



Proceedings of the 2020 high-level meeting of the alsf and its
participating states and organizations

**THEME: ALSF AFTER 10 YEARS:
facilitating investment and
maximizing resources for national
development**

Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, 26 to 27 February 2020

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1 – Summary of the high-level meeting of the ALSF participating states and organizations

The African Legal Support Facility (“ALSF” or “Facility”) was established in 2008 to strengthen the legal capacities of the African governments to negotiate and conclude equitable and sustainable agreements that deliver maximum economic value to African countries and protect their sovereign rights.

Today, the ALSF continues to deliver on its mandate. Its interventions are increasing access to affordable, reliable sustainable and modern energy; promoting sustainable economic growth, productive employment and decent work; and building resilient infrastructure and promoting inclusive and sustainable industrialization and fostering innovation in Africa. To consolidate the gains, sustain the results, and support and guide the future ALSF activities, at an informal meeting of the Regional Member Countries (RMCs) in Accra, Ghana on 14 February 2019, the participants requested the Facility to organize a High Level Meeting of its Participating States and Organizations (HLM) to discuss the future and sustainability of the ALSF.

The HLM was held under the theme: “ALSF After 10 Years: Facilitating investment and maximizing resources for national development”. The main objectives of the HLM were to:

- Take stock of the achievements of the ALSF and the evolution of the needs of its RMCs;
- Discuss the extension of the mandate of the ALSF post-2022 and its strategic positioning;
- Discuss issues concerning the ALSF’s financial sustainability and contributions from RMCs;
- Build consensus and provide recommendations for consideration and approval by the ALSF Management Board and Governing Council; and
- Follow up with the 22 African countries that are yet to ratify the ALSF Treaty.

All the 60 members of the ALSF were invited to the HLM, viz. 48 RMCs, 5 Non-RMCs, and 7 International Organizations. The HLM was attended by 47 delegations comprising 32 delegations from African States, 6 International Organizations, 8 current and former ALSF Management Board and Governing Council members and a former General Counsel of the African Development Bank Group (AfDB).

On the margins of the event, the “ALSF Academy” hosted sessions for 40 African lawyers from various law firms across the continent as well as for the participants in the HLM.

The HLM ended with the ALSF members recommending that the life of the Facility should be extended, and that RMCs should contribute to the resources of the Facility.

2 - Introduction

Established in 2008, the ALSF is an international organization hosted by the AfDB in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire. Since it began operations in 2010, the Facility has provided African countries with financial resources to obtain high quality legal assistance to: negotiate and conclude equitable and sustainable complex commercial transactions; litigate vulture fund claims and address other sovereign debt issues; and build relevant legal and technical capacities of African lawyers and government officials.

By the end of 2019, the ALSF had cumulatively approved over USD 90 million for 256 operations across the continent. These interventions have helped African countries to improve litigation outcomes, make significant savings, develop relevant critical infrastructure to enhance their comparative advantage and negotiate and conclude equitable and sustainable commercial agreements that deliver maximum economic and development value to the respective countries and citizens, and the continent as a whole.

Similarly, the ALSF membership expanded from 30 members in 2008 to 60 members in 2019, comprising 53 countries and 7 international organizations. The recognition of the ALSF as a valuable development partner is also growing in Africa and globally. Accordingly, the demand for the ALSF's services has increased, and its membership has expanded. However, development challenges in the legal sector are complex and inter-related, and persist in Africa. Building the legal capacity of African professionals and governments remains an indispensable requirement for sustainable development on the continent.

Cognizant of the relevance and impact of the ALSF, at the informal meeting in Accra, Ghana on 14 February 2019, the RMCs requested the Facility to organize a High Level Meeting (HLM) to discuss long-term sustainability of the results achieved so far. On the margins of this HLM, the ALSF under the auspices of the ALSF Academy will also train participants from African Law firms and senior government officials on matters pertaining to:

- Sovereign debt: bond issues and financing agreements.
- Oil and gas sector: production sharing agreements and social and environmental considerations.
- Settlement of disputes: the management of disputes and the tools necessary for their resolution.

In response to this request, in November 2019, the ALSF Management Board approved the relevant concept note to hold the HLM. The main purpose of the event was to discuss the future of the ALSF and the expansion of its membership, as well as ways to encourage member countries to make financial contributions towards the sustainability the ALSF. The HLM took place on 26 February 2020 at the Radisson Blu Hotel, in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire. The theme of the event was "ALSF After 10 years: Facilitating investment and maximizing resources for national development".

The event also provided opportunity for bilateral meetings between ALSF staff and some African countries to discuss on-going and potential projects and membership formalities. This document mainly reports on the sessions, presentations, participants' inputs and recommendations from the HLM.

3 – Opening ceremony of the event

The Opening Session of the ALSF High Level Meeting was attended by many dignitaries that provide leadership in their various countries, and also contribute to the efforts to fill the existing gaps in the legal and technical capacities to negotiate commercial and related sovereign transactions in Africa. These included 4 Ministers: Hon. Mambury Njie (Minister of Finance and Economic Affairs, The Gambia); Hon. Aboua Maouloud Moussa Tareb (Minister of Small Enterprises, Handicrafts and Informal Sector, Central African Republic); Hon. Tomásia Manjuba, Secretary of State for Regional Planning and Integration (Ministry of Economy and Finance, Guinea-Bissau); and Hon Abdullahi Sheikh Ali (Deputy Minister of Finance, Somalia).

The Director and CEO of the ALSF, Mr. Stephen Karangizi, welcomed the participants to the HLM with an address. This was followed by a speech from Dr. Gaston Kenfack Douajni, the Chairman of the ALSF Management Board. Finally Ms. Dilys Asuagbor delivered a statement on behalf of Dr. Godfred Penn, General Counsel and Director of the Legal Services Department of the African Development Bank. Below are the speeches and statements delivered at the opening ceremony of the HLM.

Statement by **M. Stephen Karangizi,** Director and Chief Executive Officer, ALSF

Excellencies,

Mr. Chairman, Dr. **Gaston Kenfack Douajni,**

The General Counsel of the AfDB, **Mr. Godfred Awa Eddy Penn,**

Distinguished delegates,

Dear colleagues,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my pleasure to extend a very warm welcome to all of you at the High-Level Meeting of the African Legal Support Facility and its Participating States and Organizations today. I am also delighted to acknowledge the participation of Ministers and other high-level participants from Africa, as well as lawyers from across Africa participating in our ALSF Academy being organized on the sidelines of this High Level Meeting.

As an international organization, we have been very blessed to have a versatile and knowledgeable Management Board to guide our activities, and I take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to them for all their hard work. I would also like to thank the Chairperson, Dr. Gaston Kenfack Douajni, for his leadership, particularly in the lead up to this High Level Meeting.

