

# The African Peer Review Mechanism

*A continental multi-stakeholder platform for Good Governance & progress of Agenda 2063 in Africa*

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# The APRM in a nutshell



## ► Foundation & Rationale

2003 : 6th Summit of the NEPAD Heads of state and Government Implementation Committee - NEPAD Secretariat (Constitutive Act of the African Union -AU)

**Rationale:** a tool for sharing experiences, reinforcing best practices, identifying deficiencies, and assessing capacity-building needs to foster policies, standards and practices that lead to political stability, high economic growth, sustainable development and accelerated sub-regional and continental economic integration. '**Governance is the root cause of Africa's problems, bottleneck for development and the solution for its challenges**'

**Membership** : till date, 38 African countries joined the APRM and 23 peer review studies were conducted. Botswana is the latest country to join APRM.

**Fully integrated with AU:** (Jan 2017) The APRM is now a specialized agency of the AU voluntarily acceded to by member states of the AU

# Country Reviews & focus areas

## Types of APRM Reviews :

- ✓ Base review
- ✓ Periodic review  
2-4 years
- ✓ Requested review
- ✓ APR Target Reviews

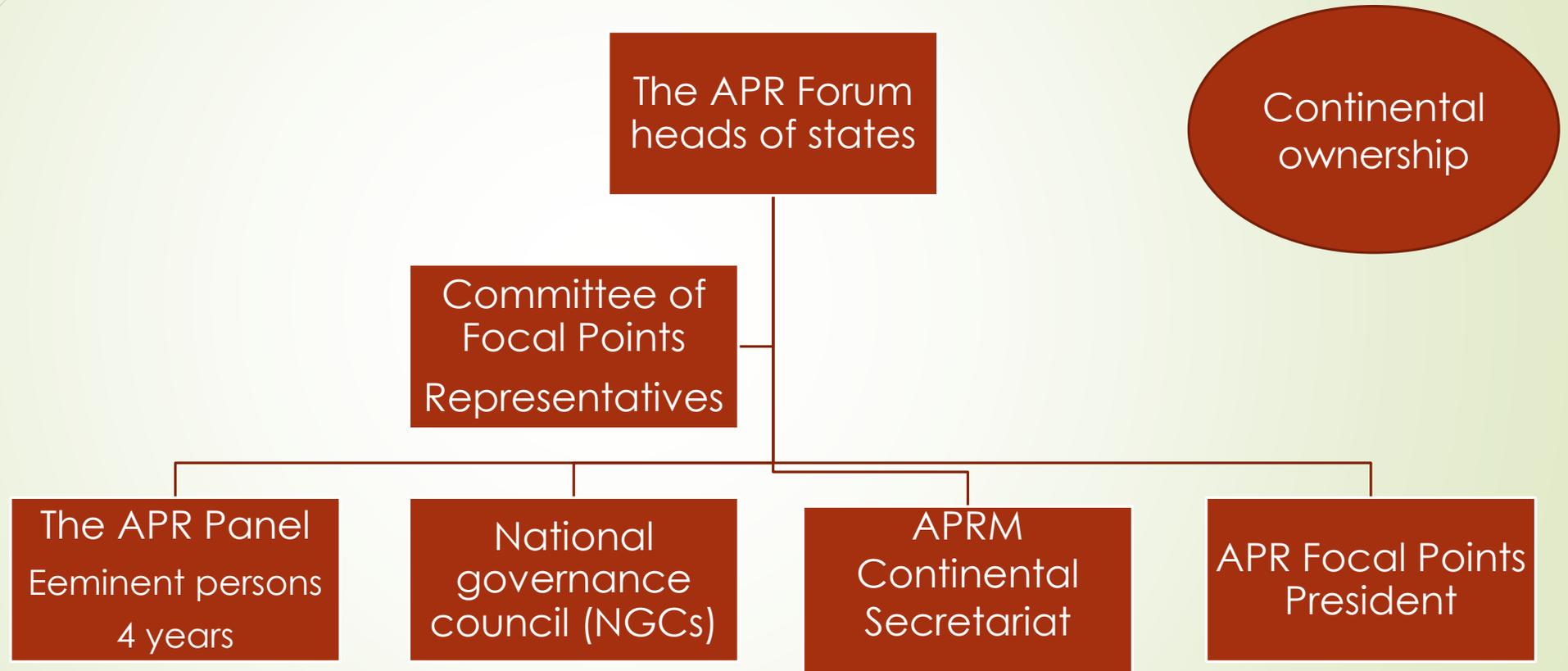
Democracy and  
Political Governance  
(DPG)

Economic  
Governance and  
Management (EGM)

Corporate  
Governance (CG)  
Network of  
corporates in Africa

Broad-based  
Sustainable Socio-  
economic  
Development (SED)

# *The APRM structure & Principles*: Ensuring inclusiveness, Accountability and P2P exercise.



# The Review Process

Ghana, Kenya, Cote d' Ivoire, Chad, and Rwanda are among the most active APRM members

technically competent, credible and free of political manipulation.

