



INTERNATIONAL TURKISH - AFRICAN CONGRESS

TRADE, INVESTMENT AND COMPETITION IN AFRICA: NEW OPPORTUNITIES





STRATEGIC VISION DOCUMENT (DRAFT)

10TH INTERNATIONAL TURKISH - AFRICAN CONGRESS

“Trade, Investment and Competition in Africa: New Opportunities”

(19-21 November 2015, Dakar - Senegal)

INTRODUCTION

Africa, which is called the “rising continent” in the last couple years due to its development rate, becomes prominent as “a competitive field” in 21st century, based on various factors such as successful economic performance, investment flows and strategic partnerships.

Six Sub-Saharan African countries are among the ten World’s fastest growing economies, while African economy has been growing at an average annual rate of 5% in last decade. In the medium term, Africa is expected to grow stably, while growth is estimated at 4.8% in 2014 and anticipated at 5.7% in 2015. Expansions, in Africa, of rising economic powers like People’s Republic of China, India, Brazil, Republic of Korea and Republic of Turkey supported sustainable economic growth, and partnerships are deepening year by year.

Africa is also a part of the target market of BRIC, which is constituted by developing countries. It is predicted that trading volume between BRIC and Africa will be 500 billion dollars in 2015, while it was 340 billion dollars in 2012. Conventional powers like USA, EU and Japan are revising their Africa policies as a reflection of moves of these growing actors. Last year Japan and this year USA and EU resolved declared to strengthen their partnerships with Africa in Declarations adopted at the end of their respective summits with African countries.

Although instable political environment, security threats, insufficient infrastructure and problems in legal regulations pose a risk to the investments, today substantial number of countries has high investment potential depending upon accelerating regulations. For instance, in 2014, 32 Africa countries promulgated 71 economic reforms that help to ease trade within the boundaries. Those countries provide trade and investment opportunities for the world thanks to their developing economies, young population, rising middle class, increasing domestic demand, natural resources and urbanization movements.





As a matter of fact, increase in amount of foreign direct investment (FDI) and numbers of investors confirm development in business climate and trust. World Bank stated that Africa is “much like China was 30 years ago, and India 20 years ago” referring to Africa’s potential of foreign direct investment. Moreover, statements of various statesmen are remarkable. At the 5th Tokyo Africa Development Conference, Prime Minister of Japan Shinzo Abe expressed to Japanese entrepreneurs that “it is time to invest in Africa”, while the former Minister of Foreign Affairs of People’s Republic of China Yang Jiechi called Africa as a “golden field” for foreign investors.

Last August during the Business Forum as a part of USA – Africa Leaders Summit, USA President Barack Obama’s supportive positive messages about trade and investment in Africa bring positive results for American investors. Annually organized Africa Business Forums and sectorial events, particularly “World Economic Forum on Africa”, are increased significantly, while nowadays business forums are irreplaceable parts of summits.

In addition to reforms by African administrations, works of regional economic communities are also playing important role in development. Those communities invited private entrepreneurs to invest by creating larger scaled markets, providing incentive policies, and preparing detailed investment reports on sectors.

Especially large scaled markets that are generated by Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), East African Community (EAC), Southern African Development Community (SADC), Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) make foreign direct investment attractive. Besides, investment in Africa has higher return than the rest of the world due to high commodity prices. Also, Africa50 Fund, which is constituted by African Development Bank, will finance 100 billion dollars projects for infrastructure investment with 10 billion dollars initial capital.

Furthermore, today foreign investors implement their own decisions bravely, whereas they carried on a business in African market depending on their own government’s incentives. For example, according to China’s Ministry of Commerce at the end of 2011 there were 1.586 active investment projects in Sub-Saharan Africa, while there were just 52 active investment projects few years back. Similarly, today there are 341 Turkish companies in Ethiopia, while there was just one Turkish company in 2005.

Turkey, which becomes remarkable due to its comprehensive Africa expansion, strengthened its political, economic and cultural relations with Africa, and Africa has an important position in





globalized Turkish foreign affairs. Reciprocally increased number of diplomatic representations, high level visits, developments in transportation, favorable progress in commerce and investment are outstanding points in Turkish - African relations. In upcoming period, Turkey, as a strategic partner of African Union and a member of African Development Bank, is targeting to improve and develop its relations established before.

Within the context of those events, the **10th International Turkish - African Congress** with the theme of **“Trade, Investment and Competition in Africa: New Opportunities”** will bring a large number of experts together, and becomes a platform for exchanging views on opportunities in Africa.

MEETING

10TH INTERNATIONAL TURKISH - AFRICAN CONGRESS

“Trade, Investment and Competition in Africa: New Opportunities”

TOPIC

Congress will discuss investment and trade potential of Africa, cooperation opportunities and general competitive outlook of the continent in detail with participation of distinguished local and foreign delegates.

COORDINATOR

Coordinator institution of meeting is **TASAM African Institute**.

The Institute, which is founded by Turkish Asian Center for Strategic Studies TASAM, designs the projects of researches and studies in the national and international level on its working field that are needed by our country, makes realist predictions and puts those predictions in writing like comment, article, report, and book; and approaches issues with various and constructive way while actualizing its predictions.





SCOPE

Infrastructure and Construction Business
Banking and Finance
Technology of Information and Communication
Environment and Health
Energy
Food and Agriculture
Petroleum and Natural Gas
Mining and Metal
Textile
Telecommunication
Trade and Investment
Tourism
Transportation and Logistic

TARGETS

- Discussing investment circumstances and provided incentives in Africa
- Gathering information about tenders, bidding process, and provided supports for SMEs
- Gathering information about prominent countries, cities and sectors in trade and investment
- Direct communication with decision-makers
- Comprehensive opportunity/risk analysis on trade and investment
- Establishing a ground for new business partnerships with local and foreign investors of Africa
- Sharing success stories of African local entrepreneurs and foreign investors
- Discussing outcomes of 2nd Turkey – Africa Cooperation Summit and new roadmap
- Shedding light on competition on Africa





REASONS FOR PARTICIPATION

- Getting current information about Africa's trade and investment
- Accessing detailed information about investment circumstances and provided incentives of target market
- Obtaining information about political stability, security profile, ease of doing business, investment insurance, protection of foreign investors, performance of logistic, and international transparency indicators
- Holding consultation with foreign investors in Africa
- Obtaining information about investor profiles and distribution of investments of regional markets
- Obtaining information about investment reforms and future vision of countries and regional economic communities.

PARTICIPANT PROFILE

- International Organizations
- Regional Economic Communities and Expert Institutions
- Exclusive Economic Zones and Investment Incentive Agencies
- Chambers of Commerce and Industry
- Local and Foreign Entrepreneurs
- Finance Institutions
- African Diaspora
- Ministries and Public Institutions
- Consultancy Institutions
- Media Members and Researchers

Protocol

- Protocol
- Bureaucrats
- Members of Foreign Diplomatic Representations





PROGRAMME (DRAFT)

Opening Speeches

1st Session: "Africa's Economic Outlook"

2nd Session: "Trade in Africa"

3rd Session: "Africa's Investment Map and Sectorial Distribution"

4th Session: "Africa's Competitive Outlook"

5th Session: "Turkey - Africa Relations: Opportunities and Expectations"

FINAL DECLARATION AND BOOK

A Final Declaration and a Book will be published to make generated information, data, and considerations during 10th International Turkish - African Congress permanent. Publications will be delivered to related institutions and authorities like other congresses.

