

*UN DESA- APRM side event - hybrid (in-person & virtual)  
Africa Regional Forum for Sustainable Development- Kigali (3 March 1-2.15 pm)*

*'Forging partnerships to enhance reporting on SDG 16/Aspiration three in Africa:  
lessons learnt from Rwanda and Peer-learning opportunities with other African  
countries'*

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### *Introduction*

The African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM), as an autonomous body of the AU family, is a voluntary mechanism dedicated to encouraging peer-learning and adherence of AU Member States to the AU standards and codes for good governance at the continental level. Empowered by the AU Assembly to assist in monitoring and evaluating the implementation of AU Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its SDGs, the APRM has since 2017, taken progressive steps towards this goal. This includes supporting Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) in Africa, incorporating SDGs and Agenda 2063 indicators into governance assessment methodologies, and the advocacy of the [principles of effective governance for sustainable development](#), as well as assessment of their implementation in Africa.

The United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) and the Committee of Experts on Public Administration (CEPA) have established strong collaboration with the African Union and APRM to help track implementation of SDGs, especially SDG 16 on strong, efficient and strong institutions and peaceful societies. The [APRM baseline study on the implementation of CEPA Principles in Africa](#) is one of the APRM's key initiatives to promote understanding of SDG 16/Aspiration three of Agenda 2063 principles and institutional aspects across 17 African countries. The recommendations of the baseline study are imperative to enhance reporting on this goal, especially with the recognized slow progress of various SDGs due to the daunting consequences of COVID-19 over the last three years. Before the pandemic, the world was not on track to achieve the SDGs. However, notable progress was being made on the implementation of some important SDGs such as reducing poverty, improving maternal and child health, increasing access to electricity and advancing gender equality. The COVID-19 pandemic has since had a significant impact on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and AU Agenda 2063, undermining decades of development efforts.

### *Objectives of the side event and relevance to ARFSD themes*

*The overarching objective of this event is to offer a regional platform for African countries to share experiences on implementing CEPA principles at the national level in order to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063. Further, it aims to identify challenges towards efficient implementation of these principles in the face of major global challenges that include the COVID-19 pandemic, a paralyzing economic crisis, rising levels of poverty and inequality and climate change. Further focus is paid to 'Rwanda's experience implementing CEPA principles' through the efforts conducted by the Rwanda Governance Board and concerned*

*ministries to enhance reporting on Agenda 2063 and SDGs and the role of partnerships (SDG 17) in fostering impactful results on pursuing CEPA Principles in Africa.*

*Organizers, partners and expected participants: DSDG/UNDESA, APRM, Rwanda Governance Board /Ministry of finance -Government of Rwanda.*

*Tentative agenda: **3 March 1-2.15 PM**  
Speakers*

*Opening remarks: Mr. Richard Mushabe, Ministry of finance, Republic of Rwanda*

Speakers (5 minute each)

*Dr. KAITESI Usta, Chief Executive Officer, Rwanda Governance Board*

*Mr. Pali Lehohla, CEPA Statistical advisor &former SA statistician General*

*Mr. Amson Sibanda, Chief, National Strategies and Capacity Building Branch, Division for Sustainable Development Goals, DESA*

*Prof. Eddy Maloka, CEO, APRM Continental Secretariat*

*Concluding remarks: Geraldine Fraser-Moleketi, Chairperson, UN CEPA*