Deep analysis to the country cross-cutting issues

Country Visit  
Consultation with national stakeholders

**Gov-Business, NGOs, Media Academia**

Report preparation discussed with the Government concerned  
To check the accuracy of data

Submit the report in the heads of states & Gov

Through the APRM Secretariat

**+National Plan of Action**

## APRM Revitalisation Process & strategic priorities (2016-2020)

- ▶ 2017: the AU Assembly adopted a decision to integrate the APRM as an autonomous entity within the AU System.
- ▶ **'Revitalisation of the APRM:** 28th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Union held on January 2017, **Repositioning of the APRM to play a monitoring and evaluation role for the African Union Agenda 2063 and SDGs.**
- ▶ The current CEO of the APRM , **Eddy Maloka**, has a passionate perspective to revitalize the APRM within the ongoing reforms inside the AU.
- ▶ Revisiting the philosophy of the APRM **'How we complement rather than compete'**
  - Revising the review methodology and Governance Questionnaire (**3<sup>rd</sup> forum in Sharm El-Sheikh April 4-5, 2019**)
  - Ensuring compliance with APRM principles
  - Resource Mobilisation and rationalization, digitalization, paper-less
  - Integration of the APRM into the AU system; and
  - The role of the APRM in **monitoring of AU agenda 2063** and the post-2015 sustainable development goals (SDGs).



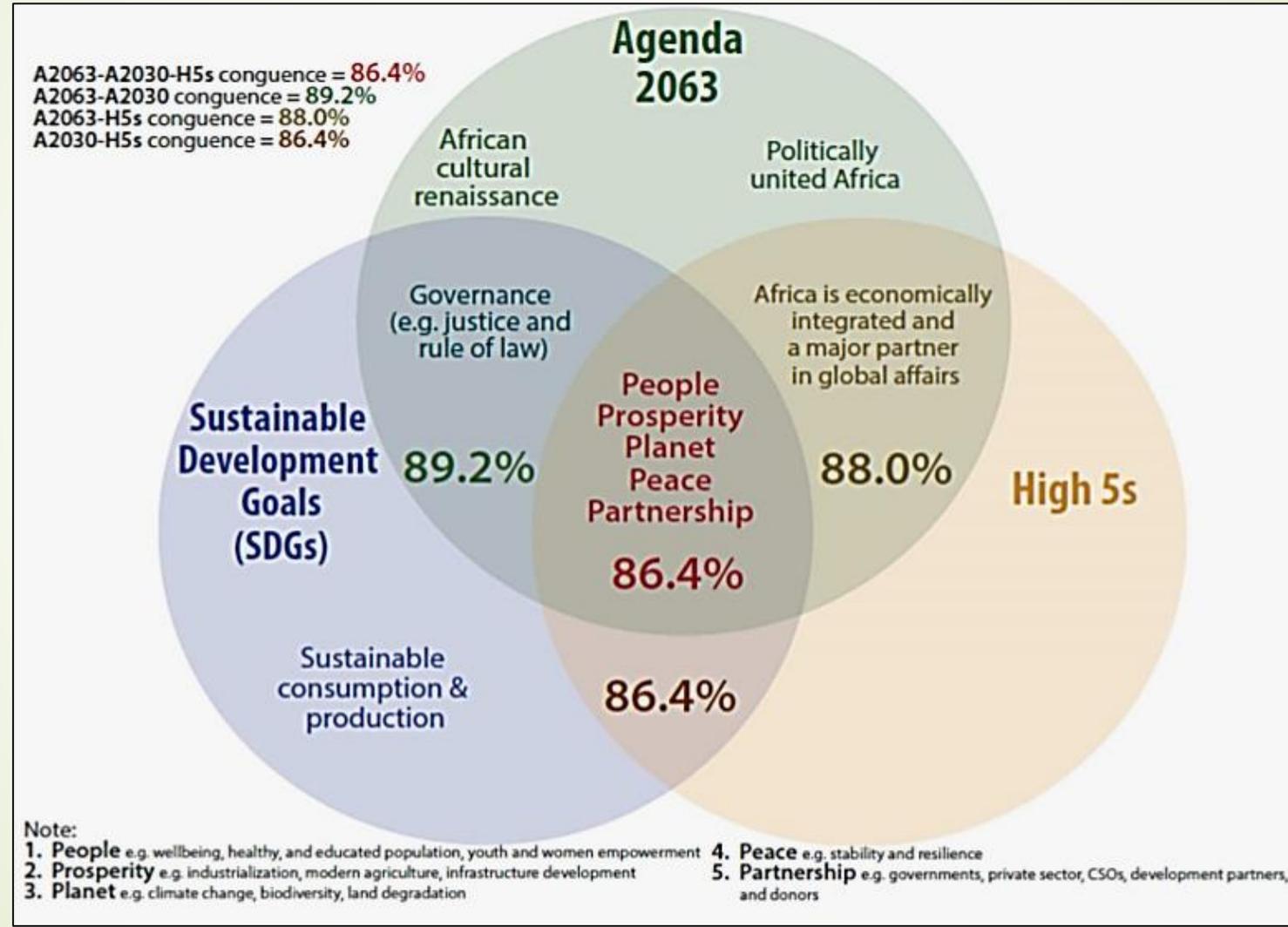
## *Agenda 2063: Aspirations, objectives, Implementation Plan and M&E 'Africa We want'*

