

	Organization Name COMESA – Leather and Leather Products Institute	Document No: COMESA-LLPI-OF-066	
	Title Report of the 10th Regional Leather Sector Core Team (RLSTCT) and 4th Stakeholders Consultative Workshop	Revision No: 00	Page No: 1 of 26

Date	12 th – 15 th December 2016
Place/Country	Haile Resort, Hawassa, Ethiopia
Reported By	Prof. Mekonnen Hailemariam, Dr. Douglas Okerio Onyancha, Mr. Musisi Bam Robert and Mr. Preston Viswamo

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Acknowledgments

COMESA/LLPI extends its appreciation to the Federal Government of Ethiopia and Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples' Region (SNNPR) for accepting to host the 10th Regional Leather Sector Core Team (RLSTCT) and the 4th Stakeholders Consultative Workshop.

This Regional Workshop could not have been successfully without the continued support and participation of Member States, Private and Academia Sectors. In addition to this the diversity the diversity of participants, which numbered over 60 enhanced the quality and depth of the presentations and discussions. These were drawn from 13 COMESA countries and abroad.

COMESA/LLPI also wants to register its deep appreciation and thanks to the following for contributing their invaluable time and expertise:

- Honorable Mr. Felix Elia Jumbe, Member of Parliament, Malawi and Board Chair Person ACTESA, Guest of Honour,
- Mr. Eric Robert Themmen, Gruppo Biokimica Company, Italy
- Mr. John Avery - Director; FSLTC, UK
- Mr. John Hubbard, SATRA Technology, UK
- Mr. Hernan Manson, ITC, Brussels, Belgium
- Mr. Paul Nteza: UNDP Regional Office
- Ms. Bilen Mammo: AYIN Institute

The participation of the above broad an independent perspective, which is critical in setting the future growth path of the COMESA Leather Value chain and the African Continent at large.

I. Introduction

1. The 10th Regional Leather Sector Core Team (RLSCT) and the 4th Stakeholder's Consultative Workshop was held between 12th – 15th December, 2016 at Haile Resort, Hawassa, Ethiopia
2. The Workshop was attended by the Regional Leather Sector Core Team Members, SMEs Technical Committee Members, the Representatives of Academia, Private Sector and Partner Institutions, namely: ITC, EU-TBT Program and from Gruppo Biokimica, UNDP, AYIN and Satra Technology. The list of participants is attached as Annex I
3. The workshop was official opened by the Honourable Felix Elia Jumbe, Member of Parliament, Malawi and Board Chair Person ACTESA, Pan African Farmers Organization.

II. Theme and Objectives of the Workshop

4. The Theme of the Workshop was "Empowering the COMESA SMEs in the Leather Sector to the Next Level". The following objectives guided the attainment of the referred to theme:

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- To create opportunity to share the regional leather sector success stories;
- To indulge the Triple Helix Platform towards regional leather sector transformation;
- To build consensus towards innovation and quality assurance to enhance regional leather sector;
- To identify the key challenges and interventions towards achieving sustainable regional leather sector development

III. The Workshop

5. The 10th Regional Leather Sector Core Team (RLSCT), and 4th Stakeholder’s Consultative Workshop brought-together more than 60 participants representing National, Regional and International Partners in the leather sector from 13 Eastern and Southern African countries, (Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Rwanda, Sudan, Swaziland, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe,) and Partner Organizations representatives from ITC, Italy and UK.
6. The official opening was done by the Hon. Felix Elia Jumbe, Member of Parliament, Malawi and Board Chairperson ACTESA, Pan African Farmers Organization.

