

25 March 2024

Excellency,

The Coalition on Science, Technology, and Innovation for Africa's Development (the Coalition) was launched on May 2nd, 2023, in New York during the first STI in Africa Day that was held on the margins of the 8th annual Multi-Stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals (STI Forum). The Coalition responds to aspirations of the African Union's Agenda 2063 and its science, technology, and innovation strategy for Africa 2024 (STISA-2024) and the Technology Facilitation Mechanism established by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to support the application of science, technology, and innovation (STI). The Technology Facilitation Mechanism aims to enhance North-South and South-South triangular cooperation on access to STI and improve knowledge sharing on mutually agreed terms, including through improved coordination among existing mechanisms.

The main objectives of the Coalition are to: A) Empower Africa's youth; B) Enable the contribution of the African Diaspora; C) Leverage the African Continental Free Trade Area (ACFTA); and D) Build diversified supply and value chains for Africa's industrial development. The Terms of Reference of the Coalition are available at: <u>https://sdgs.un.org/tfm/Africa</u>

Within this context, our governments – of Cameroon, Ethiopia, Ghana, Morocco, and South Africa – as co-founders of the Coalition, aim to advance common African priorities and needs, including the needs for accelerating the development, application, and scaling up of technologies to fast-track progress on the SDGs and Agenda 2063. We invite the Permanent Representatives to the United Nations of African countries to consider joining the Coalition as its members.

We highly appreciate your response to the informal Secretariat (Mr Wei Liu) or the South Africa Permanent Mission to the United Nations before **19 April 2024**. For further information, please contact Mr. Sibusiso Mpama, First Secretary at the Permanent Mission of South Africa, at <u>MpamaS@dirco.gov.za</u>, Mr. Wei Liu, UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, at <u>liuw@un.org</u> and/or Mr. Victor Konde, UN Economic Commission for Africa at <u>kondev@un.org</u>.

Kindly accept the assurances of our highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

H.E. Mr. Harold Adlai Agyeman Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of **Ghana** to the UN



H.E. Ms. Mathu Joyini Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of South Africa to the UN (Chair of the Coalition)



H.E. Mr. Omar Hilale Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Morocco to the UN



H.E. Mr. Michel Tommo Monthe

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Cameroon to the UN

H.E. Mr. Tesfaye Yilma Sabo Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Ethiopia to the UN