



The Fifth Diaspora Development Dialogue (DDD5)  
is organised by ADEPT in partnership with:  
Kenyan Ministry of Foreign Affairs &  
AU's African Institute for Remittances



## Africa-Europe Diaspora Development Platform

Presents:

### FIFTH DIASPORA DEVELOPMENT DIALOGUE (DDD5)

Safari Park Hotel, Nairobi, Kenya

Dialogue with Policymakers, Practitioners & Partners:  
**'Actions Needed to Reduce Remittance Costs in Africa'**  
(Thursday, 28 July 2016)

Professional Training for Selected Delegates:  
**'Optimising Actual, Virtual and Circular Diaspora Return'**  
(Tuesday & Wednesday, 26 & 27 July 2016)

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# **PARTNERS FOR THE FIFTH DIASPORA DEVELOPMENT DIALOGUE (DDD5)**

## **Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Kenya**

The Government of Kenya recognises the important contribution of the Kenyan diaspora to the country's socio-economic development. Conservative figures indicate that diaspora remittances alone accounted for over 3% of Kenya's GDP in 2015. The population of Kenya's global diaspora is estimated to be about 3 million. With the right of dual citizenship entrenched in the new constitution, it is expected that diaspora engagement will be enhanced. Under the Presidential Circular No. 1 of 2008 and the Executive order No. 2 of May 2013 on Organization of Government, the Diaspora Office is identified as a major portfolio under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (MFA). Consequently, a fully-fledged Directorate was established in the Ministry dedicated solely to handling diaspora issues. The Directorate is divided into three sections, namely: Diaspora; Consular Affairs; and Honorary Consuls. It also serves as the liaison office for the African Institute for Remittances (AIR) on behalf of the Government of Kenya.

In October 2014, Diaspora Diplomacy was incorporated as one of the key strategic areas in the MFA Strategic Plan 2013/14 – 2017/18. It is also one of the five interlinked pillars of Kenya's Foreign Policy launched in January 2015. Kenya's diplomatic missions have been directed to setup desks to deal with diaspora issues promptly. Kenya recognises its diaspora as the 48<sup>th</sup> County of the devolved government and considers Kenyans abroad as first line Ambassadors because of their potential role in promoting Kenya as an investment and tourism destination, both for themselves and other foreign national.

## **African Institute for Remittances (AIR)**

The African Institute for Remittances (AIR) was established as a Specialized Technical Office of the African Union (AU), becoming operational in October 2015. AIR is hosted by the Government of Kenya and its headquarters are at the Kenya School of Monetary Studies, Nairobi. AIR was conceived within the framework of the AU-EU Partnership on Migration, Mobility and Employment (MME) in the Joint Africa-EU Strategy (JAES) adopted in Lisbon in 2007 with the aim of fostering the links between migration and development. The 'Declaration of the Global African Diaspora Summit', 25 May 2012, called for the establishment of legacy projects to give practical meaning to the diaspora programme. AIR is one of these legacy projects. The main objectives of AIR are to:

- Promote appropriate changes to the legal and regulatory frameworks aimed at reducing remittance transfer cost to and within Africa;
- Improve the statistical measurement, compilation and reporting capabilities of Member States on remittances data; and
- Leverage the potential impact of remittances on social and economic development of AU Member States.

## INTRODUCTION TO ADEPT

ADEPT aims to *'improve and enhance the capacity and impact of the African diaspora organisations that are involved in development activities in Africa'*.

The ADEPT aim is pursued through delivery of services to diaspora organisations and individuals in Europe and Africa. **ADEPT will work and engage with 84 countries** (28 EU countries, plus Switzerland and Norway, and 54 African countries). In particular, ADEPT will assist **Africa Diaspora-Development Organisations (ADDOs)** to:

- Optimise their development engagement in Africa
- Professionalise their organisations and activities
- Create effective partnerships in Europe and Africa
- Expand and improve their development activities in Africa
- Influence the policy and practice of development cooperation.

*(ADEPT emerged out of the pilot Africa-Europe Platform [AEP] project which ran from 2010 to 2013, in line with the Joint Africa-EU Strategic Partnership [JASP] agreed at the 2007 Lisbon summit).*

**ADEPT is working to create a permanent service-delivery directorate with focus on:**

- Providing **training, guidance and technical support** for capacity-development
- Producing and disseminating **information on relevant funding, jobs and events**
- Undertaking research and consultations for **advocacy on policy and practice**
- Facilitating **networking and partnerships to mainstream diaspora perspectives**
- Promoting **positive images of Africa** and showcasing **best practices of the diaspora**
- Promote programmes on **youth, women and under-represented diaspora stakeholders**.



