

Activity brief (December 2013)

Support to the United Nations Economic Commission of Africa (UNECA) to establish African Minerals Development Centre

30 November 2012 – 30 June 2013



Background: The African Union (AU) Heads of State and Government adopted the African Mining Vision in February 2009, as a “home-grown” framework for integrating Africa’s mining sector into its broader social and economic development processes. The African Minerals Development Centre (AMDC) was established by the three key Pan-African political institutions – the African Union Commission, the United Nations Economic Commission of Africa and the African Development Bank – to implement the Vision. The AMDC will provide strategic coordination and technical support to all AU member states to better manage their extractive industries across seven result areas, including those areas of expertise under Australia’s Mining for Development (M4D) program (policy, governance, building human capital). Australia was the first donor to commit support to the AMDC of \$5 million over two years, a commitment that helped cement Australia’s reputation as a leader on M4D in Africa.

Objective: The main objective of the support is to ensure the continuity of the Centre’s establishment processes, especially at such a critical time in the development of the Centre.

Activity description: The United Nations Economic Commission of Africa has requested the Australian Government’s assistance to retain a consultant on their behalf to act as a coordinator for the Centre’s activities for a short period of time.

Expected outcomes:

- The completion of the business plan for AMDC.
- The formalisation of the agreement between the African Union Commission, the United Nations Economic Commission of Africa and the African Development Bank
- The completion of the work plan to establish the AMDC, which needs to be developed to ensure the AMDC establishment within the timeframe envisaged.

- Smooth facilitation partnerships with guys as well as the partner institutions.

Relevance to AAPF objectives: Australia is working with African institutions to support African-led development. Consistent with this policy and approach, Australia will support the African Union Commission/United Nations Economic Commission of Africa initiative, particularly with regard to mining where Australia has a strong comparative advantage. Furthermore, Australia’s Mining for Development initiative in Africa has the African Mining Vision and the African Minerals Development Centre as cornerstones for Australian Government work in Africa on the extractive industry and the establishment of the African Minerals Development Centre is a key level in the development of the morning for development in Africa initiative.

Relationships established and strengthened with the United Nations Economic Commission of Africa and the African Union Commission through this activity will strengthen Australia’s visibility in Africa and also enable the Australian Government to identify options for future activities in Africa.

Activity number:	175/01
Date approved:	30/11/2012
Date amended:	10/05/2013
Date commenced:	30 November 2012
Date completed:	30 June 2013
Implementation partners:	The African Union Commission, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa and the African Development Bank
Total cost:	AUD 145 000