- In May 2013, Heads of State and Government of the African Union (AU) set an unprecedented landmark by adopting a long-term development vision entitled 'The Africa We Want' – The Agenda 2063.
- This was done at the commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Organization of African Unity, later the African Union, through a Solemn Declaration by the Heads of State and Government.
- Africa is the only continent which has a common vision for its economic integration and socio-economic development aspirations and goals.
- The Agenda espouses seven aspirations and 20 goals, 39 priority areas and 256 targets to be advanced through 10-year Implementation Plans, with the first one running from 2014 to 2023.

# Agenda 2063: Aspirations and objectives



# Congruence between Agenda 2030, Agenda 2063 and the AfDB High 5s



# Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development

- ✓ Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development with its attendant Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) was adopted by world leaders on the 25th of September 2015. It was framed under the chapeau of the 5Ps – People, Prosperity, Planet, Peace and Partnership and constituted 17 goals and 169 targets.
- ✓ The Agenda 2030 five guiding imperatives are:
  - 1) Leave no one behind; 2) Put sustainable development at the core – integrate social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainability in all programmes; 3) Transform economies for jobs and inclusive growth; 4) Build peace and effective, open and accountable institutions for all; and, 5) forge a new global partnership.

## African Development Bank Agenda (H5)

- In response, the African Development Bank Group (AfDB) committed to support the implementation of both Agendas 2063 and 2030 through its Ten-Year Strategy (2013 – 2022). The AfDB's strategy has the overarching twin objectives of achieving inclusive growth and transitioning to green growth.
- Operationally, these two objectives will be met through five operational priorities which include inter alia: infrastructure development; regional economic integration; private sector development; governance and accountability; and skills and technology.
- The Ten-Year Strategy highlights three areas of special emphasis - gender, fragile states, agriculture and food security. These will be addressed through five priority areas, otherwise known as the High Fives (Hi5s) which are intended to leverage and crowd-in financial resources to reinforce the Continent's development

# Key stakeholders involved in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of Agenda 2063

## Continental level

- the AU Assembly
- The Executive Council
- The Ministerial Committee on Agenda 2063
- The AUC/Technical Unit for Agenda 2063
- The African Peer Review mechanism

## Regional level

### **Regional Economic Communities.**

- Leading regional efforts to attain the implementation of the Agenda member states
- Engage in continental discussions on the agenda member states
- Consult member states

## National Level

### **Member States**

- Domestication of Agenda 2063 into National Development Plans (NDPs)
  - Lead and coordinate the resource mobilization process

# The APRM role in M&E Agenda 2063

Under the AU Assembly decision of the revitalization of the APRM in January 2017, the APRM is given an expanded mandate to **play a role in supporting the AU member states in reporting and monitoring the SDGs and Agenda 2063**. Therefore, the APRM is assigned to critical responsibilities such as:

- ▶ Consider the AU Summit Decisions in relevance to Agenda 2063 and support the implementation on regional and **national levels through the APRM National Governance Councils**.
- ▶ Review **the APRM questionnaire on governance issues** to mainstream Agenda 2030 and Agenda 2063 aspirations into the said questionnaire.
- ▶ Provide **technical opinion and targeted research on governance aspects of the Agenda 2063** aspirations related to Governance (Aspirations 2,3,4)
- ▶ Supporting the **AU advocacy commitment for Agenda 2063** via communication and partnerships strategies.
- ▶ Produce – on two annual basis- **the state of Governance Report** which addresses four main themes related to Agenda 2063 progress; transformative leadership, Constitutionalism, and the rule of law, Development-Governance Nexus, Peace and Security and Regional Economic Communities.
- ▶ Review and validate the **Core Indicators framework of the first ten-year implementation plan of Agenda 2063** with the AUC and other stakeholders. ( Already discussed in Nairobi June 2019)

# APRM focuses on special aspirations in Agenda 2063;

- **Aspiration 3:** An Africa of good governance, democracy, respect for human rights, justice and the rule of law. (Governance-Dev nexus)
- **Aspiration 4:** A peaceful and secure Africa (peace-governance nexus)

