

**AWG 9 DISCUSSION DRAFT**



## **The African Union Commission**

**Aligning the AU “Extended Programme of Action for the Implementation of the Africa Regional Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction (2005-2015)” to the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030**

**Programme of Action for the Implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 in Africa**

**In line with the Africa Regional Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction**

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## 1. Context

### 1.1 Background

Disaster risk reduction in Africa over the past decade has been guided by the Africa Regional Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction (ARSDRR) which was adopted by African Union (AU) Heads of State and Government in 2004. The implementation of the Strategy has been through the Programme of Action for the Implementation of the ARSDRR (2006-2015) developed in 2005 and subsequently from 2011 through the Extended Programme of Action for the Implementation of the Africa Regional Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction (2005-2015). The POA was aligned with the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) 2005-2015.

The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (SFDRR) succeeds the HFA and was adopted by 187 member states at the 3<sup>rd</sup> UN World Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDRR) in March 2015 in Sendai, Japan. The AU Heads of State and Government have expressed their strong commitment to the implementation of the SFDRR as a means of sustaining the momentum generated by the Extended Programme of Action (POA). It is noteworthy that the Africa Regional Strategy (2004) was developed before the HFA was adopted as the global framework on disaster risk reduction. The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 provides the opportunity to focus disaster risk management (DRM) on implementation of the new global framework for disaster risk reduction (DRR) in Africa, based on a revised Programme for Action (POA) that strengthens efforts to increase resilience which will drive poverty reduction, sustainable development in line with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Agenda 2063 and other development frameworks and processes.

The African Union Executive Council at its 24th session, January 2015 [EX.CL/Dec.858 (XXVI)], requested the African Union Commission to facilitate the review of the Extended POA for the implementation of the ARSDRR in line with the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction. This call was also reiterated in the 23 July 2016 Yaounde Declaration on the Implementation of the Sendai Framework in Africa (Clause 32). Given that the timeframe for the Extended POA of the ARSDRR was up to 2015, this alignment required fashioning an action plan on the SFDRR for implementation in Africa.

Consequent to the decision and declaration, the member states of the AU undertook a two-step process to develop the POA for implementing the SFDRR in Africa that involved: (a) assessment of the status of implementing the extended POA in line with the HFA in Africa, and (b) modification of the Extended POA for the ARSDRR.

The review showed that many areas of the POA are contributing to achieving the goal of the SFDRR and constitute elements of its implementation in Africa. This contribution will be further enhanced through a more coordinated and systematic programme to implement the SFDRR as the basis for a better risk-informed approach to disaster risk management (DRM) in Africa.

### 1.2 Scope and application

The POA includes the priorities and actions to be undertaken by all stakeholders involved in DRM in Africa to implement the SFDRR on the continent. It builds on the extended POA, the SFDRR and relevant international frameworks and processes to further strengthen DRM in Africa and its integration in policies of the AUC, Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and member states to strengthen resilience to disaster risks at the continental, regional, national and sub-national levels.

The POA applies to the AUC, RECs, Regional Implementation Centers (RICs) and national ministries, agencies and departments responsible for DRM, as well as their sub-national structures. It provides elements of and guidance for national DRR programmes of countries which are aligned with and complement the POA. Non government organizations, partners and stakeholders, including the private sector, are encouraged to align their DRM strategies and programmes to the POA for coherence of DRM in Africa.

In terms of threats and stresses, the POA covers the risk of small and large-scale, frequent and infrequent and quick or slow-onset disasters caused by natural, including environmental, hazards and technological hazards and risks.

## **2. Outcome, Goal and Objectives**

### **2.1. Outcome**

The substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health and in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses, communities and countries.

### **2.2 Goal**

Prevent new and reduce existing disaster risk through the implementation of integrated and inclusive economic, structural, legal, social, health, cultural, educational, environmental, technological, political and institutional measures that prevent and reduce hazard exposure and vulnerability to disaster, increase preparedness for response and recovery, and thus strengthen resilience.

### **2.3 Objectives**

This SFDRR plan provides guidance and direction for actions by all at the continental, regional, national and local levels in Africa to prevent and reduce the risk of disasters for resilience in line with the SFDRR. Thus, the POA aims to guide the multi-hazard management of disaster risk in development processes at all levels as well as within and across all sectors. The specific objectives of the POA are to:

- a) strengthen links between disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and other development imperatives, as an integral part of sustainable development, and related frameworks, programmes and processes;
- b) strengthen long term capacities, including coordination mechanisms, at continental and regional levels to support the implementation of the Africa Strategy and the SFDRR and to systematically contribute to building resilience to natural hazards;
- c) strengthen mechanisms, frameworks and capacities at national and local levels for mainstreaming, implementing and coordinating disaster risk reduction strategies and programmes;
- d) embed a holistic approach to systematically incorporate risk reduction measures into design and implementation of disaster preparedness, response and recovery programmes;
- e) develop and mobilize resources, including practical tools, to contribute to the implementation of programmes and projects on DRR.

## **3. Guiding Principles**

[if agreed at the AWG]

The implementation of the POA will be guided by the following key principles that make efforts to implement the SFDRR in Africa more systematic and effective:

### **1. DRR is about protecting life, health, assets, livelihoods and rights**

Managing the risk of disasters is aimed at protecting persons and their property, health, livelihoods and productive, environmental and cultural assets, while promoting and protecting all human rights, including the right to development.

