

**ITUC - Africa 3<sup>rd</sup> Regional Congress**  
**25 – 26 November 2015.**

**Adopted Resolution on**  
**Effective, Coordinated and Action Oriented African Trade Union**  
**involvement and actions in development processes**

**Noting that:**

1. The current global economic architecture is socially unjust and economically unfavorable for Africa;
2. Due to neo-liberal globalisation (whose architecture is inherent in Structural Adjustment Policies –SAPs) pursued by African countries for the last three decades, our economies have not been able to achieve development for all,
3. Sadly the agenda of African regional integration is not being promoted and has been rather extremely slow in policy and practice in this regard;
4. It is noted that some African countries have recorded positive economic growth, however most of the growth has not been sustainable, and thus been jobless;
5. African economies remain highly depended on the extractive sector, which is reflective of poor industrial development leaving the continent as a net importer of most of its needs;
6. The gap between economic growth and the needs and aspirations of the African people is evident;

**Believing that:**

1. Africa as a continent remains one of the most marginalised in the world.
2. Africa is foremost responsible for its own development and improvement in the livelihoods of its people.
3. The need to transform African economies as reflected in the African Union Agenda 2063, which calls on Africans to take the destiny in their own hands, requires a mind shift.
4. That heavy reliance on the exportation of mineral resources without any value addition is not sustainable, as such the implementation of the adopted African Mining Vision in 2009 by the African Heads of State should be promoted by the trade unions as a tool to fight against dependence on mineral resources,
5. Africa should without hesitation begin to mobilise resources domestically to achieve its development. All efforts to curb financial inflows and outflows into Africa must be scaled up and well coordinated,
6. Our commitment to realising goals and targets to end poverty, foster decent work, ensure quality education, provide public services, infrastructure and social protection policies, reduce inequalities, promote women's participation in the work force and improve fiscal, wage and social protection policies which is inline with the universal development framework adopted by all World leaders in September 2015
7. Similarly, International Development frameworks such as the SDGs (Agenda 2030), Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC), and the UNFCCC processes could be the necessary impetus for achieving sustainable development agenda for the African continent.

8. African trade unions have the responsibility to uphold the principles of democracy at the national and continental levels and must ensure as necessary enablers for economic growth, prosperity and social progress
9. Finally, while the trade unions recognize the role of the private sector in development, we also know that their ultimate aim is profit maximization at whatever expense.
10. However, we do acknowledge that there are some companies who are committed to responsible business models that are considerate of the needs and aspirational development needs of the countries in which they are operating.
11. We are therefore open to engagement noting that the overall goals of development is ultimately the creation of inclusive national development – focusing on reducing both poverty and socio- economic inequalities are and these are paramount for any effective partnership.

**We therefore resolve that ITUC-Africa should:**

1. Support and promote the work of the newly established Africa Trade Union Development Network aimed at revitalising and coordinating trade union development activities under the coordination of the ITUC-Africa's policy think tank-the Africa Labour Research and Education Institute.
2. Coordinate the research and advocacy campaigns driven by its affiliates on structural transformation of African economies;
3. Facilitate through capacity building and training, research, monitoring and evaluation competencies which would strengthen national centres to carry out assessment of development initiatives at national level and foster inter regional exchanges and learning
4. Implement programs on economic and development frameworks in order to develop and stimulate debates on the form that structural transformation should take and the role that affiliates should play in achieving that
5. Lead through advocacy the engagement of policies and strategies at regional, sub regional and national levels in order to enhance works done by its affiliates.
6. Undertake a review of the proposals emerging from this meeting vis-à-vis formal versus informal, noting both challenges and opportunities, and give directives to affiliates
7. Support and strengthen the capacity of ITUC-Africa's Research and Education Institute (ALREI) to be able to strategically intervene in development process for and on behalf of ITUC-Africa and its affiliates.