As the Facility prepares to take stock of the progress made in the past 10 years and set its the development agenda for post-2022, this high level meeting is an opportunity to reflect on the lessons learnt and what can be improved for the future. In this context, the high-level deliberations and discussions today offer the opportunity to consider how to integrate the recommendations from this meeting into the post-2022 development agenda. These reflections are important not only for the Participating States and for Organizations, but for our Governing Council to consider in the extension of the mandate of the Facility.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

We cannot over-emphasize the transformative potential of legal capacity and skills in the path towards sustainable economic development. As far back as 2003, African Ministers of Finance called for the establishment of a legal technical facility to assist the so-called Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPCs). The African Ministers of Finance acknowledged the link between poorly negotiated contracts and indebtedness of their countries and repeated the call in 2007, during the African Big Table, for assistance in negotiating complex commercial transactions, especially in relation to extractive resources. As we all know, the African Development Bank heeded these calls in 2008 by establishing the African Legal Support Facility.

Since it began its operations in 2010, the Facility has dedicated its efforts to providing legal advice and capacity building to African countries on vulture fund litigation, complex commercial negotiations and related sovereign transactions. Moreover, since the Facility became an international organization in 2012, it has become the go-to specialized organization for the African Development Bank and its member states when it comes to issues of complex commercial and related sovereign transactions.

As the African Development Bank continues to support African countries to achieve the High 5s, the AU's Agenda 2063, and the Sustainable Development Goals, the Facility's role in providing legal support and building the legal capacities of both government officials and private practitioners in the continent to deliver these aspirations is pertinent.

The quality of a country's legal and regulatory set up remains a major determinant in its ability to attract or benefit from foreign direct investments. This is especially important in areas such as the extractives sectors that are usually long term and require patient capital. The prudent management of sovereign debt also remains crucial as it may derail the development agenda of an economy. Quality infrastructure, including investments in the power sector, remains vital to the growing economies in Africa. The Facility supports all these sectors individually but recognizes their interconnectedness.

While the Facility acknowledges the role of the law in developing the continent, we also recognize the dearth of legal capacity to facilitate such development. It is through unfair contract terms that our economies continue to be faced with challenges such as illicit financial flows, projects that end up degrading our environments, and extractives sectors that are yet to fully benefit our economies. Thus, to have rising incomes, reduce poverty, and have productive investments leading to inclusive economic development in Africa, there is still urgent need for capacity building in the legal sector.

Therefore, in our high-level discussions today, I encourage the participants to discuss the multifaceted role the law can play in facilitating investment and maximizing resources for national development. Of particular relevance will be finding innovative ways to finance the activities of the Facility in order to intensify and broaden the support it offers to its beneficiaries. The recommendations from our discussions today will be important for the Facility post-2022 and would inform the Governing Council decision on the extension of the current mandate of the Facility.

In preparation for these discussions, the Facility prepared a background note on the high-level meeting that was shared with all the participants. The background note discusses the activities of the Facility and makes recommendations on the main points of discussion of this high-level meeting in the post-2022 context, for your consideration.

Looking ahead, the Facility will continue to assist its Participating States and Organizations on vulture fund litigation, complex commercial negotiations, and related sovereign transactions. We will continue to collaborate with our development partners and related organizations to leverage on development gains.

Let me end by thanking our cooperating partners who have continued to provide us with the funding necessary to meet the requests of our beneficiaries. This includes the AfDB; and special thanks to the President, Dr. Akinwumi Adesina who has become our biggest champion. Further gratitude goes to the Chairman and members of the Governing Council, especially the retiring and outgoing Chairperson, Mr Charles Boamah, who we will be honouring tomorrow for his dedicated service to the Facility.

Finally, I cannot end without mentioning the incredible team at the Facility, whose commitment and zeal have been instrumental to the successes of the Facility. I am positive that the discussions by all the participants in this meeting will contribute immensely to the work of the Facility. I will therefore end by wishing you all a very productive discussion.

Thank you.

Statement by **Dr. Gaston Kenfack Douajni**, Director of Legislation at the Ministry of Justice in Cameroon and Chairman of the ALSF Management Board

Excellencies,
The General Counsel of the African Development Bank,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure to be in Abidjan on the 10th anniversary since the African Legal Support Facility commenced operations. On behalf of the Management Board, I would like to thank the Ministers and the Distinguished Delegates who have accepted our invitation to participate in this important meeting.

Close to ten years ago, in March 2010, the Facility began its operations. Today, the Facility has sixty members comprising of fifty-three countries and seven international organizations. Twenty-six African countries have signed and ratified our Treaty and twenty-two African countries have signed but not ratified our Treaty. Only six countries in Africa are yet to sign, ratify, or accede to our Treaty, but I remain confident that they shall do so after our meeting today.

Anniversaries always present an opportunity to look back. What have we achieved in the past ten years? As the Chair of the Management Board which approves project proposals based on requests from our beneficiaries, I can proudly say a lot. Thanks to the work done by the Facility, governments have passed new legal frameworks to facilitate investments and maximize resources for their national development. Government officials have benefited immensely from the capacity building activities and improved their negotiating skills. Thus, the Facility has taken a major step forward towards creating a level playing field between governments and investors by enhancing the skills and capacity of the African legal industry.

The Facility continues to place a strong emphasis in the monitoring and evaluation of its projects. Impact is what counts for our people. Lifting millions out of poverty, ensuring that there are meaningful jobs for our youth, and supporting African countries in maximizing their mineral resource benefits with interventions closely aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals and the African Union 2063 Agenda. The projects of the Facility have increased from less than 10 in 2010 to 192 cumulatively approved operations by the end of 2018. We had 46 new projects for the year 2018 alone, and the Facility approved an additional 52 operations in 2019.

While we are excited by what we have achieved, it is fair to say that we still have a long way to go. The impact from the results of the past ten years should not lead to complacency. There is still a long way to go considering that one in three Africans—422 million people—still live below the global poverty line. This represents more than 70 percent of the world's poorest people. Much more needs to be done. We need to continue providing legal support to projects addressing the energy poverty and infrastructure gap in Africa.

We need to continue being proactive in seeking out new projects to support our beneficiaries. Risks still exist in sovereign debts issues in the continent and constant engagement is the best strategy to avoid going back to “business as usual”. We not only need the practical measures being implemented by the Facility in the economies of its beneficiaries, we also need political commitment from our beneficiaries to support the Facility.

We need to explore new legal areas like arbitration to include in our development toolkits for our beneficiaries. The development of the skill set of our legal sector in the continent needs to be nurtured from our law schools. In a highly competitive global legal market that increasingly favors the most competent legal practitioners, it is high time to update our curriculum in our law schools. We cannot risk being left behind as this puts our sustainable development potential at stake.

Your presence here is a strong political signal of appreciation of the impact of the work done by the Facility. The presence of all the representatives of the Participating States and International Organizations also demonstrates willingness to further support the vision and mission of the Facility post-2022. And we are extremely grateful and motivated by your support.

Allow me to use this opportunity to also commend the innovation and industry of the ALSF team, under the able leadership of its Director, Mr. Stephen Karangizi. Given what they have achieved in such a short time, I am confident that your support will enable the ALSF to continue to have a positive impact on the continent.

