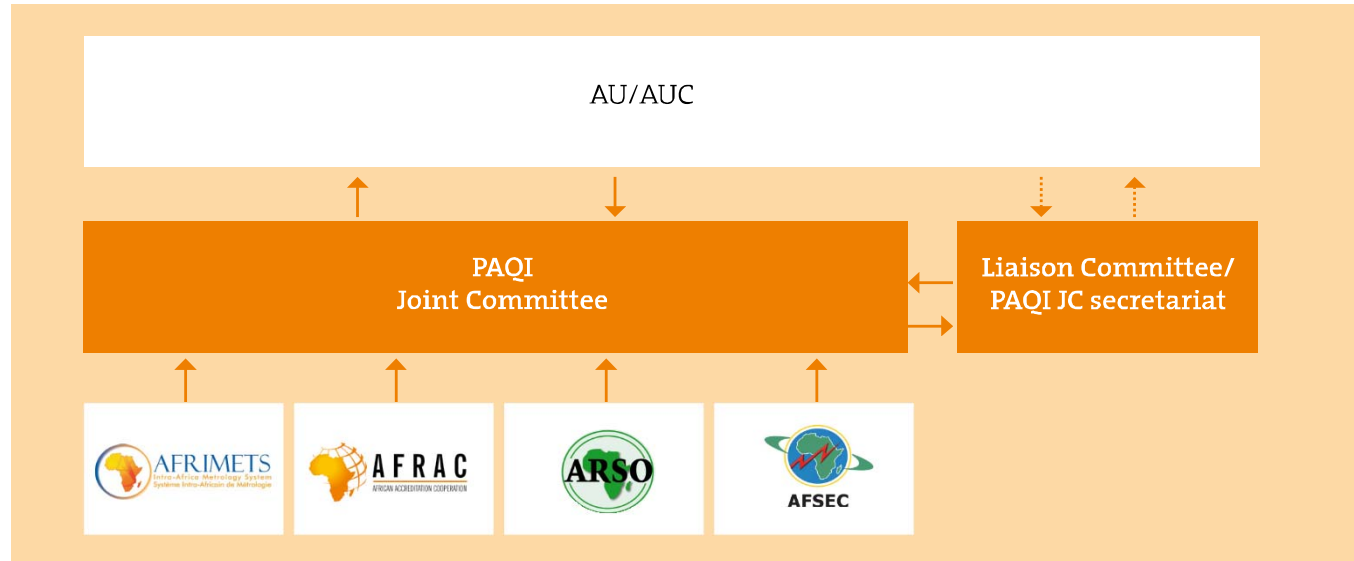
# The PAQI Platform



# International Quality Infrastructure



# PAQI AND THE AUC



It is planned that the Liaison will be developed into a Management Board. Consultations will soon be underway.



# Conclusion

- **Our grounding is in: the Lagos Plan of Action and Final Act of Lagos of 1980**
- **The Abuja Treaty of 1991**
- **Formation of ARSO in 1977 was the clearest sign that the African Leadership knew what Africa needed in terms of Quality infrastructure.**
- **Africa exports mainly raw materials. It is therefore a net exporter of jobs.**
- **To industrialize, Africa needs a strong quality infrastructure in place.**
- **We must think of standards, metrology, quality goods and services, conformity assessment, testing and certification, competitiveness.**
- **Issue of value addition, innovation and knowledge building should be prioritized**



# THANK YOU!

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