## Expanded mandate tasks:

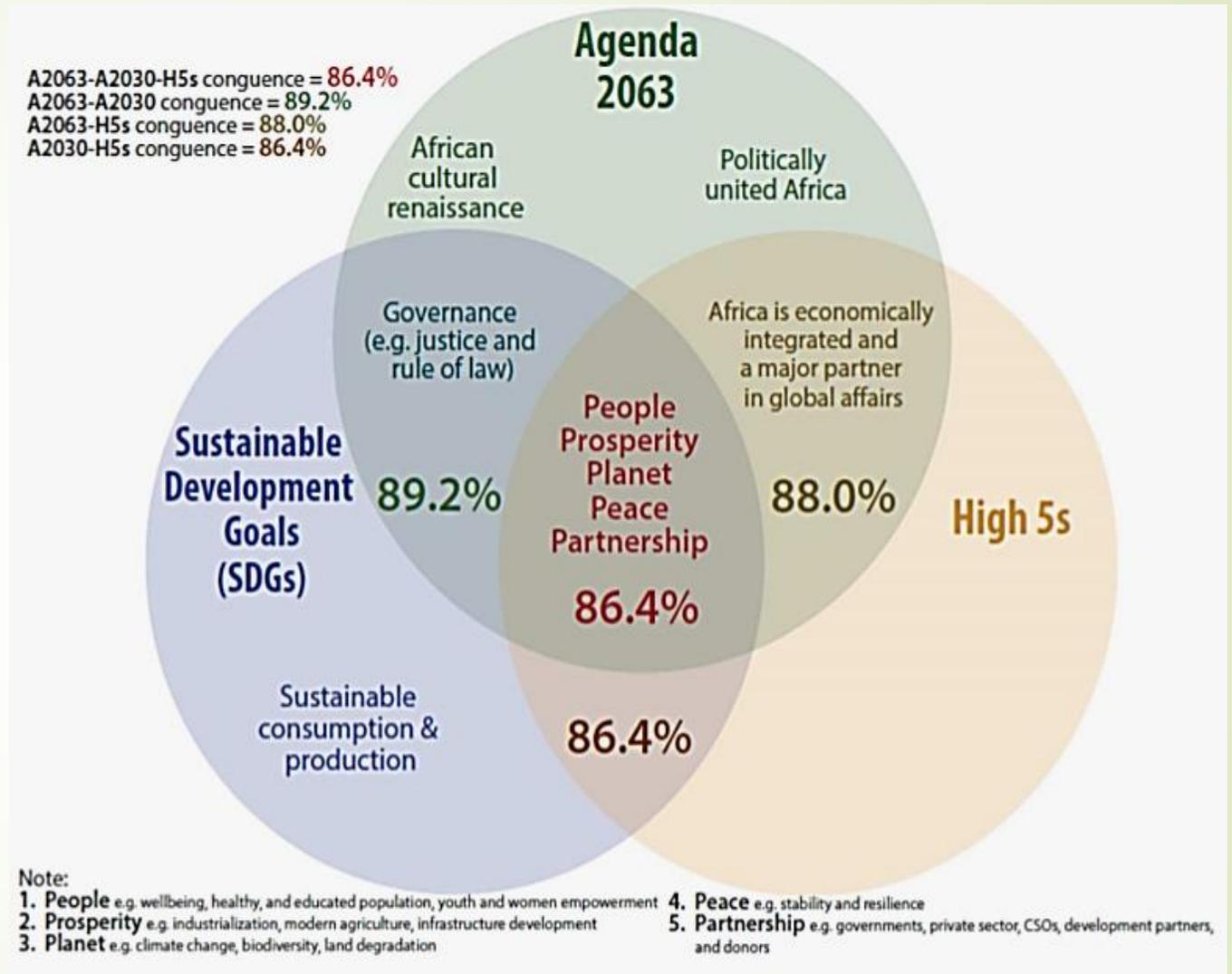
- Widening the APRM approach from the current narrow-minded approach to capture local, homegrown and indigenous knowledge embedded in the African culture .
- Revisiting the APRM questionnaire in sync with current development frameworks including the AU Agenda 2063 and UN Sustainable Development Goals.
- Integrating APRM into national plans, RECs and regional development, including NEPAD and relevant international frameworks for greater coherence.
- **State of implementation of Agenda 2063** ( best practices and countries' experience )

## Collaboration with other AU Agencies for the implementation of SDG 16/Aspiration 3 &4

➤ Ensuring the implementation of 'domestication' policies by AU MSs to translate SDGs into National Development plans with oriented and based-evidence outcomes.