In conclusion, I will say that we have many reasons to celebrate today and use this high-level meeting as an occasion to plan for the next ten years. The second decade of the Facility’s journey should be one of collaboration and of political commitment. After the next ten years, I hope, we will need a much bigger room to accommodate all the Participating States and International Organizations and our success stories will be even more impressive than they are today.

I wish you all fruitful deliberations.

Statement on behalf of AfDB General Counsel at the ALSF 2020 High-Level Meeting Forum, delivered by

Mme Dilys Asuagbor, Principal Legal Counsel, AfDB

Honourable Ministers, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In recognition of the special relationship between the ALSF and the Office of the General Counsel of the African Development Bank Group, the General Counsel of the Bank Group was invited to make a statement during this opening ceremony. Unfortunately, the General Counsel is unavoidably absent and has requested that I deliver this statement on his behalf. As a lawyer in the front office of the General Counsel's Office, I have witnessed first-hand the fruitful and collaborative relationship between the ALSF, and the General Counsel's Office and I am well suited to deliver Dr. Godfred Penn's statement.

Dr. Penn is honoured and pleased to speak to you this morning because of special place reserved for the ALSF in his heart. Over a decade ago he was handed the interesting task of drafting the constitutive instruments of an institution dedicated to providing legal advice and technical assistance to African countries in the negotiation of complex commercial transactions, creditor litigation and other related sovereign transactions.

Ladies and Gentlemen, kindly permit me to go back in time. In the year 2001, the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the African Development Fund developed a Bank Group Strategy Paper on Law for Development. The focus of this paper was on how to use the law as a tool to help foster economic development. At the time, the AfDB already had on its agenda the conception of the African Legal Support Facility (ALSF), an institution that would provide technical assistance to Regional Member Countries (RMC) for projects where the Regional Member Countries lacked capacity or where the Bank group itself was unable to provide the required legal services. The Bank understood that issues relating to the enabling of economies for better private sector participation affected economic growth and the ability of countries to attract investments.

During the same period, a scourge was threatening the African countries – vulture funds were purchasing distressed debt at a steep discount and refusing to partake in restructuring in order to pursue full value of the debt. To achieve profit from this machinery, the vulture funds used several methods such as creditor litigation against Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC)s creating a major hurdle for these Countries' Initiatives on debt relief. This meant that African Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC)s were not benefiting from the value of debt relief.

By the year 2003 African legal stakeholders were united and determined to tackle legal issues on the continent. In Abuja, at the All Africa Conference on Law, Justice and Development, a declaration was signed by the Coalition of African Jurists. This was known as the Abuja Declaration on Law, Justice and Development.

The Declaration proclaimed that “the rule of law and the dispensation of equitable justice are the cornerstones for democracy and sustainable development” and that “the provision of adequate resources is essential for safeguarding the rule of law and justice”. During that same period the African Finance Ministers made a call for the rapid establishment of a legal technical assistance facility to help Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) in Africa face the threat of creditor litigation by vulture funds.

The African countries lacked expertise and capacity in creditor litigation and in negotiations of complex commercial transactions, and their ability to acquire such expertise and capacity was constrained by financial and institutional limitations. In 2007, during a meeting at the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, the Ministers of Finance called for a facility that would assist in negotiating complex commercial transactions and agreements.

Dr. Penn would have you know at that, after drafting and redrafting the ALSF constitutive instruments for months with crucial input from the Boards of Directors of the African Development Bank and the African Development Fund, the initial member countries and the contributing organizations of the ALSF met in Tunis in July 2009. This was a very tasking period as the financial crisis was taking a toll and they were all working frantically towards the Sixth General Capital Increase of the African Development Bank and the Eleventh Replenishment of the African Development Fund. It was what Dr. Penn describes as “a baptism of fire” that saw quite a few of them, juggling several balls in the air to keep things afloat legally for all of these initiatives.” Having myself worked recently on the Seventh General Capital Increase of the Bank and the Fifteenth Replenishment of the Fund, I can imagine how intense it must have been back then with the competing and very important priorities.

The tough times resulted in good news for African Countries. The ALSF “was born”. Since the start of its operations in 2010, the Facility has successfully contributed in enhancing the legal capacity on the continent as so well stated by Steve in his opening remarks, providing counsel to African Countries in high stake investments, creditor litigation and complex commercial transactions. The ALSF also provides the continent with increase legal capacity through knowledge and experience sharing. The ALSF Academy continues to contribute enormously in capacity building and training for African government officials, lawyers and other professionals.

Honourable Ministers, Ladies and Gentlemen, today we reflect on the past, but also to think about the future of the ALSF and the future of Africa. In the last decade, the ALSF significantly contributed to building legal capacity in Africa. It would not be possible without the dependable support of its member countries and member organisations. Initially the Facility was to operate for fourteen (14) years, however, after ten (10) years of successful operations – it is clear that we need to continue supporting the ALSF in achieving its mandate and we need to find innovative solutions to increase the financial sustainability of the Facility. This is why the ADF has proposed through the Deputies to its Governors to provide additional resources during the Fifteenth Replenishment cycle of the ADF’s resources to the ALSF. It is our fervent hope that this would galvanize other donors to contribute the much-needed resources to sustain the ALSF’s activities following this stock-taking assembly.

Ladies and Gentlemen, on behalf of the General Counsel of the Bank Group, I wish you all fruitful deliberations.

Thank you all for your kind attention.

4 – High level meeting of the ALSF participating states and international organizations

The HLM started with presentations on the overview of the status of the ALSF Membership and the ALSF Academy for government officials.

4.1 - OVERVIEW OF ALSF MEMBERSHIP

The Corporate Secretary and Head of the Institution Team of the ALSF, Ms. Carmen Freire da Costa, gave an update on the status of the ALSF membership. The presentation highlighted the mandate of the ALSF; its membership at creation; the current state of the ALSF signatories and ratifications; and the importance or benefits of becoming a member of the ALSF.

Establishment and Mandate

- The ALSF was established in 2008 by Treaty and registered in the UN as an International Organization.
- The mandate of the ALSF was to remove asymmetric technical capacities and level the playing field for African countries in terms of legal expertise in complex commercial transactions.

Membership at creation

- There were 30 Signatories in 2008 (i.e. 29 States and 1 International Organization)
- All parties that signed the Agreement before its entry into force automatically became full members of the Facility

Membership today

- 60 Signatories by end of 2019 (i.e. 53 states - 48 African States and 5 Non-regional States - and 7 International Organizations)
- 29 States have provided proof of ratification
- 24 States still need to conclude their internal ratification procedures
- 6 African States still to join the Facility

Importance of concluding ALSF membership procedures

The key benefits for States include:

- Right to participate in the Governance of the Facility – a sit in the Governing Council
- Get priority assistance from the ALSF
- Help strengthen an international organization providing African States with critical assistance in complex legal matters

4.2 - THE ALSF ACADEMY

The Principal Legal Counsel of the ALSF, Mr. Thierno Olory-Togbé presented a brief overview on the ALSF Academy. He pointed out that the Academy focuses on developing and training legal practitioners involved in complex commercial transactions as well as African government representatives across the African continent.