### **2. DRR is a shared responsibility of all and requires coordinated involvement of all segments and institutions of society**

Citizens need to adopt a culture of prevention and to protect themselves and resources to the best of their ability at all times but States have the primary responsibility for enabling, guiding and coordinating the prevention and reduction of disaster risks with the involvement of a wide range of stakeholders at all levels, as appropriate to their national and local circumstances. Coordinated all-of-society and all-agency engagement and partnership, through inclusive, accessible and non discriminatory participation, considers the needs, and leverages the potentials, of all groups of society, paying special attention to people disproportionately affected by disasters, especially the poorest.

3. DRR requires contextualized and local measures through flexible and adaptable implementation of programmes

To take into account the different and changing national and local circumstances of people and communities, the POA adopts a flexible and adaptable approach to implementation with each country and regional body enjoined to contextualize implementation to its circumstances, including systems and resource endowments. This requires informed community engagement and participation because disaster risks have local and specific characteristics that need to be addressed through measures that are well tailored to the actual vulnerabilities and needs of the affected people.

4. Reducing risk requires a systematic, sustained and comprehensive approach

DRR covers all hazards, including technological hazards, and involves minimizing risk creation (through integration of DRR into all development decisions, programming and practice), reducing existing risk (through adoption of structural and non-structural methods) and managing residual risk (through preparedness for effective response and relief, strengthening coping mechanisms including social and financial protection, and, integration of risk reduction in recovery and reconstruction). For more cost-effective DRR, the POA advocates addressing underlying disaster risk factors than reliance primarily on post-disaster response and recovery.

5. Local community action is critical for effective DRR

Because of the locational specificity of risk drivers and devolution of administrative responsibilities for risk management, the POA promotes decentralized structures and measures that empower local authorities and local communities, including through appropriate resources, incentives and decision-making authorities and responsibilities, to reduce risks.

6. DRR depends on cooperation and partnerships

DRR is a common concern for all Africa States requiring effective, meaningful and strengthened cooperation and partnerships at the international, continental, regional, trans-boundary and bilateral levels. Meeting Africa's DRR challenges requires adequate, sustainable and timely provision of support, including through finance, technology transfer and capacity building, tailored to Africa's needs and priorities.

#### **4. Targets**

[if agreed at the AWG]

The implementation of the POA will contribute to measurement of progress towards global targets in the SFDRR through achievement of the following contextualized versions:

- a) Substantially reduce continental disaster mortality by 2030, aiming to lower the average per 100,000 global mortality rate in the decade 2020–2030 compared to the period 2005–2015;
- b) Substantially reduce the number of affected people continentally in Africa by 2030, aiming to lower the average continental figure per 100,000 in the decade 2020–2030 compared to the period 2005–2015;
- c) Reduce direct disaster economic loss in relation to continental gross domestic product (GDP) by 2030;
- d) Substantially reduce disaster damage to critical infrastructure and disruption of basic services, among them health and educational facilities, including through developing their resilience by 2030;
- e) Substantially increase the availability of and access to operational multi-hazard sub-national, national and regional early warning systems, assessment and information by 2030.

- f) Substantially increase the number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies, policies and legislation by 2020;

In addition, progress in achievement of the following targets will help achieve the outcome and goal of the SFDRR in Africa:

- a) Continuously increase the establishment and operationalization of regional networks or partnership for knowledge management and capacity development, including specialized Centers;
- b) Substantially increase the number of countries with DRR in their educational systems at all levels, as both stand-alone curriculum and integrated into different curriculum;
- c) Substantially increase and expand the scope and sources of financing and investment in DRR, including through dedicated regional and national trust funding mechanisms;
- d) Increase integration of DRR in regional and national sustainable development and climate change adaptation frameworks, mechanisms and processes;
- e) Increase the number of countries with risk-informed [OR: DRR-integrated], periodically tested and activated preparedness and contingency plans, including at sub-national levels in risk-prone areas
- f) Substantially increase the number of countries with recovery and reconstruction frameworks, programmes and assessments integrated in post-disaster response activities;
- g) Increase the development and effective deployment of regional, national and local capacity to respond to trans-boundary disasters;
- h) Substantially enhance international cooperation through adequate and sustainable support to complement their national actions for implementation of the SFDRR by 2030;

## **5. Priorities for Action**

### 5.1 Key focus areas

In line with, and keyed to, the four priorities of the SFDRR, the Key Focus Areas of the POA to implement the SFDRR in Africa are:

1. Understanding disaster risk.
2. Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk.
3. Investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience.
4. Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and to “Build Back Better” in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction.

### 5.2 Major implementation activities

The matrix of specific activities of the Programme of Action on the SFDRR at continental, regional, national and local levels is presented in Annex 1.

## **6. Means of Implementation**

### 6.1 Key stakeholder roles at various levels

The success of this POA requires an effective implementation mechanism that integrates the roles of the various stakeholder groups at continental, regional, national and local levels. This Section of the POA outlines the functions, roles and responsibilities of various stakeholders in implementing the SFDRR, including responsibilities for undertaking specific activities, as designated in the POA matrix.

#### 6.1.1 Continental level implementation and coordination

##### The Africa Union

The African Union Commission - The AUC, and its organs, is the primary actor at the continental level. As outlined in the ARSDDR, the Commission will focus on strategic guidance, facilitating, promoting the implementation of the Strategy, and seeking support from development partners and coordination at the continental level. In enabling DRM on the continent, the AUC will marshal capacities to support national and sub-national levels where necessary, including through providing scientific advice, implementation support, capacity building and other services where regional capacities are insufficient.