High Level Panel of DDD2, Valletta, Malta, 28 May 2015 – L to R: Gibril Faal (ADEPT), Martine Cassar (IOM Malta), Minister Abdramane Sylla (Mali), Khady Sakho (FORIM/ADEPT), Minister George Vella (Malta), Amb. Hanna Simon (Eritrea)

## DIASPORA DEVELOPMENT DIALOGUES (DDD<sub>s</sub>)

**Diaspora Development Dialogues (DDD<sub>s</sub>)** form an important part of ADEPT's service delivery framework. DDDs bring together African Diaspora-Development Organisations (ADDOs), governments, civil society organisations, the private sector and other development stakeholders, to work on practical means of improving diaspora interventions in African development. The DDDs are convened by the African diaspora, thereby providing the opportunity to mainstream diaspora perspectives, priorities and practices. The DDD involves:

- **Development Dialogue** between ADDOs and mainstream agencies and institutions
- **Policy Development** with focus on practical, effective and sustainable implementation
- **Facilitated Networking** for partnership action and improved development impact.

*Whenever possible and desirable, the DDDs are organised to coincide with 'Professional Training for capacity development of ADDOs and partners'. This dual scheduling enable more diaspora practitioners and experts to engage directly with diverse development partners.*

### Summary of Past Diaspora Development Dialogues (DDD<sub>s</sub>)

- **DDD1** was held in Copenhagen, Denmark (26 November 2014) on the theme: **'Enhancing Diaspora Role in Job Creation in Africa'**. It was organised in partnership with African Chamber of Commerce Scandinavia (ACCS), Danish Refugee Council (DRC) and the Africa Danish Diaspora Rally (ADDR). *(DDD1 was scheduled to coincide with professional training on 24, 25 & 27 November 2014).*
- **DDD2** was held in Valletta, Malta (28 May 2015) on the theme: **'From Irregularity to Stability: Strategic and Viable Actions to Prevent Irregular and Dysfunctional Migration'**. It was organised with support from Migrant Network for Equality (MNE) and Skop Malta. *(DDD2 was scheduled to coincide with professional training on 27, 29 & 30 May 2015).*
- **DDD3** was held in Vienna, Austria (30 September 2015) on the theme: **'Migration in Times of Crises: Collective Actions and Common Obligations'**. It was organised in partnership with Radio Afrika TV and Vienna Institute for International Dialogue and cooperation (VIDC). *(DDD3 was scheduled to coincide with professional training on 28, 29 September & 1 October 2015).*
- **DDD4** was held in Paris, France (5 December 2015) on the theme: **'Climate Change, Migration and Development: How to Enhance the Impact of African Diaspora Organisations?'**. It was organised in partnership with FORIM, African Diaspora Policy Centre (ADPC) and the Association des Jeunes Guinéens de France (AJGF). *(DDD4 was scheduled during the UN Climate Change Conference [COP21]).*



## THEME OF THE FIFTH DIASPORA DEVELOPMENT DIALOGUE (DDD5)

### ‘Actions Needed to Reduce Remittance Costs in Africa’

**SDG Target 10.c:** After many years of analyses, pilot projects and advocacy, the need to reduce the cost of migrant and diaspora remittances was incorporated in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted in September 2015. Target 10.c of the SDG is: *“By 2030, reduce to less than 3 per cent the transaction costs of migrant remittances and eliminate remittance corridors with costs higher than 5 per cent”*. It is now time for implementation and practical action. There is hardly any need or value for professionals and practitioners in the sector to reiterate or reaffirm the importance of reducing the cost of remittances. Instead, focus should be on purposeful and methodical implementation schedules, and concerted action by all the different stakeholders.

**One Percent Advocacy:** Reduction of transaction costs is only one of many mechanisms which can enhance the development impact of remittances. During the SDG negotiations, there was advocacy for the targets to include provisions for remittance match-funding, tax reliefs, transboundary financing schemes, and for costs to be set at a maximum of 1%. However, it should be noted that the 3% stated in target 10.c is a ceiling and there is no floor. Countries can aim for costs below 1% and may seek to achieve this any time before 2030.