The ALSF also partners with organizations involved in legal capacity building activities in Africa such as the African Business Law Firms Association and the International Lawyers for Africa. It also collaborates with national and regional bar associations including the East Africa Law Society and the Southern African Development Community Lawyers Association and International Training Centre in Africa for Francophone Lawyers to put together in-person training programs as well as develop course handbooks for the ALSF Academy.

The Academy targets the best trainers and also allows the participants to benefit from free access to training and relevant resources; building a community of African experts; and secondment of African experts to the ALSF. The ALSF Academy Portal has been designed with the end user in mind—it is easy to navigate which allows as many targeted beneficiaries to access it.

4.3 - DELIBERATIONS ON THE KEY AREAS OF DISCUSSION

To achieve the HLM's main objectives, panel discussions were held in respect of the 3 key areas of discussion. Various stakeholders, including Ministers, Past and present members of the Management Board and Governing Council and a former General Counsel of the Bank participated in these deliberations.

4.3.1 - Panel on Achievements of the ALSF and Evolution of Needs of Members

This first session was moderated by Ms. Christine Agimba, the Deputy Solicitor General of Kenya. The discussion focused on the achievements of the ALSF and evolution of the needs of the ALSF members. The eminent panelists included:

- i. Hon. Amadou Sanneh, Minister of Finance and Economic Affairs, The Gambia
- ii. Mr. Joseph Marko, Consular, Representative of South Sudan
- iii. Mrs. Nimatou Dramane, Director BOAD and Member of the ALSF Management Board
- iv. Mr. Rafique Mahomed, CEO MCEL, Mozambique and Member of the ALSF Management Board

As an introduction to the session, Ms. Maude Vallée, Chief Legal Counsel and Head of Operations of the ALSF highlighted the ALSF operational activities and achievements. She pointed out that the ALSF operations are guided by its current Medium Term Strategy to help African countries complete fair commercial negotiations and agreements, enhance legal capacities, and improve litigation case outcomes and results.

More specifically, the ALSF provides pre-negotiation assistance including review of legal framework, tender process and structuring; negotiation assistance; contract monitoring and implementation; and post-contract negotiations. The interventions of the ALSF also discourage Illicit Financial Flows and promote the use of effective dispute resolution mechanisms.

The Facility capacity building activities focus on real transfer of knowledge and skills development to African lawyers and government officials through customized workshops, seminars, and partnerships. The Facility also develops, collects, and manages knowledge products including practical handbooks, websites with precedents, curricula development, and training platforms.

Notably, by end of 2019, the ALSF had approved 256 operations amounting to over USD 90 million covering 50 African countries. She further highlighted the composition of the ALSF operations by sector and regional distribution and briefly presented selected ALSF notable stories in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Senegal, Lesotho, Gambia, Somalia and Seychelles.

Issues Discussed

Basing on their association with the ALSF and varied experience, the panel highlighted the key achievements of the ALSF; discussed the evolving needs of the RMCs; lessons learnt for both the ALSF and RMCs; the challenges in transitioning states and the extractives sector in Africa; and made recommendations to help the ALSF adequately contribute to achieving inclusive economic development in Africa. In sum, the panel outlined the benefits of the ALSF interventions in their respective countries and elsewhere, as follows:

- Speedy negotiations and conclusion of sustainable and equitable complex commercial infrastructure and extractive agreements;
- More balanced litigation of commercial creditor proceedings;
- Enhanced capacity of African lawyers to negotiate complex commercial deals;
- Increased financial and non-financial benefits for Africa states; and
- Development of knowledge products to fill legal capacity gaps.

Despite these achievements, the panel highlighted some challenges that ought to be addressed. These include:

- Inadequate local legal capacity;
- Improper legal representation;
- Poorly drafted concessions or contracts; and
- Risk of vulture fund litigation increase.

In light of the above, the panellists further observed that the ALSF has had an impact and its interventions remain relevant in the years ahead. Related to this, the panel encouraged the current members of the ALSF to lobby and encourage the RMCs that have not yet joined and (or) ratified the instruments establishing the ALSF to urgently do so. The panel was of the view that the demand of the ALSF services will continue to grow. Meaning the ALSF will continue to provide the top-quality legal advice to negotiate fair and sustainable contracts; build legal capacities of lawyers and government officials; and promote rule of law and encourage good governance; and support environmentally sustainable projects in Africa.

Key Recommendations

This panel made the following recommendations:

- Urgent need for strong commitment from Africa governments to support the ALSF;
- Build strong national institutions to partner with the ALSF in its strategic areas of intervention; and
- Share good or best practices across the continent.

4.3.2 - Panel on Extension of the ALSF Mandate Post 2022 and Strategic Positioning

This Panel was moderated by Mr. Kalidou Gadio, Partner, Corporate and Finance, Manatt, Phelps & Phillips and former General Counsel of the AfDB Group. The distinguished panel comprised a past and current Chairman of the ALSF Management Board, and a former member of the ALSF Governing Council. The panelists were:

- Mr. Seward Montgomery Cooper, Attorney, Copper & Co and former Chairman of the ALSF Management Board.*
- Dr. Gaston Kenfack Douajni, Director of Legislation at the Ministry of Justice in Cameroon and Chairman of the ALSF Management Board.*
- Ms. Mabilia Martine, Adviser at the Ministry of Economy and Finance, Former member of the ALSF Governing Council, Gabon.*

Issues Discussed

The panelists provided the background to the establishment of the ALSF; relevance of the ALSF and proposals of its strategic positioning in the years ahead; and briefly discussed the adequacy of current its financing.

The panel observed that the Facility was initially set up to train RMCs defend themselves against vulture funds and develop capacity to negotiate complex commercial transactions for an initial period of 14 years. However, legally, the ALSF treaty provides for the extension of the mandate by the ALSF Governing Council beyond the initial period.

The panelists also recognized that the ALSF interventions have strengthened the legal and technical capacities in negotiating complex commercial transactions and vulture funds claims have reduced—possibly due to the ALSF operations leveling the legal playing field among contracting parties.

Looking ahead, the ALSF still has a role to play. The creation of the Africa Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA); the recent mineral and oil discoveries across the continent; the infrastructure deficit; illicit financial flows; and the growing demand of ALSF services in Africa, all indicate that the operations of the Facility will remain relevant for the years to come.