The key implementation role and responsibilities of AUC<sup>1</sup> are to:

- a) Facilitate and coordinate implementation of this POA, in line with the ARSDDR.
- b) Be the custodian, convener and administrator of the Africa Regional Platform.
- c) Convene the meetings of the AWG and oversee the operationalization of its outcomes.
- d) Undertake joint planning and programming of activities in the POA with relevant stakeholders, particularly continental programmes for technical cooperation, capacity development, development of methodologies and standards for risk monitoring and assessment, information sharing and resource mobilization.
- e) Support coordination and publishing of reviews on progress and support needs.
- f) Support establishment and operation of specialized regional centers.
- g) Convene periodic high-level meetings on various aspects of DRR utilizing the structure of its organs, institutions and programmes.
- h) Support monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the POA.

Africa Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction - The Africa Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction fosters regional commitment, promotes cooperation and coordination between African countries, and shares experiences of DRR efforts in Africa. The Regional Platform will continue to function as the primary regional coordination mechanism to support the implementation of disaster risk reduction strategies and programmes at continental, regional and national levels, to monitor their progress and to facilitate coordination and information-sharing between governments, sub-regional organisations and UN agencies.

Africa Working Group on Disaster Risk Reduction - The AWGDRR, a continental advisory group chaired by the AU, and reporting to the Africa Regional Platform with the support of the UN Office for Disaster Reduction/Africa, facilitates the mainstreaming and integration of DRR in all phases of development in Africa. The Group will continue the provision of technical and coordination support to the AUC, RECs and Member States and Partners and guidance for the implementation of this Programme of Action.

#### 6.1.2 Regional level implementation and coordination

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<sup>1</sup> In addition to these generic roles, the POA allocates some specific roles in implementation of some specific activities to various stakeholders at the appropriate level. Under Priority 3, the various roles at the continental level in the development of a continental trust fund for DRR, the African Union (through Ministers of finance, planning and DRR) will establish the fund and harmonize and integrate DRR strategies at continental level, the World Bank and African Development Bank will be fund manager and UNISDR will lead in provision of technical support for DRR implementation, monitor and follow up in line with the Sendai Framework.

The primary actors at this level are the RECs and their organs and specialized agencies and institutions, such as Regional Implementation Centres (RICs) acting in collaboration with and through member states.

The major role and responsibilities of RECs with respect to the POA are:

- a) provision of strategic guidance to Member States
- b) facilitating the implementation of regional strategies and programmes<sup>2</sup>
- c) developing protocols and mechanisms for sharing knowledge
- d) establishment of regional platforms
- e) developing approaches to governing risk across borders, including support for development of regional mechanisms and capacities for early warning
- f) joint planning, programming and monitoring of activities in the POA with relevant stakeholders, particularly regional programmes for technical cooperation, capacity development, development of methodologies and standards for risk monitoring and assessment, protocols and mechanisms for information and knowledge sharing, and, resource mobilization to support national and sub-regional efforts.
- g) facilitating mainstreaming of DRR in sustainable development sectors
- h) undertaking and publishing regional and sub-regional baseline assessments, coordinating and publishing reviews on progress and support needs, and assisting countries in the publication of national summaries
- i) supporting establishment and operations of specialized regional implementation and collaborative centers
- j) reviewing Member States' progress on implementation of the POA and support them to address challenges that impede its implementation at national and sub-national levels.

### 6.1.3 National level implementation and coordination

The primary actors are national government and statutory agencies, including local government entities, in conjunction with civil society organizations, the private sector, research and communication bodies and other stakeholders.

National Governments will lead the process of implementing the POA through developing disaster risk reduction capacities and the integration of disaster risk reduction into sustainable development. They will also ensure the establishment of enabling environments, including policies, strategies, legislation, programmes, institutions and other instruments that direct, guide, coordinate and regulate DRM as well as the provision of financial and other capacity resources for effective DRM at the national and local levels.

Specific national-level implementation roles and responsibilities include:

- a) exercising primary responsibility for operationalizing the POA
- b) institution and functioning of national policies, strategies, legislation, programmes, institutions and coordination mechanisms, including platforms, for DRR
- c) implementation of the POA in line with national development frameworks<sup>3</sup>
- d) empowering the relevant RECs to establish regional disaster risk reduction platforms and focal points to coordinate sub-regional approaches to disaster risk reduction.

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<sup>2</sup>Specific roles at the regional level for establishment of functional risk transfer and financial and social protection mechanisms under Priority 3 are as follows: Private entities will undertake losses and damage assessments, the ARC will operate the risk insurance programme, the AfDB and WB will mobilize resources for the insurance and provide resources to private/public insurance companies while national governments demonstrate the relevance of these mechanisms for DRR.

<sup>3</sup>The POA allocated specific roles at national level for establishment of functional national trust fund mechanisms for DRR: national governments will provide premiums, prepare DRR investment plan and strengthen DRR at community level while Central Banks provide custody of the trust funds.