**Valletta Action Plan – 2020:** After intense advocacy and engagement, the Valletta Action Plan adopted in November 2015 included remittance cost targets that are more ambitious than the SDGs. It states: *“In addition [to the 3% SDG target], identify corridors for remittances transfers where the partners commit to **substantially reduce the costs by 2020**, from Europe to Africa and within Africa”*

**Urgent Action in Africa:** The World Bank monitoring of Remittance Prices Worldwide (RPW) confirms that remittance costs are higher for African corridors, with the worst cases being for intra-Africa remittances. All stakeholders in Africa – governments, banks, MTOs – seem to be committed to ending this development infamy. Given that some of the effective cost reduction tools are available for immediate adoption and implementation, the urgency for action cannot be over-emphasised. African countries must act now and gain now, otherwise the unnecessary and costly infamy will be amplified.

**Nairobi Action Plan on Remittances – 3% by 2020:** The African Institute of Remittances (AIR) has now been established, hosted by the Government of Kenya. Kenya is a pioneer and world leader in mobile money and its uses for small transactions and remittances. For 15 years, the African diaspora have been advocating, innovating and activating schemes and ventures to reduce transaction costs. ADEPT’s Fifth Diaspora Development Dialogue (DDD5), will be held in July 2016 in Kenya. ***The planned outcome is an ‘implementation schedule’ in the form of a Nairobi Action Plan on Remittances – to reduce remittance costs in Africa to 3% by 2020.*** This can be achieved by: adoption and application of immediate operational actions (2016/17) that are known to be effective; testing, piloting and adopting innovative and creative schemes in the medium term (2016 to 2019); and consolidation, replication and normalisation of low cost status, in the longer term (2020 to 2030). We are in the era of implementation. This is the time for countries to turn their commitments into action. Countries that want to act should act now. Countries that do not want to act now may yet be influenced by the practical actions of the implementers.

# AGENDA OF THE FIFTH DIASPORA DEVELOPMENT DIALOGUE (DDD5)

## 'Actions Needed to Reduce Remittance Costs in Africa'

Thursday, 28 July 2016 – 08.30 to 17.45 (Drinks 17.45 to 19.00) – Safari Park Hotel, Nairobi

### AGENDA FOR THE MORNING SESSIONS

<b>08.30 – 09.15:</b> <i>(45 minutes)</i>	<b>Registration, Tea &amp; Coffee</b>
<b>09.15 – 11.00:</b> <i>(105 minutes)</i>	<b>Setting the Context: Dealing with high remittance costs in Africa</b>  <b>Moderated by Ms Becky Karanja – CEO, Diaspora Services Ltd</b>
<b>Mr Washington Oloo</b> – Director of Diaspora & Consular Affairs, MFA, Government of Kenya <i>Why is it important for remittance costs to be low?</i>	
<b>Mr Amadou Cisse</b> – Interim Executive Director, African Institute for Remittances, African Union <i>Which intra-Africa and Africa-Europe corridors have the highest remittances costs? Why are these costs high?</i>	
<b>Dr Linda Oucho</b> – Director of Research, African Migration and Development Policy Centre <i>Reflections on enhancing the development impact of remittances</i>	
<b>HE Ambassador Stefano-Antonio Dejak</b> – Head of European Union Delegation, Kenya <i>European Union support for enhancing the development impact of remittances</i>	
<b>Gibril Faal</b> – Interim Executive Director, ADEPT <i>Evolution of remittance policies and the imperative for implementation</i>	
<b>11:00 – 11.30:</b>	<b>COFFEE BREAK</b>
<b>11.30 – 13.00:</b> <i>(90 minutes)</i>	<b>Actions by the Industry: What new actions should MTOs take to reduce transaction costs to less than 3% by 2020?</b>  <b>Moderated by Gibril Faal – Interim Executive Director of ADEPT</b>
<b>Mr Ahmed Elmi</b> – Marketing Director, Dahabshiil <b>Mr Erick Njuguna</b> – Regional Manager of East Africa, MoneyGram International <b>Ms Alix Murphy</b> – Senior Analyst, WorldRemit <b>Mr Vincent Aberi</b> – Head of Diaspora Banking, Kenya Commercial Bank <b>Ms Elizabeth Rossiello</b> – CEO & Co-Founder, BitPESA	
<b>13.00 – 14.00:</b>	<b>LUNCH BREAK</b>