Key Recommendations

- Extend the mandate of the ALSF;
- Provide strong financial support to the ALSF by African governments;
- Strengthen the ALSF's work on bilateral investment treaties and agreements; and
- Maximize the impact by focusing on ALSF's core/priority areas

4.3.3 - Panel on Financial Stability and Contributions from ALSF Members

The Panel was moderated by Dr. Aboubacar Fall, Managing Partner, AF Legal Law Firm and former Chairman of the ALSF Management Board. The distinguished panelists were:

- i. Mr. Rugeri Nkusi Christian, Treasury Counsel, Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning, Rwanda, and member of Governing Council;
- ii. Ms. Eva Jhala, ALSF Management Board Member; and
- iii. Mr. Bruce Montador, ALSF Management Board Member.

Issues Discussed

The panelists observed that the ALSF is a unique African institution and central to the importance of the rule of law in developing and transforming Africa. Currently, the ALSF is mainly financed by the AfDB and other development partners. To sustainably finance its activities, the ALSF in collaboration with the RMCs, will have to find innovative ways of sustainably broadening the resource base of the institution, and where possible reduce costs of implementing its projects.

To do so, RMCs will need to financially contribute to support the ALSF activities. To raise additional funds, the RMCs may consider making direct contributions to the ALSF; co-finance some of the ALSF projects; pay a fee on successful negotiations and pay fees for the training received. Guided by its operational guidelines, the ALSF could also encourage the private sector/philanthropic foundations to contribute to support its work.

To reduce the cost of ALSF operations, African countries will also need to build capacities both for states and relevant national institutions to provide quality control of the Facility's work; and ALSF should consider collaborating with African Universities or Training institutions to equip African lawyers with the requisite skills to negotiate complex commercial transactions and other ALSF priority areas of intervention in the long-term.

Key Recommendations

The panelists noted that it will be vital for the ALSF to work closely with RMCs to identify and implement innovative ways to broaden its sources of funding. Below are some of the recommendations by the Panel:

- RMCs should pay fees on successful projects;
- RMCs should pay fees for training their respective government officials;

- ALSF should further deepen its relationship with AfDB to be considered for support during the Bank's African Development Fund Replenishment cycles; and
- ALSF should partner with African Training Institutions/Universities to equip the students with the requisite skills in the focus areas of intervention of the ALSF.

4.4 - BREAKOUT SESSIONS OF THE ALSF REGIONAL MEMBERS AND OBSERVERS

To encourage participation and deepen the engagement, the representatives from the ALSF member countries and observers were divided into smaller groups to deliberate on various topics relevant to the future and sustainability of the ALSF. The table below summarizes the topics, countries represented and recommendations from the breakout sessions.

TOPIC	COUNTRIES REPRESENTED	RECOMMENDATIONS
Contributions and use of ALSF financial instruments	Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Kenya, Libya, Morocco, Rwanda, Senegal, Tunisia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. RMCs must endeavor to make financial contributions to the ALSF, e.g. through the AfDB. ii. ALSF should identify and implement innovative ways to finance its activities such as, co-financing its projects with beneficiaries/RMCs; charging fees for successful projects and trainings, publications, databases, etc. iii. Partner with RMCs to find creative ways to reduce the cost of implementation of projects. iv. Learn from similar institutions, for example OHADA—generates funds from a small payback fee on profitable natural resources ventures in its member countries to raise funds.

TOPIC	COUNTRIES REPRESENTED	RECOMMENDATIONS
<p>Involvement of Seconded Nationals Experts (SNEs) into the ALSF Academy Programme</p>	<p>Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, Chad, Democratic Republic of Congo, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Mali, Sao Tome and Principe, Somali and South Sudan.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Categorize secondments based on experience, profession and business needs. ii. Enhance the networking platform and opportunities and engaging in comparative learning with countries based on areas of need or focus. iii. Structured training to facilitate budgeting and plan. iv. Discuss the risks and assumptions for better planning v. Share benefits and training objectives to countries vi. Prepare and send criteria for nomination of SNEs to the RMCs.
<p>Beneficiary Countries' Expectations in terms of cross-cutting issues and impact of ALSF interventions</p>	<p>Benin, Congo, Cabo Verde, Cote D'Ivoire, Comoros, Gambia, Guinée Bissau, Mozambique, Madagascar, Mauritanie and Zimbabwe</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Review and update the due diligence questionnaire to capture adequate baseline information from countries on cross cutting issues. ii. Capture youth empowerment (employment and capacity building), and youth migration as part of the indicators. iii. Monitor the use of local content iv. Avoid changing competent the focal persons to allow for seamless or smooth implementation of the ALSF operations.

5 - Brief report on the first day of the ALSF Academy training and workshop and launch of sovereign debt handbook.

At the end of the breakout sessions, the 34 participants (32 RMCs and 2 Observers) of the HLM joined the ALSF Academy training session. This training is designed to build capacities for their members and deepen their legal expertise and negotiating capacities, particularly in the areas of natural resources and extractives industries, investment agreements and public private partnerships including large scale infrastructure as well as other related complex commercial and business transactions.

After the training, the ALSF officially launched a handbook on sovereign debt. This knowledge product was produced by the ALSF in collaboration with 11 prominent debt professionals. It is aimed at improving users' understanding of the subject and offering development and implementation strategies and tips to avoid over-indebtedness.

The handbook, written in a very practical way, is designed for professionals, debt officials, and students. It is available on the ALSF website at: <https://www.aflsf.org/>

6 - Brief report on the second day of the ALSF Academy training

The session began with the ALSF Director, Mr. Karangizi giving a vote of thanks to the out-going ALSF Chairperson of the Governing, Mr. Charles Boamah. He recognized the excellent contribution of all past and current members of the Governing Council and Management Board. In a special way, as the ALSF celebrates 10 years in service, the Director paid a special tribute to Mr. Boamah for the vital role he has played building the Facility from its infancy. He thanked the out-going Chair for his dedication and commitment to the ALSF despite his extremely busy schedule. He commended his excellent strategic guidance on resource mobilization efforts and the implementation of various innovative approaches to deepen the impact the ALSF's interventions . All these and more, have enabled the Facility to continue to renew itself as an institution. He noted that the Facility will miss its out-going chair a lot. He wished Mr. Boamah the very best for the future.

Mr. Charles Boamah, Senior Vice President of the African Development Bank Group and Chairperson of

the Governing Council of the ALSF opened the second day of the ALSF Academy Training. He outlined the mission of the ALSF, which was created in 2008. He also highlighted the key role ALSF continues to play as an intermediary in discussions aimed at ensuring the successful conclusion of agreements for more impactful development results on the continent.

Speaking on behalf of all members of the ALSF and its partners, the Central African Republic's Minister of Small and Medium Enterprises, Handicrafts and the Informal Sector, Maouloud Moussa Terab, reviewed ALSF's achievements over the past decade. "The Facility has more than doubled its annual operations from USD 7 million in 2014 to about USD 16 million in 2019; 10 additional states have ratified the agreement establishing the ALSF, and our financial partners, including one regional member country, have generously contributed about USD 60 million to support its activities," he said.