- e) development of baseline and procedures for reviewing national progress of implementation of the POA, and, national reporting on progress
- f) promoting the integration of DRR with climate change adaptation and sustainable development frameworks

#### 6.1.4 Local level implementation and coordination

Local level implementation and coordination of the POA flow from and are conditioned by implementation actions at the national and other levels<sup>4</sup>. The primary actors are local government agencies. However, many structures already exist at the community level (such as traditional authorities, local governments, community-based organizations, neighbourhood associations, cultural groups, mutual-assistance associations, non-governmental organizations, faith-based organizations and private sector entities) that will play various roles in implementing the POA through participatory approaches that enhance their sensitization, empowerment and mobilization to increase participation in disaster management activities, thereby strengthening risk reduction at the community level.

The means of implementing the POA at the local level to strengthen household and community disaster reduction include:

- a) prioritizing community participation of different age, income and gender groups in communities in planning, implementation and assessment of DM activities, including risk analysis and vulnerability assessments;
- b) sensitization of people of different age, income and genders in local communities on the disaster risks, impacts and appropriate responses;
- c) mobilizing household and community resources and building household and community capacity to prepare for effective response to mitigate the impact of disasters
- d) integration of traditional authorities mechanisms for regulating livelihood and natural resource management in the implementation
- e) contributing traditional and local knowledge, wisdom and practices to enhance and enrich DM planning, implementation and assessment
- f) strengthening the capacity of municipalities and local governments in disaster prevention, response, recovery and reconstruction.

## 6.2 Multi-level stakeholder roles

The roles of three categories of multi-level stakeholders are important for effective implementation of the POA.

### 6.2.1 Lawmakers

Lawmakers at continental, RECs and national levels as political leaders, legislators and overseers of government action, have key roles in implementation of the POA, including:

- a) securing the highest level of political support for the POA and creating an enabling legal environment for its implementation at all levels, including strengthening the legislative framework and conducting regular reviews and updates of legislation, to among others, ensure that implementation of legislation is supported by adequate resource allocations
- b) supporting improved and appropriate institutional frameworks
- c) promoting local and community capacity-building

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<sup>4</sup> National authorities will collaborate and partner with relevant stakeholders who have roles to play in implementing specific activities in the POA at the local level, as needed. For example in the development of microfinance, micro-insurance and social safety net mechanisms, governments and parliaments will be responsible for laws, regulations, advocacy, sensitization, NGOs will lead on advocacy, sensitization, collection and sharing of best practices, the private sector will undertake investment and capacity building of communities on microfinance, banks will operate micro-finance and micro-insurance funds, while local governments will establish, monitor and evaluate micro-insurances and safety nets programmes.

- d) establishing strong monitoring, reporting, evaluation and other oversight to enhance accountability and promote equity
- e) enhancing parliamentary cooperation for disaster risk reduction
- f) acting as champions for DRR and the ARSDRR in general and the POA in particular.

### 6.2.2 Major Groups

Major groups will collaborate with disaster risk reduction authorities by participating in the development and implementation of the Strategy, within the context of national participatory processes that National Governments will develop in collaboration with them. Major groups, particularly civil society organizations, non-governmental organizations, the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, academic, scientific, research and technological institutions and networks, other international organizations, including international financial institutions, community practitioners, persons with disabilities, youth, women's groups, private sector and professional associations and the media are encouraged to enhance and strengthen their active and joint collaboration with governments, parliamentarians and Regional Economic Communities for implementation of the POA. The POA recognizes the media as an integral part of disaster risk reduction processes and should assume responsibility for fair, accurate, timely, comprehensive and widespread reporting and education on disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery.

### 6.2.3 International organizations

International Development Partners, including the UN system and international financial institutions, are requested to assist in implementing the Plan by working together and with regional organizations, countries and major groups to provide guidance, assistance and resources for disaster risk reduction. The specific roles of international organizations are to:

- a) engage in the implementation of the POA by encouraging integration of DRR into sustainable development and humanitarian areas/fields and including objectives and activities of the ARSDRR and POA in all their programmes of cooperation and support, and by developing and undertaking actions in this regard;
- b) strengthen the capacity of the AU and RECs system to assist countries affected by disaster and to assess progress on DRR;
- c) identify actions to assist Africa countries to implement the POA in line with the ARSDRR, ensure their integration and adequate resourcing, and assist countries establish DRR strategies and programmes;
- d) integrate their supporting actions into relevant development assistance frameworks and coordination mechanisms;
- e) support states with coordinated international relief assistance, to reduce vulnerabilities and increase capacity mitigate impact, while also reducing vulnerabilities and increasing resilience to future shocks;
- f) support international mechanisms that support disaster-affected states in post-disaster recovery with DRR approach;
- g) report periodically on the impacts of their supporting actions within the context of their own and UN-led reporting mechanisms.

#### 6.2.3.1 United Nations

##### UN Office for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR)

Within the United Nations system, the UN Office for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) will continue providing its institutional support for regional coordination and monitoring of disaster risk reduction implementation under the leadership of the African Union Commission and in cooperation with Regional Economic Communities. In particular, the UNISDR will:

- a) support the implementation, follow-up and review of the POA by:
  - preparing the biennial Africa Status Report on DRR as well as other periodic reviews on progress for the Africa Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction,
  - as appropriate, in a timely manner, along with the follow-up process at the African Union, supporting the development of coherent continental, regional and national follow-up and indicators, and,

- updating the existing web-based Hyogo Framework for Action Monitor accordingly;
- b) participating actively in the work of the Africa Working Group on disaster Risk Reduction;
- c) generating evidence-based and practical guidance for implementation in close collaboration with States and through the mobilization of experts;
- d) reinforcing a culture of prevention among relevant stakeholders through supporting development of standards by experts and technical organizations, advocacy initiatives and dissemination of disaster risk information, policies and practices, as well as by providing education and training on disaster risk reduction through affiliated organizations;
- e) supporting countries, including through national platforms or their equivalent, in their development of national plans and monitoring trends and patterns in disaster risk, loss and impacts;
- f) convening the Africa Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and supporting the organization of national platforms for disaster risk reduction in cooperation with the AUC and regional and national organizations.

