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**Meeting between AMDIN and the AU Leadership Academy  
13 September 2018  
Venue: Office of the Head of the AU Leadership Academy**

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**1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

- 1.1. Dr Abdalla welcomed the delegation and introduced herself as the Head of the Academy. She gave a background of the work that she has done before. Which included working within the
- 1.2. The delegation of AMDIN introduced themselves to the Head of the AU Leadership Academy. The attendants included Mr Eduardo Chilundo, Prof Richard Levin, Mr Kofi Arkaah-Ocran and Mr Mzwandile Manto.

**2. ATTENDANCE**

- a. Dr Muna Abdalla; Head of AU Leadership Academy
- b. Mr Eduardo Chilundo; President of AMDIN
- c. Dr Mary Ledwaba (Head of AMDIN Secretariat)
- d. Mr Kofi Arkaah-Ocran (Ex Officio AMDIN Exco Member)
- e. Mr Mzwandile Manto (member of AMDIN Secretariat)

**3. OVERVIEW OF AULA and AMDIN**

**African Union Leadership Academy (AULA/Academy)**

- 3.1. The AU Academy was established in 2016. It is based on Agenda 2063. It aims at strengthen human resources for he AU. It is intended to develop the kind of leadership that have visions.
- 3.2. It focusses on four priorities: Leadership, Management, Policy Programmes and Dialogue Platforms and Negotiation skills. The programmes are targeted at elected officials (including members of parliament) and staff of the AU Commission.
- 3.3. In August 2018 the AULA rolled out a course for the capacitation of the AU Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner. The intervention was targeted at building skills for management, mediation, peace-building, Africa integration and law and legal instruments. also provides them with managerial skills), Mediations, Peace-Making), Africa Integration and Legal Instruments.
- 3.4. Mr Arkaah-Ocran welcomed the programme on Negotiations, indicating it is important for Public Private Partnerships (among others). Africa needs negotiation competencies when they enter international partnerships: the way current partners are unfolding with the Chinese government is an example where the continent needs to share experiences on how to negotiate.

- 3.5. The AULA convenes regular Dialogue forums that pull together different stakeholders, including Parliamentarians, to discuss a range of topics, like how government can leverage on technology to improve its function.
- 3.6. The AULA aspires to become a centre of excellence in public sector and administration: supporting the members of PRC or ambassadors accredited to AU (a programme on sensitization).
- 3.7. The AULA has a training programme on Project Management. It intends to establish a project Management Bureau at the African Union.
- 3.8. One of their goals is to collaborate with MDIs, which is why they visited GIMPA recently. It would have been ideal to work with AMDIN as well because this Network is continental. And AMDIN is on the ground.
- 3.9. It is also their intention to run programmes in each of the 5 AU defined African regions: namely, West Africa, North Africa, Southern Africa, East Africa and Central Africa. To that end the Academy is collaborating with Ghana (West Africa), Egypt (North Africa) and South Africa (Southern Africa). The collaboration is on Innovation in Public Sector. They have met with the University of Pretoria in South Africa to explore a collaboration on innovation in the Public Sector and Administration. The Academy intends to capacitate the citizens on innovation, not only train the office bearers. This is in keeping with citizen participation envisioned by the AU Agenda 2063.
- 3.10. The programme on Innovation will of 5 – 7 days duration, first target group being senior officials in Addis Ababa.

#### **African Management Development Institutes' Network (AMDIN/Network)**

- 3.11. The President of AMDIN provided an overview of AMDIN. The history of AMDIN, its programmes, structure and governance. He linked it to NEPAD and AU Agenda 2063.
- 3.12. He provided information on the structure of AMDIN – elected President and 5 Vice Presidents, one for each of the 5 AU defined regions on the continent. The Executive Committee which consists of the President, the 5 Vice Presidents, Executive Committee, Council and the General Assembly.
- 3.13. Prof Richard Levin who is the Secretary-General of AMDIN gave a background of his role within AMDIN, the history of the Network and his role. He also gave a summary of his experience in the public service as the Director-General. He also played a key role in the drafting of the AU Charter. The dream was to ensure that the Charter is turned into a programme. The Charter is now a curriculum and has been piloted and Training of Trainers has been conducted. It was indicated that AMDIN can collaborate with the Department of Political Affairs and the AULA on this intervention.
- 3.14. In terms of the role South Africa – and the NSG - on the continent, Prof Levin informed the Academy about the Regional Capacity Building Project in Rwanda, Burundi and South Sudan.