As members' needs evolved, the Facility has diversified its portfolio by designing toolkits, developing bidding documents in the infrastructure, energy, transport and telecommunications sectors and supporting the development and implementation of reforms in the extractive sector, as well as developing the skills needed for sustainable natural resources management. ALSF is also developing innovative tools for capacity building and knowledge management such as the ALSF Academy (<https://alsf.academy/>), an e-learning platform that offers a three-level certification program aimed at deepening the legal expertise of its members.

In the section that follows, we present the speeches from Mr. Charles Boamah, Chairperson of the ALSF Governing Council, and Senior Vice President of the AfDB Group and the remarks by Hon. Aboua Maouloud Moussa Terab, Minister of Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises, Handicrafts and the Informal Sector, Central African Republic.

After the speeches, the participants of the HLM attended the second day training of the ALSF Academy. The training focused on understanding production sharing agreements, negotiating production sharing agreements in the oil and gas sector and other upstream considerations and the sale and transportation of gas.

Speech by **Charles BOAMAH**, Chairperson of the ALSF Governing Council, and Senior Vice President of the AfDB Group on the Facility's Regional Member Countries High Level Meeting and African Legal Support Facility Academy Workshop.

Thank you, Steve for your kind words.

Honourable Ministers

Distinguished Participants

Congratulations on the just concluded premier High-level Meeting of the ALSF Participating States and International Organizations and to the ALSF as it celebrates its 10th year anniversary.

I was appointed by the President of the African Development Bank as chairperson to the Governing Council of the Facility in 2014. The Facility has changed remarkably over the years, from setting up governing structures such as Governing Council and Management Board from scratch including developing key institutional and governance documents such as operational guidelines and initial mobilizing resources initiatives to carry out the work of the Facility in RMCs.

Over the years, the ALSF had grown in size and membership. In the discussions, we have at the Bank, the ALSF always comes up in a positive way. The ALSF has fulfilled its initial expectations and played a critical role as an intermediary in discussions to ensure successful conclusion of agreements for more impactful development outcomes on the continent. The challenge to ensure the financial sustainability of this important instrument is vital to support its activities.

The ALSF has come a long way and we need not rest on our laurels—there a lot more that needs to be done. The ALSF interventions will help close the infrastructure deficit, balance legal skills, and reduce renegotiation of unfair contracts/agreements—particularly on large scale complex commercial transactions among others.

The ALSF also develops innovative tools for capacity building and knowledge management such as the ALSF Academy, a robust e-learning platform which offers a three-level certification program aimed at deepening members' legal expertise and negotiating capacities in the areas of the Facility's intervention including large scale infrastructure transactions.

The ALSF has a special relationship with the Bank. Majority of the Facility's interventions support negotiations of power purchase agreements which are central to the Bank's efforts of "Light up and Power Africa" a key priority of the Bank's High 5 Initiatives. The Bank looks at ALSF as a key partner and coordination with the Bank remains is key to the implementation of the Facility's work. This ensures that

the Facility fits in with the overall strategic objectives of the Bank. The Bank is also a major contributor to the Facility and a number of projects originate from contracts made by the African governments through the AfDB. The Facility benefits from the Bank's large spectrum of network on the continent.

The ALSF has gained more credibility and visibility internationally; more awareness on the existing gaps in the legal and technical capacities in Africa and the crucial role ALSF plays to overcome these gaps to achieve sustainable development. The growth in membership-60 members, comprising 53 countries and 7 international organizations further attests to the Facility's positive results and engagements in Africa and globally.

The Facility is largely donor dependent and recognizes that its success wouldn't have been possible without the strong support from its key partners such as African Development Bank, Guinea, Netherlands, Norway, Germany, Canada, France, India, Islamic development Bank and European Union, Ford Foundation,

It is important to recognize the interlink between law and development and the crucial role that the Facility plays through its members- governments particularly as most African countries continue to embark on major programs of transformation in pursuit of their SDGs and in line with Agenda 2063 of the African Union, the services of the Facility will be even more catalytic in the years ahead.

I take this opportunity to thank all our key partners, members, institutions and other stakeholders for their support to the ALSF in achieving its mission and mandate on the continent. I am confident that the ALSF is positioned to remain relevant and effective in the coming years.

As I wrap up my speech and tenure at the AfDB and ALSF. I would say, considerable conversations during the African Development Fund fifteenth (ADF 15) replenishment supported additional support to the ALSF—a testament to a job well done. Thank you for the opportunity to serve. I am leaving the ALSF, but I can tell you the ALSF never leaves you. I expect to continue to be an ambassador of the Facility.

I thank you for your attention.

Remarks by **Hon. Aboua Maouloud Moussa Terab**, Minister of Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises, Handicrafts and the Informal Sector, Central African Republic

Honorable Ministers

Distinguished participants and partners,

On behalf of all the members of the Facility and its partners, I would like to express my deep appreciation to Mr. Boamah for his great commitment and excellent contribution to the ALSF. As the official representative of the African Development Bank and chairperson to the ALSF Governing Council of the Facility, your contribution over the last 9 years has been central to the success of the institution.

During your tenure, as the Chair of the Governing Council, the Facility has experienced tremendous growth and transformation in its interventions; expanded its membership and resource mobilization efforts; and increased its visibility and credibility on the African continent and globally.

More specifically, under your excellent stewardship, the Facility has more than doubled its annual operations from USD 7 million in 2014 to nearly USD 16 million in 2019; 10 additional states have ratified the Agreement Establishing the ALSF; and our financing partners—including a Regional Member Country, have generously contributed close to USD 60 million to support the activities of the ALSF.

Thank you for your commendable and diligent service! We wish you success in your future endeavors and trust you will continue to be an ambassador of the Facility.

The ALSF Academy is one of the innovative ways through which the Facility is able to achieve its mandate of strengthening legal capacity building in African countries. The Academy program provides relevant knowledge and capacity building skills for government officials, lawyers and professionals practicing in key ALSF sectors such as natural resource and extractives, large scale infrastructure, public private partnership negotiations and sovereign debt. The Academy provides a progressive three-tier capacity building e-learning program beginning with the introductory, intermediate to an advanced level and includes regional workshops with specific country sector knowledge. Many of you attended the level 1 program in Accra Ghana last year 2019 and this level 2 program is a complementary session of that training. It is also important to note that this ALSF training program will be accredited by the different national and regional law associations and will contribute towards continuous legal education for the members of these law societies. I know that knowledge in these key ALSF sectors will be of immense importance to my country and the rest of the continent. I am happy to attend this program.

On this note, I now officially open the ALSF Academy Workshop.

7 - Closing session

The major output of the HLM was the draft Declaration of the members of the ALSF. The Declaration captures participating states and international organizations recommendations on the life of the Facility and the financial sustainability of the ALSF.