IV. Welcome Address

Chairperson- RLSCT

7. The Chairperson of the Regional Leather Sector Core Team (RLSCT), Mrs. Nalina Rupani expressed her pleasure and honour to warmly welcome all participants to the beautiful city of Hawassa, on behalf of the Regional Leather Core Team and also thanked participants for accepting the invitations to participate in the 10th Regional Leather Sector Core Team Meeting, held concurrently with the 4th Regional Stakeholders Workshop.
8. She conveyed her heartfelt appreciation to the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and the Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples’ Region, in particular, for hosting this important Regional Workshop.
9. As the Chairperson of the Regional Core Team, she was impressed to note that COMESA/LLPI and members of the Core Team at national and regional levels had made significant inroads in the implementation of the recommendations of the previous Core Team and Consultative Forum meetings.
10. She recognized the fact that Regional Consultative Forum has created a solid and innovative platform for cross sharing of knowledge and business opportunities, exposure and networking. Consequently, the outcome of the deliberations has laid an inclusive menu guiding the future growth and development of the leather sector. This has stimulated activities participation of the Public, Private and Academia Sectors in the discourse to support the development of the leather sector in the region.

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11. In her address she also took note of the achievements that were jointly attained by the Regional Core Team in collaboration with COMESA/LLPI in 2015/16 that included the following among others: formulation, validation, unpacking and launching of National Leather Value Chain Strategies and Policy Frameworks etc. in respective member countries namely; Burundi, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Rwanda, Sudan, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Ethio-International Footwear Clusters Cooperative Society (EIFCCOS), the Ethiopian Leather Industries Association (ELIA), the Kenya Footwear Manufacturers Association (KFMA), COMESA/LLPI Long Term Strategic Plan etc.
12. The Chairperson took the opportunity, on behalf of the delegates, to thank and register an appreciation of COMESA/LLPI management, under the guidance of its energetic and prudent Executive Director, Professor Mwinyihija, for spearheading the development of the leather sector in the region.
13. In her concluding remarks, she also brought to the attention of the participants the commendations of the 36th Meeting of the Council of Ministers of COMESA, held in Antananarivo, Madagascar during 14th-15th October 2016. The Council had commended COMESA/LLPI:
 - For its efforts in the leather value chain development in the Region.
 - On achieving QMS 9001-2008 and EMS 14001-2004 and both regional and global recognition;
 - On establishing the Regional Design Studio in the Institute and Satellites Design Studios in each of its 10 Member States;
 - On establishment of cooperation with Regional Partners namely; ComSec, BADEA, PTA and EUCLID University, that have assisted and collaborated with LLPI in its activities.

Chairperson- SMEs Technical Committee

14. The Chairperson of the SMEs Technical Committee, Mr. Simon, Joshua Ng'ang'a, welcomed all the participants to the Workshop. He reiterated The triple Helix as the proper recipe for success of the leather sector in COMESA region. He highlighted the milestones accomplished by COMESA/LLPI in its quest to support the development of SMEs in the past 4 years that included the following among others: leather value chain strategy development and purchase of equipment and RDS project among others. He commended COMESA/LLPI for fostering and spearheading the Cluster initiative in the region. He wished the participants good deliberations.

Regional Representative of Academia

15. Prof. Mundia Sitwala welcomed all the participants on behalf of the Academia in the COMESA region, and began by sharing how Copperstone University had co-operated with COMESA/LLPI with regard to empowering the COMESA SMEs in the leather sector. The

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joint collocation between the two institutions contributed immensely to the formation and development of the Kitwe Footwear Cluster.

Director General of LIDI

16. Mr. Wonda Legesse, Director General of the Leather Industry Development Institute, Ethiopia, after giving highlights of the excellent collaborative activities between LIDI and COMESA/LLPI, outlined the strategic direction of LIDI and opportunities the Institute can render to SMEs of COMESA member States, namely consultancy services, training, education, testing and certification, manufacturing among and others.