### 6.3 Cooperation and Partnerships

Effective implementation of the SFDRR requires cooperation and partnerships of various types, with a wide range of partners and from a variety of sources. The SFDRR offers opportunities for development of joint programming actions through multi-stakeholder collaboration and partnerships that can synergize resources and actions with other development actors to enhance DRM in Africa. The requisite areas of partnership for implementing the POA include: (a) Capacity development, (b) Science, research, innovation and technology application in DRM, (c) Education and training, (d) Knowledge and information exchange and sharing, (e) Urban DRM, (f) integration of DRR into climate risk management, (g) support for resilience, (h) Schools safety.

### 6.4 Resource mobilization

Mobilization of adequate and timely resources and capacities, including non-financial support, of relevant national, regional and international bodies for the implementation of the POA will involve:

- a) increasing awareness of and advocacy for increased commitment to investing in DRR
- b) development of actionable programme and project documents
- c) making stronger case for increasing financing and investment in DRR, including providing evidence of effectiveness and governance of mobilized resources
- d) demonstrating alternative funding mechanisms available to countries, beyond public budget funding, that can be employed to enhance financing for implementation of the POA
- e) mobilizing adequate voluntary contribution to continental and national trust funds and other financing mechanisms for DRR
- f) increasing use of risk-reducing investments in sector strategies, plans and programmes
- g) developing partnership to implement schemes that spread risk, promote the culture and expansion of insurance, and increase financing for post-disaster recovery and reconstruction, including through public-private partnerships
- h) enhancing coordination of fund raising, funding of programmes and funds available to countries by the programmes of the United Nations and other international and regional organizations, international and regional financial institutions and donor agencies
- i) leveraging a broader range of funding opportunities in bilateral and multilateral development aid frameworks and assistance programmes through mainstreaming DRR into development processes and instruments.

## 7. Monitoring and Reporting

### 7.1 Monitoring and reporting

The activities, expected results and targets of the POA provide a framework for the monitoring of its implementation and progress. To assess progress of the implementation of the Africa Strategy and the SFDRR POA, a biennial HFA national report will be submitted by each national Government, using standard formats and tools developed by UNISDR, including the on-line monitor system. UNISDR will provide technical support for compiling and

analyzing the collected information and data and be responsible for reporting on continental progress to the Africa Regional Platform.

RECs, UN agencies, civil society organizations, private sector and development partners will also be encouraged to report on their relevant programmes and activities on DRR as part of the above-mentioned biennial reporting process through UNISDR. Other, including existing, mechanisms for implementation monitoring, progress review and open reporting on disaster risk reduction will be considered and adopted, as appropriate, including those based on the peer review approach.

Generic indicators for assessing implementation progress are incorporated in the targets of the POA and will be used to measure achievements.

Various means will be adopted for verification of progress monitoring. These will include: national reporting on DRM, including through the on-line monitor, the UNISDR biennial status reporting, reports of the Global Assessment of Risk, international data systems on DRR, and reports of international partners activities.

## 7.2 Learning and sharing of lessons

Effective DRR requires adequate, comprehensive and learning from experiences among and between stakeholders through knowledge exchange and sharing mechanisms at all levels. Reviews, assessments and evaluations are very important, and it is the responsibility of all stakeholders and actors to allocate resources for this and share findings and recommendations. The ARP, National platforms and risk information exchange protocols are the key vehicles for promoting sharing of knowledge, experience and practice of DRR to propel the implementation of this POA.

## Annex 1

### Programme of Action (Phase I: 2016-2020) to Implement the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030

#### In line with the Africa Regional Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction

Priority 1: Understanding disaster risk						
Level	Strategic Area of Intervention [OR] Implementation Priority	Key Activity [OR] Priority Activity	Timeframe [OR: Timeline]	Outputs [OR: Expected Results]	Responsible / Partner Institutions	
<b>Continental</b>	Establish standardized methodology, guidelines, procedures and tools based on scientific evidence and local and indigenous knowledge for risk assessment and analysis	1. Establish guidelines for surveillance of continental risks	2018	1. Knowledge management system with inventory of existing methodologies for risk assessments and analysis  2. Gaps in risk assessments and surveillance identified and addressed  3. Improved risk assessment, analysis and surveillance capacity	AUC, UN, RECs	
		2. Develop risk surveillance capacity				
		3. Inventory and mapping of different approaches and methods used for risk assessment & analysis				
		4. Establish an interactive knowledge sharing platform with a library of existing methodologies for risk assessments and analysis for different risk contexts.				
		5. Assess existing gaps with respect to risk assessments and surveillance				
		6. Develop action plan for addressing existing gaps in disaster risk assessment and surveillance data, statistics and information development and sharing				
<b>Regional</b>	Generate and disseminate risk knowledge and information for decision making, including for cross-border and cross-cultural issues	1. Undertake studies to develop risk information, including on new risks and man-made risks	Continuous	1. Risk information and knowledge sharing with stakeholders widespread  2. Improved availability of information and knowledge on risk  3. Increased awareness of cross-border risks	RECs	
		2. Generate risk information packages for different cultural, gender, and age groups				
		3. Establish an interactive knowledge sharing platform with risk information and knowledge	2018			
		4. Develop/review regional multi-hazard early warning systems	Continuous			

