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contextualized at the regional level, with a view to extending current national data systems to new data frontiers, such as earth observation, geospatial data and big data, in support of integrated spatial planning and inclusive and sustainable growth;

(b) Progress

As part of a pilot scheme, ECA has been providing technical and financial support to help Burkina Faso and Ethiopia to design, scale up and organize national stakeholder engagement workshops to validate their country-led action plans relating to the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework. ECA is currently partnering with the World Geospatial Industry Council and the Statistics Division of the United Nations Secretariat to increase the adoption of the Framework in Africa. Under the partnership, it is establishing a project to

D. Resolution 975 (LIII): Sustainable industrialization and diversification of Africa in the digital era in the context of the coronavirus disease pandemic

Paragraph 4

(a) Text

Calls upon the Economic Commission for Africa to provide technical support to member States to leverage the African Continental Free Trade Area as a framework for the vertical integration of industries and supply chains and achieving the digitalization of Africa;

(b) Progress

As highlighted under previous resolutions, ECA has prepared country profiles on digital-trade regulatory integration in order to enhance the capacity of member States to develop, implement and monitor policies and programmes on regional value chains and issues concerning the second phase of implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area. ECA has also been supporting member States, upon request, in preparing national strategies that analyse and offer recommendations on the diversification of productive capacities and production patterns, thereby contributing to efforts to accelerate industrialization in those member States and deepen regional markets.

Geospatial data and analysis have the power to guide decision-making and reveal insights that enable a comprehensive and unbiased evaluation of potential investment at all levels of policymaking. An example of this the ECA study on economic opportunities along the Central African road corridor⁵ which has served as a basis for providing critical support for the transformation of the agricultural and livestock sectors in the subregion by linking farmers to agricultural inputs that can improve productivity and help them to meet consumer demand for agricultural products. As part of the study, it was found that the border area between the Far North region of Cameroon and Chad had some of the highest potential for wind and solar energy on the entire continent. The region is well-suited to developing an integrated regional battery value chain that connects mining at the base of the supply chain to demand from end users for renewable energy storage and smartphones.

As a result, a new comprehensive, segmented and dynamic framework was adopted in June 2021 by Central African countries to inform the formulation of subregional and national industrialization and economic diversification master plans, with the aim of turning the zone into a hub for green growth and net-zero industrialization.

Cash Alliance, a series of pan-African peer exchanges on digitizing government payments amid the COVID-19 crisis has been launched, which has facilitated the adoption of measures to digitize domestic payments from governments to citizens and vice versa, including tax payments and local government charges. The peer exchanges have focused on the opportunities for building robust digital systems at the national and continental levels and the challenges that arise. They have driven the adoption of responsible digital payments and high-level principles in digitalization initiatives. Finally, they have created opportunities for collaboration in the digitalization at the subregional and continental levels, and strengthened the capacity of decision makers to integrate digital expenditures in national budgets.

E. Resolution 976 (LIII): Coronavirus disease vaccines

Paragraph 3–6

(a) Text

Requests the Economic Commission for Africa to continue these efforts;⁶

Also requests the Economic Commission for Africa to continue to advocate the equitable distribution of and access to COVID-19 vaccines in all regions of the world, including Africa;

Further requests the Economic Commission for Africa, in collaboration with the African Union Commission and all relevant stakeholders, including the private sector, to assist African member States in putting in place continental strategies and policies to facilitate the production of vaccines on the continent, improve pooled procurement, in particular through digital technologies, as exemplified by the African Medical Supply Platform, and leverage the use of digital tools in national supply chains for improved accessibility for all, which will improve the affordability and accessibility of vaccines and assist in generating inclusive economic growth, stimulating job creation and eradicating poverty for the continent's socioeconomic development and sustainable growth;

Urges the Economic Commission for Africa to continue to support member States in vaccine procurement, including through additional funding made available from debt relief under the Group of 20 Debt Service Suspension Initiative, development finance institutions and special drawing rights.

(b) Progress

ECA, through its support for the African Vaccine Acquisition Task Team, has been providing technical assistance and operational support to member States in their efforts to pool resources to purchase COVID-19 vaccines. In doing so, it has worked closely with key multilateral and regional institutions such as the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the African Export-Import Bank. The Task Team serves as a platform for deeper collaboration and coordination among key stakeholders, including the World Health Organization, the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization, the World Trade Organization, the Centre for International Prospective Studies and Information, vaccine manufacturers, the private

⁶ The word “efforts” refers to paragraph 1 of the same document, which states that the Conference of Ministers of Health of the African Union (Min300 nBT00.000008866 0 08866 0 594.96 8

sector and donors. ECA played a central role in the development of the continent's COVID-19 vaccination strategy for and in securing up to 510 million doses of the Johnson and Johnson and Moderna vaccines. These measures have had considerable health and economic implications since they are helping countries to build back better while tackling the pandemic.

Increasing vaccine manufacturing in Africa can ensure access to vaccines if global demand increases and can help to mitigate the risks associated with vaccine manufacturing being heavily concentrated in other regions of the world. To that end, ECA has both: created a platform to connect the private sector and key international organizations to pharmaceutical manufacturers and market opportunities; and

the Niger have aligned their national development plans with the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063. A customized integrated sustainable development model has been finalized for Djibouti to inform the design and development of its new national development plan. To enhance evidence-based policymaking, macroeconomic modelling forecasts have been generated for Senegal.

To improve the consultation process under the enhanced monitoring mechanism (E/RES/2021/11, para. 9), ECA worked with the Committee for Development Policy to hold an online consultation with the Government of Angola to discuss the challenges that may arise and the support that could be provided in preparing and implementing a transition strategy for Angola. Participants in the consultation exchanged

Melinda Gates Foundation, the African Development Bank, the European Union, the United Nations Office for Project Services and Eurostat.