#### **The programme Prof Levin shared with the AU Leadership Academy included:**

- 3.15. **Leadership Foresight and Innovation:** It teaches methods to frame and solve problems. It deals with approaches on how to address complex problems systematically. The NSG, Stanford University and Technology Innovation Agency have partnered to implement this programme. In the short-term a LFI programme could be presented in Addis Ababa.
- 3.16. **Governance in Africa Programme:** seeks to equip learners with the understanding of governance within the African context. AULA can play an important role in the processes and structures needed to make a course continental. We can link this area with our discussions around Norms and Standards.
- 3.17. **Evidence-based Policy Development:** teaches policy makers to base policies on available evidence: gathered from different sources including research and engagements with the people who are likely to be affected by the policies.
- 3.18. **Lead Facilitator Development Programme (LFDP)** - which is intended to develop competency in facilitation for teachers, trainers and community development staff. The programme covers indigenous knowledge, Africanisation and African leadership. It resonates well with the goal of citizen-participation envisaged by the AU Agenda 2063.
- 3.19. **The State of Public Service in Africa Report (SOPSA):** This research was designed to investigate issues in selected sectors of the public service in various countries on the continent (water, education and health). Eleven countries participated in the research, with funding from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). AMDIN intends to share the research results with the rest of the continent. But of equal importance is to evaluate progress made by the participating countries in terms of implementing the issues that were identified from the research. The Research Report was shared with the World Bank, UNDP, and AU Commission.
- 3.20. Dr Abdalla expressed an appreciation for the work done by AMDIN on SOPSa and indicated that this is the data that is needed by the African Union. Muno: AULA wants to obtain a copy of the Report.
- 3.21. RESOLUTION – Send the Report to AULA. We would like to do the phase 2 of the SOPSA. It was conceived. 3 areas for research.
- 3.22. Prof Levin also indicated that FOCAC which was convened in China where the AU Chairperson also attended. FOCAC is important to ensure there is continent-wide approach to these collaborations.
- 3.23. Dr Abdalla indicated that what has been done by AMDIN/NSG is commendable and the AULA would like to work with us. She would like to be part of the Lead Facilitator Programme and the Evidence-based policy development. The concept of evidence-based is one of the approaches that should be integrated into the policy making processes of the African Union. The AU LA is preparing a programme targeted at the policy makers. A collaboration between the AULA and AMDIN/NSG would assist on this matter: these institutions can work together to source funding. The AULA will assess the feasibility of the programme. But they want to involve AMDIN/NSG.

- 3.24. On this point Mr Arkaah-Ocran recommended collaborative approaches to the funding mobilization because of the overlap and complementarity in the work of these institutions. This is the approach preferred by donors such as the World Bank want to maximize impact from donor assistance.
- 3.25. It was agreed that the MoU between AMDIN and the AU Commission is sufficient to cover a collaboration between the AULA and AMDIN, therefore there is no need to develop a MoU specifically between these two institutions. It was decided that the instruments that will be utilized between the AULA and AMDIN is a Framework of Collaboration.
- 3.26. The AULA should consider being part of the NSG-CAG relationship and see how that collaboration can be utilized to also include the relations with the AU LA. Dr Abdalla agreed with the idea and also indicated that they have programme on experience-sharing with the Chinese.
- 3.27. The Journal was also mentioned as a platform where we can all share ideas. We are moving towards the accreditation of the Journal. The Journal was
- 3.28. Dr Abdalla also indicated that AULA will work with GIMPA on a programme – three months programme. It can be done in the forms of e-Learning. A couple of people that were sent to China,
- 3.29. It was also mentioned by Prof Levin that there is an intention to work with Huawei on the learning labs. Huawei has been deployed in Kenya, South Africa. Using them would be beneficial for e-Learning.

#### **4. RESOLUTIONS**

- 4.1. AMDIN and AULA will develop a Framework of Agreement (FoA) with specific areas of collaboration. The Framework of Agreement will be within the ambit of the existing MoU between AMDIN and the African Union Commission.
- 4.2. AMDIN Secretariat will send to AULA the collaboration that were identified during the meeting.
- 4.3. The AULA will populate their Framework of Agreement (Template) with these areas and return the draft FoA to the AMDIN Secretariat.

#### **CLOSURE**

After messages of thanks the meeting was adjourned.