



**ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT IN**

AFRICA

REPORT 2019

EMBARGO

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Made in Africa

Rules of origin for enhanced
intra-African trade



“This year’s edition of the UNCTAD *Economic Development in Africa Report* is an important contribution to the understanding of rules of origin in the African Continental Free Trade Area. It is a valuable policy tool that will be complementary to the online Rules of Origin Facilitator of the International Trade Centre. The work of our two institutions on this critical issue can help set the basis for simpler and more transparent rules of origin and, in turn, make it easier for microenterprises and small and medium-sized enterprises to expand their intra-Africa trade.”

Arancha González

Executive Director, International Trade Centre

“A major milestone towards achieving economic sustainability of the African continent is the entry into force of the Agreement Establishing the African Continental Free Trade Area, which will further enhance regional integration and trade facilitation. The World Customs Organization believes that this offers African leaders an opportunity to agree upon an ambitious and tailor-made set of rules of origin that will serve to reinvigorate intracontinental trade and development. This report makes a significant contribution in support of this African initiative”

Kunio Mikuriya

Secretary-General, World Customs Organization

“In a world of spreading preferential trade agreements and of growth of trade in tasks, rules of origin stand in the middle, which risks making these two incompatible. Nowhere is this more evident than in Africa. This report is the first in-depth scrutiny of the challenges ahead on the road towards the necessary convergence of rules of origin across the regional economic communities.”

Jaime de Melo

Senior Fellow, Foundation for Studies and Research on International Development

Economic Development in Africa Report 2019

**Made in Africa – Rules of Origin for Enhanced
Intra-African Trade**



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Corrigendum

Page 46

The second sentence *should read*

Prior to the 2011 Generalized System of Preferences reforms, the more flexible rules of origin under the African Growth and Opportunity Act of the United States (requiring single transformation) were found to stimulate exports from LDCs in Africa, rather than the more restrictive rules of origin under the Everything but Arms initiative of the European Union (De Melo and Portugal-Pérez, 2013; De Melo and Tsikata, 2015).

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References to country names in this publication correspond to the names in use
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An ad hoc expert group meeting on maximizing opportunities for value addition and trade creation through the African Continental Free Trade Area was held in Geneva, on 10 and 11 January 2019, to conduct a peer review of the report. The meeting brought together specialists in African trade, regional integration and rules of origin. The following people participated in the meeting and contributed to the report: Jaime De Melo (Professor, University of Geneva), David Luke (Economic Commission for Africa), Darlan Marti (World Trade Organization) and Stefan Moser (independent consultant). Yinka Bandele (Commonwealth Secretariat), Sotheara Kong (World Trade Organization), Peter Lunenborg (South Centre), Nassim Oulmane (World Trade Organization), Thomas Verbeet (World Trade Organization) and members of the Economic Development in Africa Report team also attended the meeting.

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Note

Country-level detailed figures are available on request to the UNCTAD secretariat.

In tables, a hyphen (-) indicates that the item is not applicable.

Any references to dollars (\$) are to United States dollars.



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