ANNEXE I

DECLARATION

FIRST HIGH LEVEL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE ALSF
ABIDJAN, COTE D'IVOIRE, 26TH FEBRUARY 2020

Recalling the resolution passed in 2007 at the African Ministerial Conference jointly organized by the African Development Bank and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa for the creation of a facility to assist African Countries develop expertise and capacity to negotiate and conclude fair and equitable arrangements for the management of Africa's natural resources and extractive industries;

Recalling the Memorandum establishing the African legal Support Facility approved by the Board of Directors of the African Development Bank in April 2008:

We, the members of the Africa Legal Support Facility ("ALSF" or the "Facility") – 32 Regional Member Countries (RMCs)- Benin, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Gabon, Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, Rwanda, São Tomé and Príncipe, Senegal, Somalia, South Sudan, Tunisia, and Zimbabwe; 6 participating Institutions- African Development Bank (AfDB), African Finance Corporation (AFC), African Union (AU), West African Development Bank (BOAD), ECOWAS Bank for Investment and Development (EBID) and Organization for the Harmonization of Business Law in Africa (OHADA)- gathered in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire on the 26th February 2020, to discuss the future and sustainability of the African Legal Support Facility:

- I. Took stock of the tremendous achievements of the Facility over its first 10 years of activity and contribution to the benefit of our countries;
 - II. Welcomed Botswana and Equatorial Guinea who joined the meeting as observers;
 - III. Reiterated the importance of the Facility's mission and mandate to provide legal advice and technical assistance to African countries so as to strengthen their legal expertise and negotiating capacity in debt management and litigation, and natural resources and extractive investment agreements and in related commercial and business transactions;
 - IV. Noted unanimously that the assessment of the achievements and contributions of the Facility for its first 10 years in existence is positive;
 - V. Welcomed the continued support of the African Development Fund (ADF);
 - VI. Recognized the need for further support from the ALSF in strengthening legal capacity for complex negotiations in Africa;
 - VII. Highlighted the importance for our Countries in contributing further to reinforcing the financial sustainability of the Facility;
 - VIII. Supported the extension of the life of the ALSF beyond 2022;
 - IX. Committed to supporting the Facility's work which is in line with the AfDB's Agenda and its five development priorities, the African Union's Agenda 2063 and the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals; and
 - X. Warmly thanked the ALSF management for organizing the first High-Level Meeting of the Members of the Facility and encourage it to continue with the initiative periodically;
- DO HEREBY make the following recommendations;

- i. The life of the Facility should be extended beyond 2022 and the determination on duration should be left to the Governing Council of the Facility. Its expectations should be maintained and the Facility should work towards enhancing its activities as the needs of its members evolve.
- ii. The financial sustainability of the ALSF's should be ensured by Regional Members Countries, as beneficiaries, who are strongly encouraged to make financial contributions to the Facility, using mechanisms as may be determined by each Member Country;

- iii. Additional Funding accruing to the Facility should be enabled by the Facility through the continued use of reimbursable financing instruments and innovation in mobilizing resources, such as pricing publications, subscription-based services and charging attendance for conferences
- iv. Consultation with the African Development Bank should proceed on how to strengthen its cooperation and assistance including but not limited to accessing on a more sustained manner the resources of the cyclical African Development Fund's replenishments.

ANNEXE II

Abridged Program of 2020 ALSF's High Level Meeting & ALSF Academy Workshop

Wednesday, February 26, 2020

08h - 08h30	PARTICIPANT REGISTRATION
08h30 - 09h15	OPENING CEREMONY / WELCOME STATEMENTS
	Mr. Stephen Karangizi, Director and Chief Executive Officer, African Legal Support Facility (ALSF) Dr. Gaston Kenfack Douajni, Director of Legislation at the Ministry of Justice in Cameroon and Chairman of the Management Board ALSF Mr. Godfred Awa Eddy Penn, General Counsel and Director of Legal Services Department, AfDB
09h15 - 09h30	COFFEE BREAK
09h30 - 13h	HIGH LEVEL MEETING
	Presentations Status of Membership Presentation: Ms. Carmen Da Costa, Corporate Secretary, ALSF ALSF Academy Programme for Government Officials Presentation: Mr. Thierno Olory-Togbé, Principal Legal Counsel, ALSF Panel on Achievement of the ALSF and Evolution of needs of Members Moderator: Ms. Christine Agimba, Deputy Solicitor General, Kenya Introduction: Ms. Maude Vallée, Chief Legal Counsel and Head of Operations Division, ALSF Panelists: Mr. Joseph Marko, Consular, Representative of South Sudan Ms. Nimatou Dramane, Director BOAD and Member of the ALSF Management Board Mr. Rafique Mahomed, CEO MCEL and Member of the ALSF Board Panel on Extension of Mandate of the ALSF post 2022 and Strategic positioning Moderator: Mr. Kalidou Gadio, Partner Corporate and Finance, Manatt, Phelps & Phillips Panelists: Mr. Seward Montgomery Cooper, Attorney, Copper & Co. Dr. Gaston Kenfack Douajni, Director of Legislation at the Ministry of Justice in Cameroon and Chairman of the ALSF Management Board Ms. Mabilia Martine, Adviser at the Ministry of Economy and Finance, Gabon Panel on Financial Sustainability and contributions from Members Moderator: Dr. Aboubacar Fall, Managing Partner, AF Legal Law Firm Panelists: Mr. Rugeri Nkusi Christian, Treasury Counsel, Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning, Rwanda Ms. Eva Jhala, Management Board Member, ALSF Mr. Bruce Montador, Management Board Member, ALSF
13h - 14h	LUNCH BREAK
14h - 15h30	BREAKOUT SESSION OF THE REGIONAL MEMBER COUNTRIES
15h30 – 17h45	ALSF ACADEMY WORKSHOP - COURSE 1: SOVEREIGN DEBT
18h – 19h	LAUNCH OF SOVEREIGN DEBT HANDBOOK

08h - 08h30	PARTICIPANT REGISTRATION
08h30 - 09h15	OPENING CEREMONY / WELCOME STATEMENT
	Mr. Charles Boamah, Senior Vice-President, African Development Bank Group/ Chairman of the ALSF Hon. Aboua Maouloud Moussa Terab, Minister of Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises, Handicrafts and the Informal Sector, Central African Republic
09h – 13h15	ALSF ACADEMY WORKSHOP - COURSE 2: OIL AND GAS
13h15 – 14h30	LUNCH BREAK
14h30 – 17h45	ALSF ACADEMY WORKSHOP - COURSE 3: DISPUTE RESOLUTION
17h45	CLOSING REMARKS

ANNEXE III

List of Participants at the 2020 ALSF High-level Meeting of the RMCs and International Organizations

