



THE FIRST REGIONAL MINISTERIAL MEETING ON THE LAPSSET CORRIDOR PROGRAM

12th JANUARY 2020 – 14th JANUARY 2020

MOMBASA, KENYA

COMMUNIQUÉ

The Prime Minister of The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, the Late Meles Zenawi, The President of The Republic of South Sudan, H.E. Salva Kiir Mayardit and The Former President of The Republic of Kenya, H.E. Mwai Kibaki, had a vision and recognised the importance of interconnectivity between the three (3) States and to the rest of the Continent. In order to actualise this vision, in March 2012, the three (3) Heads of State and Government inaugurated the Lamu Port South Sudan Ethiopia (LAPSSET) Transport Corridor.

The Corridor is to provide seamless connectivity, enhance trade facilitation and logistics within the region and beyond.

The LAPSSET Corridor project components, are part of the IGAD and COMESA - PIDA priority action plan (PIDA PAP-1) list of projects. In June 2015, the LAPSSET Project was endorsed as a Presidential Infrastructure Champion Initiative (PICI) Project during the AU-Heads of State and Government Orientation Committee (HSGOC) meeting held in Johannesburg, South Africa.

The AU-High Representative for Infrastructure Development in Africa, **The Rt. Hon. Raila Odinga, Former Prime Minister of the Republic of Kenya** convened this Ministerial meeting in the spirit of refocussing and revitalisation of the implementation of the LAPSSET Corridor, in view of the vision to realising the East West Trans-Continental Beltway - connecting Lamu Port to Douala/Kribi (Cameroon) seaports via Juba and Bangui.

After considering the Report of the LAPSSET Technical Committee meeting, which was held on the 12th to 13th January 2020, and after extensive deliberations on the matters on the Agenda:





THE MINISTERIAL MEETING:

OBSERVATIONS:

Acknowledging the presence and participation of the Member States representatives to the first LAPSSET Corridor Ministerial Meeting on 14th January 2020 in Mombasa, Kenya, with the objective of initiating a dialogue between LAPSSET footprint States to have a common and shared approach to the implementation of the LAPSSET Corridor Program.

Recalling the vision of the Heads of State and Government and their commitments to interconnect the three (3) States, bolster trade facilitation, enhance movements across the borders to free human capital flow and to hasten regional development.

Recognizing that LAPSSET Corridor implementation is a Presidential Infrastructure Champion Initiative (PICI) project under the African Union which holds the three (3) Heads of State and Government in high esteem to ensure this project is achieved.

Recognising the importance of this meeting in the light of the **transnational components** of the LAPSSET Corridor and directly, under the coordination of the competent authorities, in The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, The Republic of South Sudan, and The Republic of Kenya.

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Appreciating the works and progress made to date within the footprint States, hereby resolve as follows:

RESOLUTIONS:

1. Re-affirm our commitment to support the revitalization of the LAPSSET Corridor program.
2. Agree to initiate dialogue between LAPSSET footprint States towards a shared approach and establishment of an institutional framework/mechanism for the implementation of the LAPSSET Corridor Program.
3. Support establishment of a representative Steering Committee composed of representatives from The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, The Republic of Kenya, The Republic of South Sudan, UNECA, AUDA-NEPAD and AFDB to institute an umbrella body to coordinate the implementation of the corridor.
4. Support the implementation of the proposed roadmap towards the establishment of the Umbrella body.
5. We have agreed to the establishment of an institutional framework/mechanism and establishment of the umbrella body.
6. We mandate the existing representative Technical Committee supporting the initiative to continue the dialogue and engagement to enable the implementation of the roadmap.
7. We express our sincere gratitude to the Technical Committee of experts for the work done to date.
8. We hereby, express our gratitude to United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, The AU-High Representative for Infrastructure Development in Africa, **the Rt. Hon. Raila Odinga, Former Prime Minister of the Republic of Kenya**, NEPAD -APRM Kenya for their excellent support in facilitation of this meeting.



9. Call upon **UNECA, AUDA-NEPAD, COMESA, IGAD, AFDB, NEPAD-APRM** and other partners to continue providing support to the LAPSSET Corridor initiatives.

Done in Mombasa, 14th January 2020

THE FEDERAL DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA

_____ DATE

THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN

_____ DATE

THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA

_____ DATE

WITNESSED BY

_____ DATE

**The AU-High Representative for Infrastructure Development in Africa,
the Rt. Hon. Raila Odinga,
Former Prime Minister of the Republic of Kenya**