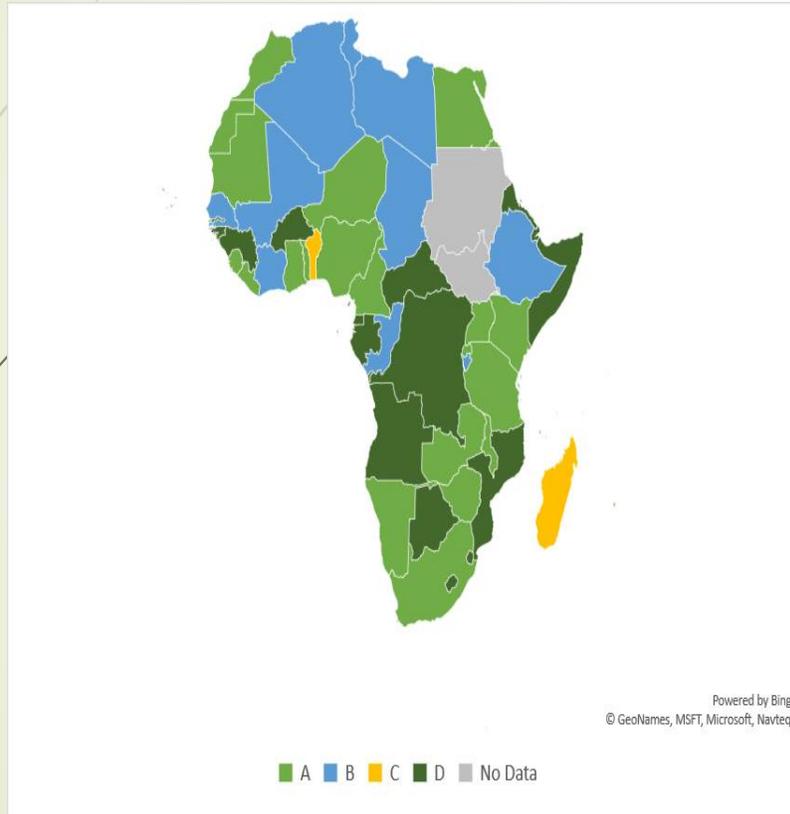
➤ AFSDR 2018:

*“ Numerous methodological issues, political challenges, as well as practical and implementation issues around data collection and statistical capacity in governance, that if not addressed may undermine the achievement of the goal”*



## SDG 16: State of Play in Africa

Status of NHRIs Compliance with the Paris Principles 2017



- Data collecting instruments and systems must be developed at the country level to ensure that most of the indicators are covered
- The use of secondary and public-domain data should be enhanced
- Develop a realistic and accurate assessment of the volumes and sources of Illicit Financial Flows;
- Gain concrete understanding of how IFFs occur in Africa, based on case studies of a sample of African countries and;
- Ensure that specific recommendations of practical, realistic, short- to medium-term actions that should be taken both by Africa and by the rest of the world to effectively confront what is in fact an IFF global challenge.



## Remarks from certain focused-group meetings on the implementation of SDG 16

- ▶ While there is overall agreement that progress is being achieved in many areas related to the SDGs and their targets, many expressed alarm that we still have a long way to go to reach the Goals, **and little time left for action.**
- ▶ Many countries have been **exposed to extreme shocks** in recent years—commodity price volatility, droughts, floods, conflict, famine, and epidemics of disease that have weakened their ability to make progress
- ▶ Currently, **data availability, accuracy and collection** persists challenge at the national level to properly measure SDG 16 in a cross-country comparable way. Many countries covering a significant proportion of the global population do not have the requisite data nor capacity to understand whether their citizens have adequate access to justice and strong institutions or live in peaceful contexts.



## *'Africa Governance Report: Promoting African shared values', in collaboration with AGA.*

- ▶ Within the collaboration with AGA, the APRM for the first times drafted Africa's Governance Report which has been welcomed by heads of states at the 32<sup>nd</sup> Ordinary Summit of the Assembly of Heads of States of the African Union on Feb 9-11, in Addis Ababa
- ▶ Serious consultations with member states and a short questionnaire have been conducted to conclude the report
- ▶ The AGR is an outcome of the collaboration of the APRM with other organs and institutions of the AU. The APRM was requested to take the lead in developing the report at a retreat of the AGA Platform held in March 2018
- ▶ Initial step to enhance the quality of '**home-made**' publications on the state of play in relevance to economic, political and social developments in the continent
- ▶ 4 Chapters ; Transformative leadership, **Development-Gov nexus**, Peace, Security and Role of RECs .

# AGR Recommendations

**Transformative leadership:** Member States should better align their National Visions with AU Agenda 2063, and UN SDGs and African Leaders should endeavor to end all forms of discrimination and exclusion

**Constitutionalism:** the team of experts acknowledged that many MSs had enacted constitutions with bills of rights and established mechanisms for the realization of these rights and they have also found institutional checks and balances, including systems of judicial review. However, numerous constraints and challenges still require action. Thus, MSs are urged to establish mechanisms to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of their integrity and anticorruption programs and strategies, and consistently submitting the periodic reports required by the instruments they have ratified.

