

Consultation - Screening and scoping study as part of a Human Rights Impact Assessment (HRIA) of the Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA) Agreement

Geneva, 28 September 2015

The Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) is collaborating with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES), Geneva office on a potential human rights impact assessment (HRIA) of the Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA). The purposes for conducting HRIAs include prioritising human rights in policy-making, strengthening accountability, and empowering rights holders. A screening and scoping assessment will be led by OHCHR as the next step in the HRIA process. This meeting aims at providing the platform to brainstorm amongst Geneva based experts and the OHCHR consultant, Prof. James Thuo Gathii, around potential scenarios for a HRIA of the CFTA, specifically on agriculture (food security and livelihoods).

Monday, 28 September 2015

Venue: Château de Penthes, Pavillon Fontana, Chemin de l'Impératrice 18, 1292 Pregny-Chambésy

From 10:30	Welcome Coffee
11:00-11:20	<p>Welcoming and introduction</p> <p>Hubert René Schillinger, Director, FES Geneva office</p> <p>Susan Mathews, Human Rights Officer, OHCHR</p>
11:20-11:35	<p>The CFTA: status quo and further steps</p> <p>David Luke, Coordinator, African Trade Policy Centre, UNECA</p>
11:35-11:50	<p>HRIA of the CFTA: status quo and further steps</p> <p>Susan Mathews, Human Rights Officer, OHCHR</p>
11:50-12:30	<p>First Round of Discussion: HRIA of the CFTA – food security and livelihoods</p>
12:30-13:30	Lunch Break
13:30-14:00	<p>The HRIA of CFTA: first steps – scoping study</p> <p>James Thuo Gathii, Wing-Tat Lee Chair, International Law, Loyola University Chicago</p>
14:00-16:00	<p>Open round of discussion: HRIA of the CFTA – food security and livelihoods</p>