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AFRICAN MINING VISION AND UNFC 2009: TOWARDS AN OVERARCHING STANDARD FOR RESOURCE MANAGEMENT IN AFRICA

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**Interregional Workshop on Uranium, Coal and Oil &
Gas Classification_ UNFC 2009; 16th – 19th August,
2016, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia**

BACKGROUND

- The AMV entails having a regional extractive sector which offers “Transparent, Equitable and Optimal exploitation of mineral resources to underpin broad-based sustainable growth and socio-economic development”
- Mineral resources reporting is one of the paramount areas which the AMV targets as it encourages sustainable mining practices across the whole mineral value chain.

AMV implementation and Minerals Reporting:

- The AMV is being implemented by the AMDC which is an organ of the AU.
- AMDC was tasked through the GMIS team, to develop its own reporting framework and this started by the development of a **African Mining Legislation Atlas (AMLA)** to be used as a benchmark of legislations to support activities such as Mineral Resources Reporting- (*interpretation of objectives*).
- This has been extended to Petroleum and all extractives in the sector.
- In view of this, Member States through the implementation of various IAEA projects, have been taking part in developing the UNFC 2009 but there was **NO** arrangement to ensure that AMDC is aware of this developments hence AMDC's desire to come up with its own 'Home-Grown' Reporting Framework which would support the realization of the AMV.

UNFC 2009 Development Process- Africa's Participation:

- Participation of African Member States in the development of UNFC 2009
 - Almost all Member States: Botswana, Malawi, Tanzania, Nigeria, Cameroon, South Sudan, Egypt, Tunisia, Morocco, Ethiopia, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Uganda, Namibia, Mozambique, Madagascar, Democratic Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Senegal (Santiago), South Africa and Chad, Kenya, Ghana, Republic of Congo, Lesotho

UNFC 2009 in Africa- Accomplishments:

- **Meetings and Trainings held regionally:**

Luxor, Egypt: Regional training course on United Nations Framework Classification 2009 for Evaluation of Uranium and Thorium Resources and to Leverage Transparent and Effective Communications, -**18 - 22 October, 2015**

Johannesburg, South Africa: Application of United Nations Framework Classification – 2009 (UNFC-2009) for Uranium" Johannesburg, South Africa- **10 to 14 November, 2014**

Istanbul, Turkey: Interregional Workshop on “Social licensing and stakeholder communications in uranium exploration and mining industry” - **10 – 14 February, 2014**

UNFC 2009 in Africa- Accomplishments:

Santiago, Chile: Interregional IAEA-CYTED-UNECE Workshop on UNFC 2009 Applications in Uranium and Thorium Resources, Santiago, Chile, 9-12 July 2013

Geneva, Switzerland: Expert Group on Resource Classification (EGRC) meeting in which Africa is well represented at the EGRC Bureau by the Bureau's Vice President, **Mr. Tunde Arisekola** and also the involvement of **Mr. Cassius Chiwambo**

It was also attended by numerous African participants - such as Cameroon, Egypt, South Africa

UNFC 2009 in Africa:

- Some of the African Case Studies:

Malawi: Uranium in Malawi – Case Study on the Application of UNFC 2009; Mr. Cassius Chiwambo of Malawi's Ministry of Natural Resources, Energy and Mining;

Niger: Case Study – Application of UNFC 2009 to the Uranium Resources of the Azelik Deposit, Niger; Mr. Li Shengxiang of the China National Nuclear Corporation.

Prepared under the guidance of the Task Force on the Application of UNFC-2009 to Nuclear Fuel Resources of the UNECE Expert Group on Resource Classification.

Published:

<https://www.researchgate.net/publication/292981579> Application of UNFC 2009 to Nuclear Fuel Resources Selected Case Studies ECE ENERGY SERIES No 46

UNFC -2009 Approach in Capacity Development

- **Train the Trainer Approach** – reduced cost mechanism to pass on information to other stakeholder in extractive industries;
- **Dissemination of resource materials** – e.g. Training and/or meetings’ materials through channels such as ‘Dropbox’, Associated Bridging Documents – Redbook Classification System, SAMREC (African grown template), JORC CODE, CRIRSCOR etc
- **Political Will** for fast and easy acceptance of the Framework which will be used as the overarching standard for resource management in Africa.