	Country/Organization	Name	Title
ALSF GOVERNING COUNCIL			
1	ALSF	Christine Agimba	Former Member
ALSF MANAGEMENT BOARD			
1	ALSF	Dr. Gaston Kenfack Douajni	Chairman
2	ALSF	Ms. Eva Jhala	Member
3	ALSF	Mr. Bruce Montador	Member
4	ALSF	Ms. Nimatou F. Dramane	Member
5	ALSF	Mr. Mahomed Rafique Jusob Mahomed	Member
6	ALSF	Mr. Aboubacar Fall	Former Member
7	ALSF	Mr. Seward Cooper	Former Member
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION			
1	OHADA	Ms. KONE Mahoula Aïssatou	Auditeur Interne
2	The Africa Finance Corporation	Mr. Amadou Soumano	Senior Vice President & Principal Counsel
3	The African Union Commission	Mr. Paul Msoma	Expert in Mining, The African Union Commission
4	The ECOWAS Bank for Investment and Development	Mr. Camara Mamadou Saidou	Director of Legal and Corporate Services
		Mr. Igwe Chigozie Valentine	Lawyer
5	African Development Bank	Ms. Dilys Asuagbor	Principal Legal Counsel, AfDB Group
OBSERVER STATES			

1.	Botswana	Ms. Milikani Ndaba	Legal Specialist-Public Private Partnership, Ministry of Finance and Economic Development
2	Equatorial Guinea	Ms. Maria Del Mar Bonkanka Tabares	Secretary of State in charge of Economic and Financial Organizations
		Mr. Rafael Tung Nsue Bilogo	Secretary of State in charge of Public Debt
		Ms. Esperanza Obono Edjang Ayingono	Technical Expert Public Debt Department
PARTICIPATING STATES			
1	Burkina Faso	Mr. Pare Nazaire	Chargé de Missions, Ministre de l'Economie, des Finances et du Développement
2	Cabo Verde	Dr. Gilson Pina	National Director for Planning, Ministry of Finance
		Dr. Albertina Costa	
3	Congo	Mr. Ferdinand Sosthene Likouka	Directeur de Cabinet, Ministre du Plan, de la Statistique et de l'Intégration Régionale
		Mr. Valery Christian Philippe Babackas	Charge de Mission, Ministre du Plan, de la Statistique et de l'Intégration Régionale
4	Comoros	Mr. Mohamed Ali Wadaan	Directeur de la législation Fiscale à la Direction Générale des Impôts de l'union des Comores
5	Côte d'Ivoire	Mr. Diakite Mohamed Vakaba	Sous-Directeur En Charge De La Régularité Des Actes Juridiques Au Ministère Du Plan Et Du Développement
6	Cameroon	Mr. Boubakari Oumarou	Chef de la Cellule des Etudes de la Réglementation et de la Législation a la Division des Affaires Juridiques
7	Djibouti	Ms. Habon Abdi Ali	Chef de Service de la Législation des Conventions et des Accords.
8	Gambia	Hon. Mambury Njie	Minister of Finance & Economic Affairs
		Ms. Emma Mendy	Senior Legal Officer, Directorate of Public Private Partnership, Ministry of Finance & Economic Affairs
9	Gabon	Ms. Martine Mabiala	Adviser at the Ministry of Economy and Finance, Gabon
10	Guinea-Bissau	Ms. Tomasia Manjuba	Secrétaire d'État au Plan et Intégration Régionale, Ministério da Economia e Finanças
		Mr. Quizy Anderson Martins Gomez	Conseiller Juridique de la Secrétaire d'Etat au Plan et Intégration Régionale, Ministério da Economia e Finanças
11	Kenya	Dr. Julius Muia	Principal Secretary, National Treasury and Planning
		Mr. Stephen M. Onchoke	Assistant Director, National Treasury and Planning
		Mr. Omuchere Livingstone Bumbe	Deputy Director, Department of Debt Policy Strategy and Risk Management in the Public Debt Management Office at the National Treasury
12	Lesotho	Ms. Mapoloko Seitheko	Debt Manager, Ministry of Finance
14	Liberia	Ms. Robertha Dudu James	Director, Aid Management & Coordination Unit, Department of Economic Management, Ministry of Finance & Development Planning
15	Libya	Mr. Abubaker Khalifa Elallagi	Director of Financial Institutions and Cooperation DPT
16	Mali	Mr. Fadeby Doumbia	Directeur General Adjoint de la Dette Publique
17	Madagascar	Ms. Ioby Rasamiravaka	Chef du Service des Affaires Juridiques et Contentieuses - Direction Générale du Trésor – Direction des Etudes, Ministère de l'Economie et des Finances
18	Marocco	Ms. Badia Setta	Chef du Service des Organismes Régionaux, DAM/DTFE au Ministère chargé de l'Economie et des Finances.
			Membre du Conseil de gouvernance de l'ALSF
19	Malawi	Mr. Louis Loti	Assistant Director of Debt and Aid, Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development
20	Mauritania	Mr. Mohamed Salem Soueilim Werzeg	Conseiller Juridique du Ministre de l'Economie et de l'Industrie
21	Mozambique	Mr. Adriano Isaias Ubisse	Director Nacional de Tesouro
		Dr. Ilídio Bambo	
22	Nigeria	Mr Christopher Gabriel	Director Legal, Federal Ministry of Finance, Budget, and National Planning
23	République Centrafricaine	Mr. Aboua Maouloud Moussa Terab	Ministre des Petites et Moyennes Entreprises, de l'Artisanat et du Secteur Informel
24		Mr. Tharcisse Munkindji Kabundji	Conseiller Juridique au Cabinet Finances

	République Démocratique du Congo	Ms. Lotis Bi-Faila Laurianne Mr. Zephirin Basungani Bongongo	Conseiller Juridique A LA Direction Generale de la Dette Publique Economiste en charge du suivi des statistiques de la dette au Comite Technique de suivi et evaluation des Reformes /Ministere des Finances
25	Rwanda	Mr. Rugeri Nkusi Christian	Treasury Counsel, Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning
26	São Tomé e Príncipe	Ms. Vanda Aminatha das Neves Rompão	Ministère du Plan, Finances e Economie Blue- Sao Tomé e Principe
27	Sénégal	Mr. Khalifa Sarr	Conseillère Technique du Ministre de l'Economie, du Plan et de la Coopération
28	Somalia	H.E. Abdullahi Sheikh Ali Mr. Faisal Ahmed	Deputy Minister of Finance Legal Adviser to the Minister of Finance
29	South Sudan	Ms. Lwiza Deng Mr. Joseph Mathiew	Director, Directorate of Macro Economic Planning and Aid Coordination, Ministry of Finance and Planning Legal Adviser, Ministry of Finance and Planning
30	Tchad	Ms. Royoumta Mandigue M. Ahmed Moussa Wayor	Directrice Générale Adjointe, Ministre de l'Economie et de la Planification du Développement Directeur des Affaires Juridiques et de Renforcement des Capacités, Ministre de l'Economie et de la Planification du Développement
31	Tunisia	Dr. Kamel Ayari	Docteur en droit des affaires, Juge, Conseiller du ministre, Ministère du Développement, de l'investissement et de la Coopération Internationale de la Tunisie
32	Zimbabwe	Mr. Andrew N. Bvumbe Mr. Itai Munaki	Head of Public Debt Management Office, Ministry of Finance and Economic Development Acting Deputy Director, Public Debt Management Office, Ministry of Finance and Economic Development