		5. Support development of capacity for downscaling of global weather and climate data for hydro-meteorological hazards			
		6. Develop regional Disaster Risk management Information and Communication Systems (DRMICS)	2019		
		7. Establish or enhance protocols for sharing cross-border risk information and knowledge	Continuous		
		8. Facilitate awareness through sharing of knowledge via on-line platforms of RECs			
<b>National</b>	Institutionalize risk assessment and analysis for risk-informed decision making in all sectors	1. Mobilize resources for risk assessments, monitoring and analysis of hazard risks to development and livelihood decisions and actions	Continuous	1. Increased awareness and education on disaster risk and risk management products	National DRM agencies
		2. Establish/strengthen technical structures (e.g. committees, task forces) to advise, guide and facilitate surveillance and assessment of different risks		2. Increased capacity to undertake risk assessments and analysis	
		3. Establish definitions and harmonize concepts, terms and procedures for presenting risk and warning information		3. Improved measurement and monitoring of disaster risks	
		4. Establish/strengthen DRR databases (including on disaster loss and impacts)		4. Widespread risk-informed decision making and enhanced risk management capabilities, incorporating indigenous knowledge	
		5. Establish national disaster risk management information and communication systems with observatories for disaster data and information collection and data/information sharing platform		5. Increased generation and application of science and technology-based DRR solutions	
		6. Operationalize post-disaster assessment of damages, losses and impacts			
		7. Integrate DRR in education and training systems, with adequate resourcing and capacities			
		8. Strengthen technical and scientific capacity to generate DRR knowledge and promote investments in innovation			

		and technology to address DRM challenges				
		9. Harness, integrate and safeguard traditional and local knowledge and practice of DRM				
<b>Local</b>	Engage and sensitize communities in risk assessment and analysis and application for decision making	1. Develop and publicize awareness products	Continuous	1. Increased awareness on disaster risk and risk management opportunities 2. Increased capacity for risk assessment, analysis and application at local level	National DRM agencies and local authorities (assisted by relevant sector experts)	
		2. Share risk mapping products with local stakeholders to increase awareness				
		3. Equip local communities with skills and tools for monitoring and analyzing risk, including training in participatory risk assessment				
		4. Develop and implement a programme to undertake local risk assessment, emphasizing localized recurrent risks and threats				
		5. Document, systematize and promote use of indigenous knowledge on risk in risk identification, monitoring and assessment at the local level				
<b>Priority 2 Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk</b>						
<b>Level</b>	<b>Strategic Area of Intervention</b>	<b>Key Activity [OR] Priority Activity</b>	<b>Timeframe [OR: Timeline]</b>	<b>Outputs [OR: Expected Results]</b>	<b>Responsible / Partner Institutions</b>	
<b>Continental</b>	Establish a dedicated structure for coordination of disaster risk reduction in the African Union	1. Document DRM activities being undertaken within and outside the 3 Departments of AUC	2017	1. Strengthened DRR/M coordination	AUC (DREA in collaboration with other departments)	
		2. Establish a DRR Coordination Unit within the AUC, beginning with development of a TOR [AND a sub-committee for DRR within the AU Specialized Technical Committee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Water and Environment?]	2018			
		3. Map and assess roles, functions and mandates of regional stakeholders in DRM	2017			

		4. Strengthen the regional platform for DRR	Continuous		
		5. Design and implement programmes to strengthen DRM capacity of regional organizations and bodies, countries, regional institutions and other stakeholders, including through activities of an African centre for disaster preparedness and response			
		6. Develop guidance to facilitate alignment of national and regional DRM programmes to aid implementation of the Sendai Framework	2017		
		7. Establish regional accountability systems, including joint monitoring and evaluations, for follow up of progress of Member States in implementing the POA and SFDRR.	2017		
		8. Develop and continuously implement a programme to popularize and propagate the ARSDRR, this POA, the SFDRR and other DRR programmes and documentation	2017		
<b>Regional</b>	Set up mechanisms for DRR coordination and exchange of DRR/M best practices, lessons learnt and experiences among member states	1. Establish and sustain DRR Coordinating Units/structures within RECs and other relevant regional bodies	Continuous	1. DRR/M knowledge shared and enhanced 2. Strengthened regional and sub-regional platforms	RECs
		2. Operationalize and strengthen structures and mechanisms for coordinating regional DM, including trans-boundary cooperation			
		3. Strengthen inter-RECs experience sharing and exchange of lessons learned under auspices of AUC	2018	3. Enhanced capabilities for and effectiveness of DRR/M through mutual learning 4. Improved regional coordination of DRR	AUC coordination
		4. Create platform for exchange of risk management information among multiple stakeholders including politicians and legislators at RECs level			