Why Africa and steps undertaken:

- African Union's unwillingness to recognize UNFC 2009 as a regional reporting format- Preference to 'Home Grown' instrument as suggested in the African Mining Vision- through AMDC.
- UNFC 2009 has a global mandate though being a voluntary instrument – UN and Global Village Concept Vs Reinvention of the wheel.
- Geneva Africa's Adhoc Meeting on UNFC 2009 adoption and application in Africa- Prof Julian, Dr. Tulsidas, Charlotte Griffiths.
- **Outcome and Planned way forward:** Meeting political figures to present this at AU's Forum for Mining Ministers: To be tabled by Ministers of Mining of Malawi and Nigeria
- Failure to present during the ***Specialized Technical Committee (STC) meeting for Trade, Industry and Mining held from 16th - 24th May 2016 Addis Ababa, Ethiopia,*** due to time factor.

Steps undertaken:

- STC meeting created an environment to interact with African Minerals Development Centre (AMDC's) Director and Commissioner of Trade in the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)- meeting held with **Mr. Cassius Chiwambo – on 18th May 2016 in Addis Ababa;**

OUTCOMES:

- ❖ The AMDC Director and Commissioner appreciated and understood the UNFC 2009 Concept; its background, Africa's participation in the development and application so far, current developments and proposed way forward.
- ❖ AMDC requested the advocate (Mr. Chiwambo) to link UNECA to UNECE. Correspondences emanated. Proposal to come up with a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on cooperation modalities was raised. (**Charlotte to give update**)

Steps undertaken Ct'd...

- A Team of Geologists from AU/UNECA/AMDC led by Dr. Kaiser De Souza met Mr. Tunde Arisekola in Nigeria and discussed further on UNFC 2009

OUTCOMES:

- ❖ The geologists got further information and updates on UNFC 2009. They further indicated the desire to have a team representing Africa on the Bureau or actively taking part in UNFC 2009 to present the Framework during the ***Geological and Mineral Information System (GMIS) Strategy Coordination Meeting to be held from 24th to 26th August, 2016 in Cape Town.***
- ❖ AMDC has so far sponsored Mr. Tunde Arisekola and expecting further support from UNECE to send extra one or two officials to beef up the presentation.

Steps undertaken Ct'd...

- Follow-up meeting on new developments: 11th August, 2016- United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)- Mr. Chiwambo and AMDC officials

OUTCOMES:

- ❖ AMDC indicated that there is need to have the draft MOU as quickly as possible
- ❖ AMDC assured us of their sponsorship to GMIS Coordination Meeting for Mr. Arisekola (*so far, Mr. Arisekola has confirm the sponsorship*).
- ❖ AMDC indicated that so far, further understanding has shown a link between this framework and the African Mining Vision on resources reporting.

OUTCOMES ct'd...:

- ❖ AMDC assured support and indicated the need to have a special team for sensitization activities
- ❖ Financing of the sensitization and capacity building programs at regional level was pended; awaiting the UNFC 2009 presentation at GMIS Strategy Coordination Meeting.

Coordination at regional level:

To ensure efficient adoption and application of UNFC 2009 at regional level, suggestions were made by AMDC to have a mechanism which will ensure coordinated Regional reporting on accomplishments (*I suggested setting up a sub-committee under the STC and this should be through GMIS team- TBD*);

This could also help ease follow-up activities and identification of challenges being faced by Member States, and;

There was a debate to have UNFC 2009 Focal Points (**State UNFC 2009 Ambassador(s)**) who could be reporting national achievements and/or developments to UNECA/AMDC's designated officer.

Way Forward

- In general, African Union (AU) through the UNECA/AMDC has, in principle, accepted the UNFC 2009 Framework and suggested that the MOU development process should be done as quickly as possible for easy of planning. *(TBD with Charlotte)*
- AMDC noted and accepted that the framework has robust technical provisions for easy of resource classification and used as a UNIVERSAL language. *(also to be emphasized by TUNDE at GMIS Meeting)*
- The support from its Member States in developing it, has been commendable and hence shows that we also **'own'** the framework. This led to the call to have coordinated approach on the implementation of the framework. *(All Member States, UNECA and UNECE)*

Thank You

Zikomo Kwambiri