Ai advisory council roadmap

A KNOWLEDGE TOOL TO STIMULATE INTRA-REGIONAL TRADE AND INVESTMENT FLOWS

An initiative supported by:

The Africa investor Advisory Council Roadmap

A Knowledge Tool to Stimulate Intra-Regional Trade and Investment Flows

Background

Launched on the 26th of September 2011 at the New York Stock Exchange during the UN General Assembly, the Africa investor (Ai) Advisory Council was created to foster and further the relationship between the private sector, the African Union (AU) and individual Heads of State on intra-regional investment and trade policies. With the support of the UN Global Compact, the UN Office of the Special Advisor on Africa and the UN Office for Partnerships, the Ai Advisory Council is a platform for dialogue through which business leaders provide their expertise in support of the regional investment agenda being pursued by the AU, African Heads of State and Regional Economic Communities (RECs).

The Ai Advisory Council is a uniquely African peer-to-peer, public-private, multi-sector platform promoting the role of the private sector in implementing, increasing and sustaining regional investment flows to the continent.

What is the Roadmap?

The first major project the Council will undertake is a consultation with key stakeholders to establish a set of priorities that investors, the AU, RECs and development partners can collaborate on to stimulate and increase intra-African trade and investment flows. The roadmap is a comprehensive annual research initiative, designed to provide practical insights and direction on how the private sector can stimulate investment flows and boost job creation through regional trade. The roadmap will also serve as the guiding knowledge tool for the Ai Council's annual programme. The priority recommendations in the roadmap will form the agenda for the Ai Council's annual meetings with AU Heads of State.

The roadmap will highlight and focus on key AU work areas:

- Trade and regional integration for job creation
- Financial market integration
- Infrastructure development
- Agribusiness investment
- Less restrictive pension and sovereign fund investment regimes

Roadmap Process and Format

1. The roadmap will be developed through a combination of desktop research, consultations and interviews with business, government and development leaders. The roadmap draws on a large body of research on regional economic integration principally from the African Union, UNECA, the World Bank, RECs, Africa investor and private sector organisations.
2. It will synthesize these and other research sources into a format that business and government leaders can use to prioritize, plan and partner initiatives to increase intra-African investments, trade, growth and job creation.

How will the Roadmap be Used?

1. The roadmap will present, prioritize and recommend key issues and actions for stakeholder discussion and implementation. Roadmap recommendations will be shared with business, government and civil society leaders with interests in regional economic integration and development in Africa.
2. The roadmap will be reviewed annually and form the basis of the Ai Advisory Council annual meetings agenda with AU Heads of State the UN, Regional Economic Communities and development partners.

Ai

INVESTMENT MATTERS

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