		5. Establish a regional mechanism for sharing lessons learned in DRM among countries based on agreed guiding frameworks			
		6. Facilitate development of inter-sectoral disaster conscious public health policies, strategies and programmes			
<b>National</b>	Formulate, improve and sustain policies, strategies, plans and legal frameworks for DRR and integrate them into sustainable development strategies	1. Review, assess and formulate policies, strategies, plans and legal frameworks based on the Sendai Framework	2018 [OR 2019?]	1. Policies, strategies, plans and legal frameworks are adopted and implemented to reduce risk and strengthen resilience  2. Strengthened coherence between climate change adaptation strategies and disaster risk reduction mechanisms	National institutions, with support from partners (RECs, AUC and other relevant partners)
		2. Operationalize institutional frameworks with authority, capacity, financial resources and tools	Continuous		
		3. Create or reinforce national DRR/M platforms for increased effectiveness	2018		
		4. Review public regulations, standards and codes to incorporate DRR	Continuous		
		5. Enhance awareness and sensitization and support compliance and enforcement on public regulation measures for DRR	Continuous		
		6. Align (and integrate where possible) climate coordination and DRR coordination mechanisms	2018		
		7. Translate policies and strategies into practical tools for decision-makers and practitioners to facilitate implementation of the SFDRR			
<b>Local</b>	Decentralize powers and resources to catalyze disaster risk reduction actions at the local level	1. Replicate national level platforms and initiatives to the local level (as practicable as possible)	Continuous	1. Policies, strategies, plans, institutions and legal frameworks are put in place and operationaized to reduce risk and strengthen resilience at the local level	National and sub-national actors
		2. Promote and enhance community-based/managed DRR/M institutions			
		3. Develop the capacity of local authorities to work with community structures, civil society and other local partners to advance local DRM			
		4. Increase participation of local actors and community youth in DRM activities			

		5. Allocate and facilitate investment of dedicated, adequate and predictable resources and capacity to engage with communities at risk and implement local initiatives			
<b>Priority 3 Investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience</b>					
<b>Level</b>	<b>Strategic Area of Intervention</b>	<b>Key Activity [OR] Priority Activity</b>	<b>Timeframe [OR: Timeline]</b>	<b>Outputs [OR: Expected Results]</b>	<b>Responsible / Partner Institutions</b>
<b>Continental</b>	Mobilize resources and investment, including through establishment of a continental trust fund for efficient management of disaster risk management and ensuring linkage with existing disaster management funds	1. Advocate on relevance of establishment of the Trust Fund targeting Ministers of finance/planning/DRM	2018	1. Continental level trust fund established and operational	AU WB AfDB UNISDR
		2. Prepare a concept paper of the fund			
		3. Develop guideline on governance of the fund			
		4. Develop guideline on operationalization of the fund			
		5. Draft continental policy documents of the trust fund			
		6. Convene and organize conference of Ministers (Finance, Planning & DRM) to establish the trust fund			
		7. Integrate DRR as a priority of key African Union-led development frameworks, plans, policies and flagship projects (including Agenda 2063, PIDA (Programme for Infrastructural Development in Africa) and AIDA (Accelerated Industrial Development for Africa)			
		8. Develop guidance on establishing linkages between DRR and relevant development frameworks at regional, national and local levels	2017		
		9. Facilitate increased participation and investment in mechanisms for disaster risk financing, risk transfer and insurance, risk sharing and retention, particularly the ARC	2018 [OR Continuous? ]		

<b>Regional</b>	Enhance coherence in sustainable development and DRR in policies and plans and protection of development gains through establishment of functional risk sharing and transfer and safety nets mechanisms	1. Link DRR with RECs development frameworks	2018	1. Risk transfer, financial and social protection mechanisms established and operational at regional levels  2. Increased synergy in investments for DRR and for sustainable development	RECs
		2. Develop guidance on establishing linkages between DRR and development frameworks of RECs at national and local levels			
		3. Include risk transfer in regional DRR policies/strategies/measures	Continuous		
		4. Facilitate increased participation and investment in mechanisms, including through public-private partnerships, for disaster risk financing, risk transfer and insurance, risk sharing and retention, and, social protection, including the ARC	2018		
		5. Facilitate the development of disaster resilient public health infrastructure and systems	Continuous		
<b>National</b>	Establish, and allocate resources for, disaster risk reduction investment plans	1. Advocate for and support design of national DRR investment plan, as part of the institutional framework, incorporating public-private-partnerships	2018	1. DRR investment plan and framework is established and operationized  2. National trust funds for DRR established  3. Increased level of disaster risk considerations in sector and cross-sector development strategies, policies, plans, programmes and investments	National government  Central Banks
		2. Advocate for the establishment of national trust fund for DRM			
		3. Review national policies:/strategies/measures to include DRR trust funds			
		4. Operationalize guidelines for mainstreaming DRR into sector and cross-sector development policies and programmes, particularly in agriculture, health and climate change adaptation, and drought and desertification control	Continuous		National DRM agencies

		5. Advocate for social, economic, financial and sector development policies, plans and programmes that incorporate DRR to reduce the vulnerability of populations most at risk and of economic activities (such as risk sharing, welfare protection and livelihoods stabilization, sustainable ecosystems and environmental management, natural resource management, food security for resilience, rural development plans, land use planning)		4. Enhanced mutual reduction of disaster risk, fragility and conflict	National DRM agencies, and, ministries/departments
		6. Develop guidelines on safety of schools, hospitals and critical infrastructure	2018		National DRM agencies
		7. Develop guidelines for DRM in settings of fragility and conflict			
		8. Promote community based DRR approach with a trustfund			
<b>Local</b>	Promote risk-reducing investments, including implementing micro-insurance and social safety net programmes	1. Sensitize communities on DRR policies/strategies/measures at local level	Continuous	1. Mechanisms for micro insurance & safety net programmes established & operationalized  2. Increased level of disaster risk considerations in sector development and livelihood strategies, policies, plans, programmes and investments	Governments and parliaments  NGOs  Banks  Local governments
		2. Promote integration of DRR in community infrastructure and livelihood investments			
		3. Increase livelihood interventions in DRM programmes of NDMOs and partners			
		4. Develop guidelines/procedures on microfinance and micro-insurance operations and governance	2020		
		5. Propose laws, regulations to incentivize private sector investments in micro-finance, micro-insurance and social safety nets			
		6. Organize clearing houses to discuss and agree on stakeholders' compensation following investments in micro-insurance [Explanation]			

