Background Note 8 for

UN Workshop on Building Capacity and Scaling up STI Actions and adoption of Countries' STI4SDGs Roadmaps in Africa

Oct. 12-13, 2023, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia; co-organized by DESA, ECA, and EC/JRC.

Key Recommendations for Actions to Support the STI4SDGs Roadmap Implementation

Proposals by Dr. Samuel Chigome, Head of Secretariat, African Materials Research Society, Gaborone, Botswana, SChigome@bitri.co.bw

1). The African Diaspora community is huge, and they've got massive resources at their disposal that, if properly explored and exploited, could contribute substantially towards actualizing the STI4SDGs Roadmaps in Africa. For instance, Africans in the diaspora could facilitate the establishment of links, funding, investment, scientific collaborations, knowledge transfer, etc., that may positively impact the implementation of STI4SDGs Roadmaps in Africa. It would be worth it to involve Diasporas in such an initiative actively.

2). Given that there are seven sessions in the "Draft Programme" which seem to correspond with the seven issues described in the "Draft Concept Note," some participants/members of the forum may be asked to share brief insight about 1 minute on how best the team for a particular session could be addressed towards achieving the SDGs in Africa via the STI4SDGs Roadmaps. Besides, a Web Form can be designed and administered to all participants and experts/speakers via which they could enter their thoughts/insights on each topic of discussion per session. This could be done at the end of the whole workshop (that is, at the end of the seventh session). Essentially, this may help gather additional insights/opinions on the seven issues across all sessions and experts and may lead to potential solutions to the drawbacks that may hinder a successful implementation of STI4SDGs Roadmaps in Africa and beyond.

3). **Idea Bank:** Creating an open-ended poll (such as, "How can funding and institutional mechanisms for promoting mission-oriented research be sustained?") that would encourage participants to drop their opinions/insights into an Idea Bank across all the sessions in the workshop may be worth considering. This may help keep the question at the forefront of their minds and motivate them to use what they learn to develop creative solutions. Ultimately, this may result in a collection of interesting ideas that may inspire lasting solutions to some of the issues associated with implementing the STI4SDGs Roadmaps in Africa.