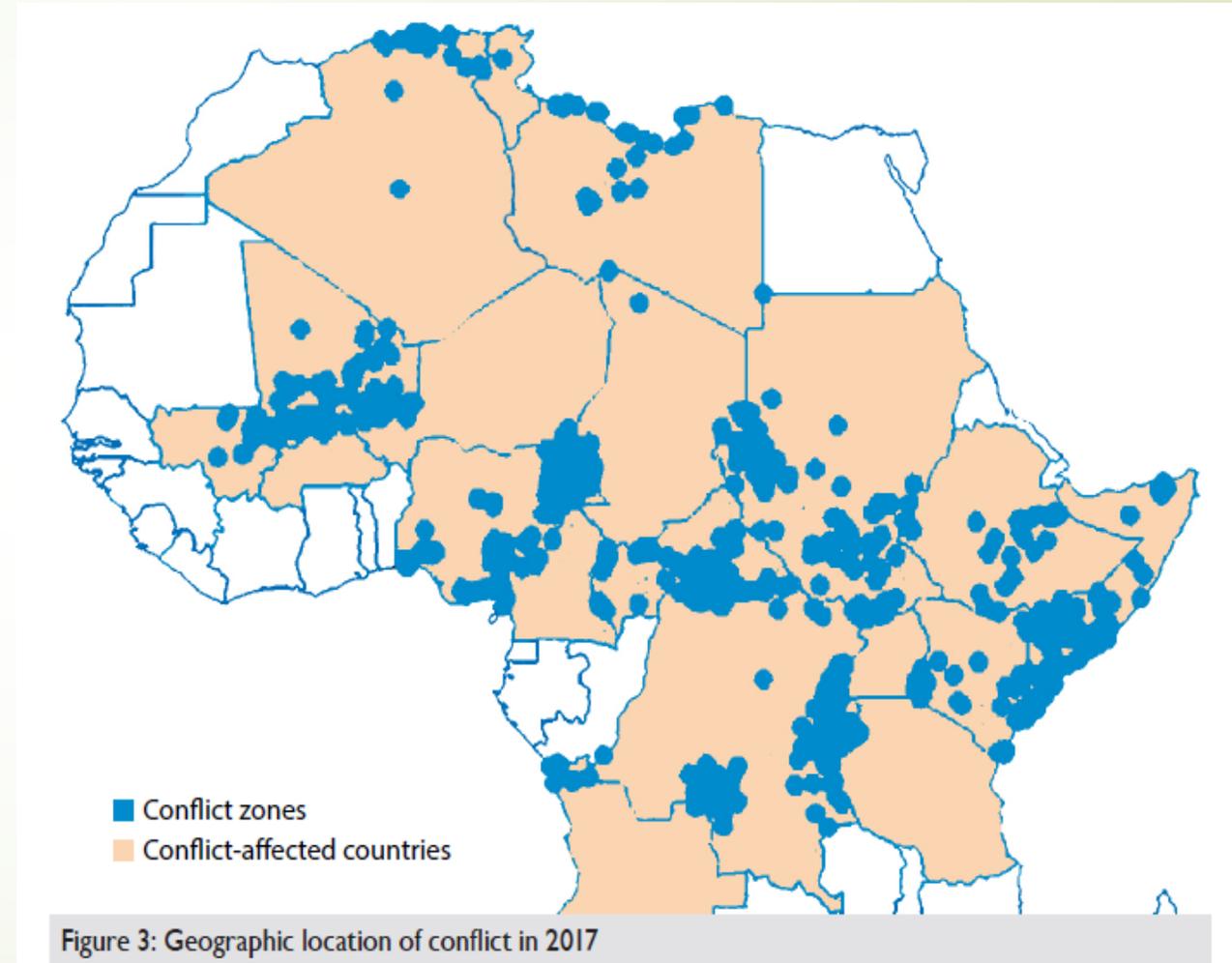
**Development-governance nexus:** we realized that AU MSs formulate National Development Plans (NDPs) that aim to translate National Visions into programs and projects to ensure national development and social and human progress. However, the implementation of these plans faces several obstacles and challenges, including poor alignment with AU Agenda 2063 and UN SDGs. Thus, we set recommendation that AU MSs align their NDPs with AU Agenda 2063 and UN SDGs, make plans and programs that aim at inclusive human development and formulate realistic plans that ensure prudent and sustainable utilization of scarce resources.

**On Peace and Security,** it was encouraging that that several RECs have established functioning early warning data collection and analysis systems. Although the number of large-scale inter-state wars has declined, instances of intra-state conflicts, violence, unrest, and terrorism have increased in the last two decades. Therefore, we Member States should sign, ratify and domesticate all the relevant AU instruments and encourage Harmonization of the functions of the AU and the RECs to avoid overlaps of duties and functions.