		7. Advocate for increased application of traditional and local knowledge and practice in DRM	Continuous		
<b>Priority 4 Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and to “Build back Better” in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction</b>					
<b>Level</b>	<b>Strategic Area of Intervention</b>	<b>Key Activity [OR] Priority Activity</b>	<b>Timeframe [OR: Timeline]</b>	<b>Outputs [OR: Expected Results]</b>	<b>Responsible / Partner Institutions</b>
<b>Continental</b>	Effectively coordinate preparedness and integrate preparedness measures for effective response	1. Support & coordinate existing disaster interventions on disaster preparedness & response, including humanitarian assistance	Continuous	1. Better coordinated & harmonized disaster risk management  2. Better coordinated interventions of international institute ( in terms of financing, information sharing & decision making)  3. Better dissemination of best practices	AUC, RECs, international agencies/partners
		2. Create & operationalize a coordination mechanism for DRM [?]	2018??		
		3. Develop and strengthen continental and regional institutions, networks and forums for research, innovation and scientific solutions, incorporating traditional knowledge, for preparedness, response and recovery	Continuous		
		4. Facilitate the establishment of dialogue forum under the ARP for exchange of know-how and best practices on preparedness, response and recovery	2018		AUC & RECs
<b>Regional</b>	Establish and strengthen multi-hazard early warning systems and regional mechanisms for early action and response	1. Develop approaches and measures for management of cross-border disasters	2018	1. Harmonized multi-hazard EWS & effective response mechanisms established  2. Enhanced regional capacity to respond to trans-boundary disasters	RECs
		2. Support harmonization of national EWS	Continuous		RECS, Regional implementation RECs & partners
		3. Establish operational, regional multi-hazard early warning and alert systems	2020		
		4. Develop effective regional response and recovery mechanisms with standards, priorities, regional targets, indicators and, operational guidance to respond to and recover from trans-boundary disasters and regional emergencies	2018		

		5. Facilitate the design and continuous implementation of joint disaster preparedness and response interventions, such as assessments, investigations and simulation exercises, among Member States, sectors and partners			
		6. Facilitate partnership with donors, international agencies, the private sector and implementing organizations to strengthen national post-disaster response management capacities	Continuous		RECs
		7. Support capacity enhancements in multi-hazard early warning systems 8. Support development of integrated approaches to emergency management that incorporate DRR in response practice at regional and national levels 9. Support regional Search and Rescue drill exercises for maritime incidents 10. Support improved management of biological hazard risk reduction			RECs & partners
<b>National</b>	Establish and strengthen emergency preparedness, response and recovery support and coordination mechanisms, capacities and facilities, including coordination centres	1. Develop national strategy for effective preparedness & response that integrates DRR measures and the “Build Back Better” objective into post disaster recovery and reconstruction processes	2018	1. Institutionalized emergency preparedness, response & recovery plans with roles & responsibilities identified	Members states, RECs, partners
		2. Create and strengthen national institutions for disaster preparedness and response, including mechanisms that operationally link early warning and alerts to adequate preparedness and early response action	Continuous	2. Strengthened preparedness and capacity for risk-informed response and recovery	
		3. Develop comprehensive preparedness, contingency & response plan	2018	3. Increased level of hazard resilient infrastructure	
		4. Develop response management mechanisms, including communication systems, contingency reserves and emergency volunteers	Continuous	4. Strengthened link between relief, rehabilitation and recovery	

		5. Support consistent training of personnel & simulation exercises of response actions			
		6. Facilitate partnership with donors, the private sector, charities, foundations, and implementing organizations to mobilize efficient and sufficient humanitarian financing			
<b>Local</b>	Establish and strengthen multidisciplinary local disaster risk management mechanisms	1. Support mobilization of community resources to for local response and recovery	Continuous	1. Enhanced local level capacity for preparedness and response 2. Increased community participation in and ownership of emergency response initiatives 3. Strengthened community and local resilience	National & local authorities, CSO, NGOs, Youth , Women & vulnerable groups
		2. Develop systems of community emergency management volunteers to perform local roles in disaster management	2019		
		3. Mobilize and coordinate civil society organization, NGOs, civil based organization & local communities for better disaster preparedness & response	Continuous		
		4. Facilitate capacity building of local responders and provide appropriate support during response, particularly for prioritized evacuation and care of women, children, older persons, and children and adults with disabilities.			
		5. Strengthen capacity of local authority institutions in disaster preparedness, response, recovery and reconstruction	2020		
		6. Promote decentralization of authority and budget of national nodal institutions in DRM to local levels	2020		
		7. Establish appropriately integrated communication network to strengthen local preparedness, EW and response	2020		
		8. Promote the use of indigenous knowledge, institutions and practices in needs-based preparedness planning and response management	Continuous		