

## Electricity market addis ababa

Agenda 2063 is the blueprint and master plan for transforming Africa into the global powerhouse of the future. It is the strategic framework for delivering on Africa's goal for inclusive and sustainable development and is a concrete manifestation of the pan-African drive for unity, self-determination, freedom, progress and collective prosperity pursued under Pan-Africanism and African Renaissance.

H.E. Mr. Paul Kagame, President of the Republic of Rwanda, was appointed to lead the AU institutional reforms process. He appointed a pan-African committee of experts to review and submit proposals for a system of governance for the AU that would ensure the organisation was better placed to address the challenges facing the continent with the aim of implementing programmes that have the highest impact on Africa's growth and development so as to deliver on the vision of Agenda 2063.

The AU offers exciting opportunities to get involved in determining continental policies and implementing development programmes that impact the lives of African citizens everywhere. Find out more by visiting the links on right.

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 4th June 2021- The African Union officially launched the African Single Electricity Market (AfSEM), the world's largest continent-wide energy trading program meant to interconnect all 55 African Union Member States through efficient, affordable, and sustainable electricity market. The event took place on 3rd of June 2021.

Before heralding the official launch of the AfSEM on behalf of H.E. Moussa Faki Mahamat Chairperson of the AUC, Deputy Chairperson H.E. Dr. Monique Nsanzabaganwa said the event marks an important milestone reached after a long, challenging, and crucial journey that started in 2015.

The Deputy Chairperson called on the AU Member States to integrate AfSEM into their national development plans for a higher rate of success in its implementation and operationalization. "It is important that the AU Member States take ownership in the development and implementation of these continental initiatives. This is necessary to ensure access to reliable energy services, as well as providing the necessary policy and financial instruments for one Continental Electricity market, and One continental interconnection grid at all levels."

She seized the opportunity to acknowledge the development partners who have been supporting the initiative from its inception. "My special gratitude goes to the European Union whose technical and financial support have made this great achievement possible, and to other development partners; your continuous support to AU Continental initiatives and many other Regional and National programs within Africa are highly appreciated."

The Commissioner emphasized the need to put in place robust electricity policy reforms to attract substantial investments to realize the full potential of AfSEM. "AfSEM holds a bright future for all Africans. As the

implementation of the AfSEM starts today, a challenging work lies ahead of us to realize its aspirations and deliver our promises to the African people. Thus, it needs to be supported strategically, technically, and financially. Ever since the conception of this great initiative, the prospects have been promising and the potential is enormous."

On behalf of the Vice President of the African Development Bank Dr. Kevin Kariuki, Director of Energy Financial Solutions, Policy and Regulation with the Bank Mr. Wale Shonibare, stated that AfSEM provides a great opportunity to better coordinate the approach towards Africa's transition to green sustainable growth.

The European Union under its Technical Assistance Facility (EU TAF) supported the preparation of the AfSEM policy paper, roadmap and governing structure. Speaking at the launching ceremony EU's Commissioner for Energy H.E. Mrs. Kadri Simson congratulated the African Union for the important breakthrough achieved to address the electricity demands of over 1.3 billion Africans. Commissioner Simson reaffirmed the EU's commitment to continue supporting the AfSEM in its next phases of implementation.

The Africa Single Electricity Market (AfSEM) is one of those targeted interventions aimed to facilitate sustainable development of the African electricity sector through the integrated continental electricity market based on the 2019 AfCFTA Agreement. The goal is to give African households, businesses and industries more secure, sustainable, reliable, competitive, and affordable energy.

The journey to create AfSEM at the continental level started in 2015 in cooperation with the EU through the AU programme on Harmonisation of Regulatory Frameworks for the Electricity Market in Africa. In addition to a series of products over the five year-period, the AfSEM Policy Paper, the Roadmap, and the governance structure were prepared by a team of EU-TAF Experts coordinated by the Department of Infrastructure and Energy, validated by RECs, Power Pools and other Pan African Energy Institutions and adopted by the AU Head of States at the 34th AU-Summit in February, 2021.

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