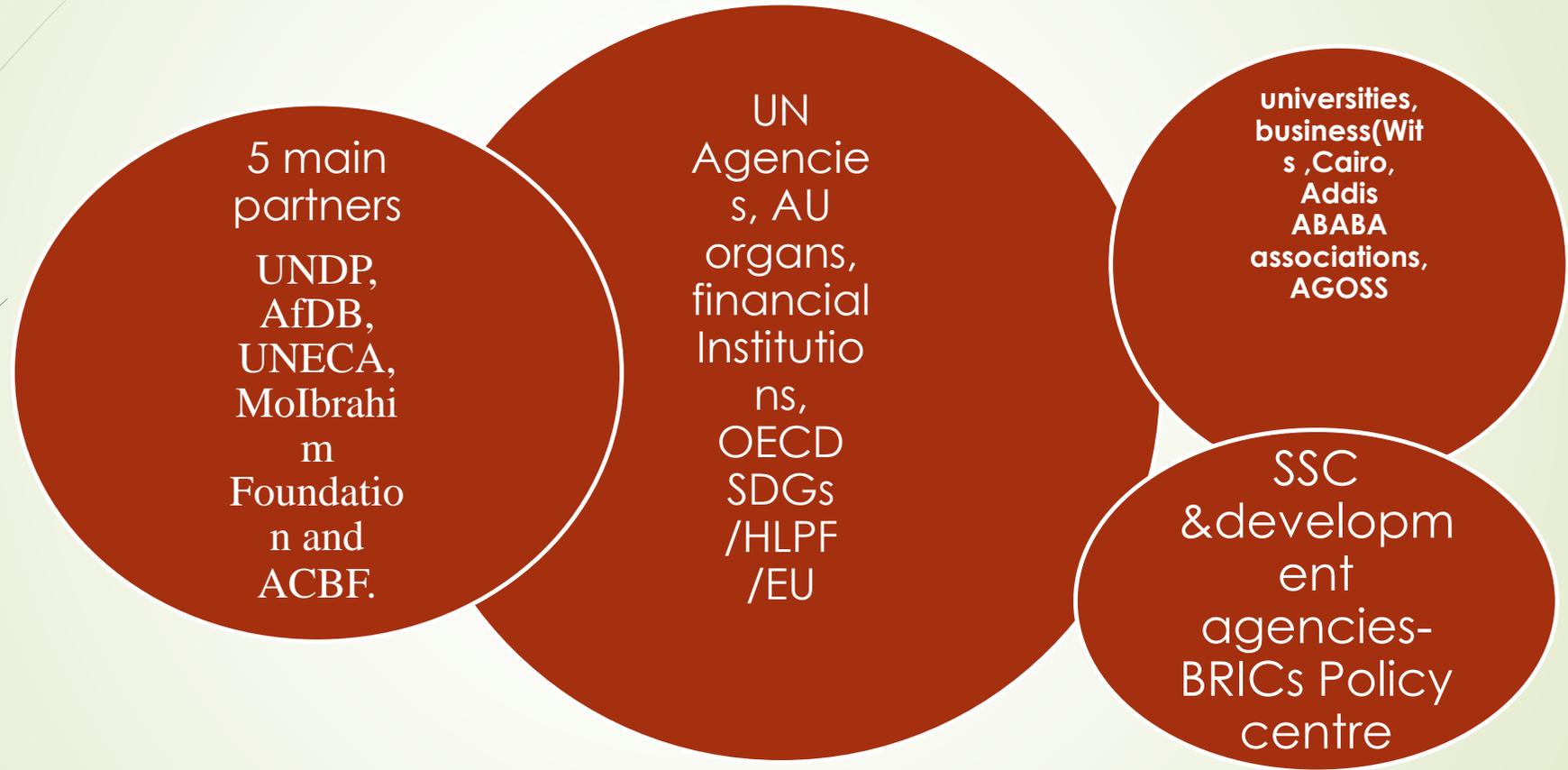


## APRM's contribution to "Silencing the guns" by 2020

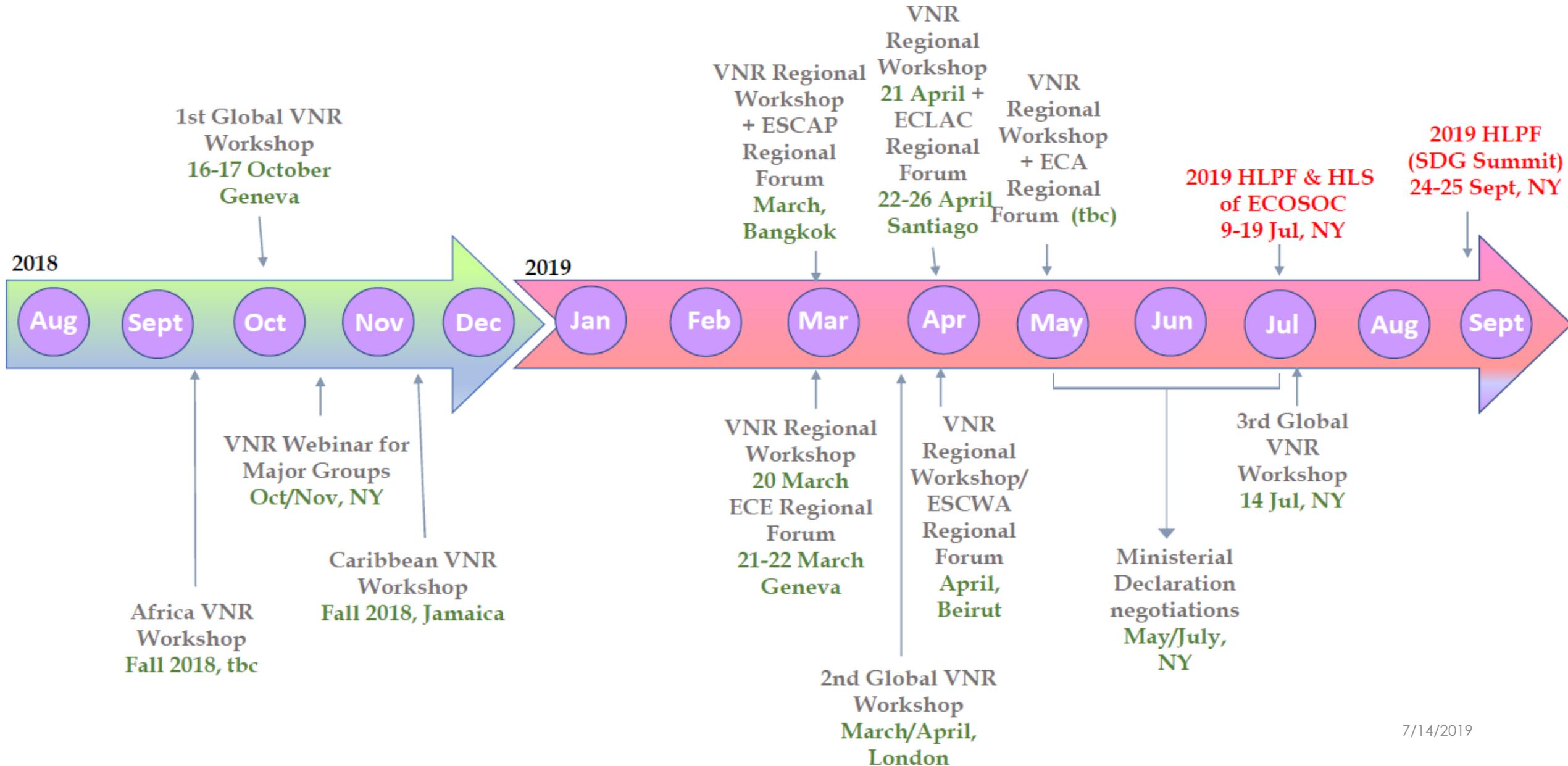
- High-Level Retreat of Special Envoys and Mediators on the promotion of peace, security and stability in Africa, Sharm El-Sheikh 2016
  - AU commission, Egypt, (CCCPA), APRM
- African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA) Roadmap 2016-2020 (leading role in mediation



## Partnerships with Pan AU organs & other institutions ; inclusiveness and partnerships



# HLPF 2019 Global Timeline



# Africa Timeline for 2019 HLPF VNR



## APRM-Addis Ababa Technical workshop, October 2018

### governance-VNRs Related issues

- ▶ The challenges involved in the convergence between governments and the relevant stakeholder actors; the lack of the quality and availability of data availability especially on gender, environment and resources;
- ▶ The challenges linked to accurate reporting, which are aligned to the goals and targets of the implementation of SDGs and the lack of capacity building and development tools, particularly related to updated statistics and information systems;
- ▶ The challenges of classification of upper middle-income countries for the access of development aid based;
- ▶ The importance of ensuring inclusivity in the process of the implementation and reporting of SD goals and targets;
- ▶ Governments need to develop more coordinated process and plans for the reporting on the VNRs; partnerships with NGOs and governance institutions play critical role in are critical in areas of knowledge development processes, capacity building, dialogue platforms and information sharing;
- ▶ The need to attend to the complex dynamic of targets for policy development through ownership and inclusive stakeholder engagement;
- ▶ The important of mobilising funds for implementation programmes for Agenda 2063 and 2030.

*“The APRM remains the premier home-grown, African good governance tool conceived in 2003 and voluntarily acceded to by thirty-seven (37) Member States, representing 69% of AU Member States, more than half of whom, twenty-one (21), have”*

*AU assembly Decision, 32nd AU summit, Feb 2019*

THANK YOU!

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