## AGENDA FOR THE AFTERNOON SESSIONS

<b>14.00 – 15.00:</b> <i>(60 minutes)</i>	<b>Actions by the Diaspora: How should the diaspora change their remittance behaviour in order to enhance development impact?</b>  <b>Moderated by Dr Jane Mwangi</b> – Director, Diaspora Interlinks
<p><b>Mr Johnson Emekaike</b> – Head of Communications, African Diaspora Forum (South Africa)  <b>Ms Fatoumata Camara</b> – Senior Adviser, World Savings and Retail Banking Institute  <b>Dr Emmanuel Mutisya</b> – President, Diaspora Consortium of Kenya  <b>Mr Mark Kaigwa</b> – Founder, Nendo</p>	
<b>15:00 – 15.30:</b> <i>(30 minutes)</i>	<b>COFFEE BREAK</b>
<b>15.30 – 16.30:</b> <i>(60 minutes)</i>	<b>Actions by the Governments: What regulatory and operational priorities should governments implement to achieve the 3% target by 2020?</b>  <b>Moderated by Dr Mwangi Wachira</b> – Economic Consultant
<p><b>Ms Aminata Coulibaly</b> – Chief of Staff          Ministry of African Integration and Ivorians Living Abroad, Republic of Cote D'Ivoire</p> <p><b>Ms Maimouna Gueye</b>          Principal Financial Inclusion Expert, African Development Bank</p> <p><b>Mr Mark Lesiit</b>          Director of Banking Services, Central Bank of Kenya</p>	
<b>16.30 – 17.30:</b> <i>(60 minutes)</i>	<b>Nairobi Action Plan on Remittances: What should be done in the next 12 months to ensure that remittance costs are below 3% by 2020?</b>  <b>Moderated by Gibril Faal</b> – Interim Executive Director, ADEPT
<p><b>Mr Amadou Cisse</b> – Interim Executive Director, African Institute for Remittances, African Union  <b>Mr Dilip Ratha</b> – Lead Economist, Migration and Remittances, World Bank (by video link)  <b>Mr Armando Morales</b> – Resident Representative, International Monetary Fund  <b>Mr Mark Lesiit</b> – Director of Banking Services, Central Bank of Kenya</p>	
<b>17.30 – 17.45:</b> <i>(15 minutes)</i>	<b>Formal Close of DDD5</b> <b>Ms Khady Sakho</b> – ADEPT Board of Trustees <b>Ms Najatte Kaaouss</b> – ADEPT Advisory Council
<b>17.45 – 19.00:</b> <i>(75 minutes)</i>	<b>Drinks &amp; Networking</b>

## PROFESSIONAL TRAINING & DDD5 FORMAL RECEPTION & DINNER

Tuesday & Wednesday, 26 & 27 July 2016 – Safari Park Hotel, Nairobi, Kenya

*(Trainees/delegates are: diaspora organisations from Europe and within Africa;  
Kenyan civil society and private sector organisations; African government representatives)*

The trainers are: Gibril Faal, Dr Ade Adeagbo and Beatrice Achaleke

<b>Training on Optimising Actual, Virtual and Circular Return</b>	
<b>TRAINING DAY 1 – Tuesday, 26 July 2016</b>	
08.30 – 09.00:	Registrations, Tea & Coffee
09.00 – 10.30:	Understanding productive diaspora return: actual, virtual and circular
10.30 – 11.00:	COFFEE BREAK
11.00 – 12.30:	Return to set up commercial or social enterprise
12.30 – 13.30:	LUNCH BREAK
13.30 – 15.30:	Return to take up public or private sector job or role
15.30 – 16.00:	COFFEE BREAK
16.00 – 17.00:	Return for semi or full retirement
<b>TRAINING DAY 2 – Wednesday, 27 July 2016</b>	
08.30 – 09.00:	Registrations, Tea & Coffee
09.00 – 10.30:	The key conceptual and practical challenges to diaspora return
10.30 – 11.00:	COFFEE BREAK
11.00 – 12.30:	Government policy priorities to optimise productive diaspora return
12.30 – 13.30:	LUNCH BREAK
13.30 – 15.30:	Stakeholder best practices to optimise productive diaspora return
15.30 – 16.00:	COFFEE BREAK
16.00 – 17.00:	Award of Certificates & Formal Photograph
<b>DDD5 Formal Reception and Dinner</b>	
<b>FORMAL RECEPTION &amp; DINNER – Wednesday, 27 July 2016</b>	
17.30 – 18.30:	Reception & Networking (Training delegates to be joined other DDD delegates)
18.30 – 20.30:	Formal Dinner with Guest Speakers



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