Executive Director, COMESA/LLPI

17. The Executive Director of COMESA/LLPI, Prof. M. Mwinyihija welcomed all the participants. He highlighted the background of COMESA/LLPI and the specific activities the Institute has implemented that are geared towards the transformation of the leather sector in the region. Those activities have a strong logical link with the theme of the 10th Regional Leather Sector Core Team Meeting, and 4th Regional Stakeholders Workshop theme dubbed” Empowering the COMESA SMEs in the Leather Sector to the Next Level.
18. In broad terms his remarks highlighted the following imperatives:

- Leather and Leather Products are among the most widely traded agro-based commodities in the world.
- The global estimated trade value of the sector is over US\$ 150 billion a year and continues to grow.
- World livestock population is estimated at 3.5 billion.
- Africa’s contributes 26.32% to the World Livestock Population
- World hides and skins production is estimated at 1.3 billion pieces per annum
- Africa’s share is estimated at 14% to the total world output of hides and skins
- Total world production of leather is estimated at 23 billion Sqft with 65% being used in the production of footwear (i.e. 14.9 billion Sqft.)

He also outlined the COMESA/LLPI activities, outputs and impacts at member States level.

Guest of Honour: Hon. Felix. E. Jumbe

19. The official opening was done by the Guest of Honour, Hon. Felix Elia Jumbe, Member of Parliament, Malawi, and Board Chairperson ACTESA, Pan African Farmers Organization. The Hon MP expressed his gratitude to be invited to come and official open the Regional Workshop.

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20. Hon. Jumbe, commended the COMESA/LLPI for its initiatives organise the holding of such an important Regional/International Workshop in collaboration with Member States and partners. He explained that geopolitics, economics and social development in Africa are under the influence of the globalization phenomenon that has shrunk the world into a global village. The process is now being supported on the African continent by deliberate integration programs that have led to the establishment of several Regional Economic Communities (RECs). He said, formation of RECs is seen as a precursor to the establishment of an African Continent Free Trade Area (ACFTA), in line with the Abuja Treaty. In the same vein, COMESA, EAC and SADC launched the Tripartite Free Trade Area (TFTA) in 2015, composed of 26 countries or 48% of the membership of the African Union, 51% of its Gross Domestic Products (US\$ 1.3 trillion) and 56% of its population (572 million people). It is thus an important economic powerhouse of the African continent.
21. He recognized the fact the COMESA/LLPI as the Secretariat of the Regional Leather Sector Core Team and Triple Helix Think Tank Group has been coordinating and conducting similar workshops since 2010; and that it was made up of Leather Sector industrial captains and policy experts drawn from public, private sector and academia.
22. Hon. Jumbe applauded the tripartite cooperation between public, private sector and academia, and expressed appreciation to COMESA/LLPI for taking the lead, in bringing together the three constituencies. This has a created an ideal platform for stimulating the growth and development of the leather sector in the region. In conclusion, he declared the 10th Regional Leather Sector Core Team and 4th Stakeholders' Consultative Workshop officially open.

V. Plenary Session

Report/Minutes of the 9th RLSCT Meeting and Matters Arising

23. Dr. Tadesse H. Mamo Secretary/Coordinator to RLSCT, made a presentation of the Report of the 9th RLSCT Meeting. He revisited the objectives of the 9th RLSCT Meeting held in Harare, Zimbabwe in 2015 and gave the overview of the proceedings of the Meeting. He outlined the Recommendations of the Meeting to COMESA/LLPI, Member States and SMEs/Private Sector;
24. It was noted that, due to logistical challenges, the venue of the present meeting was changed from Malawi to Ethiopia. There were no matters arising from the report.

COMESA/LLPI 2016 Financial Year Key Performances and 2017 Activities and Project Dimensions

25. Prof. Mekonnen Hailemeriam presented the 2016 Financial year key performances and 2017 activities and project dimensions. He first gave highlight of the COMESA/LLPI 10 Years Strategy and Action Plan (2016 – 2025). This strategy is aimed at strengthening and

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refocusing the Institute to become a premier player in the provision of technical and other support services to member countries.

26. He then outlined the COMESA/LLPI key performances and outputs at each Member State's level and Cross-cutting activities. Activities accomplished at each member State's level encompassed facilitation and support in the National Leather Value Chain Strategy design, formulation, launch and unpacking, as well as development of other policy documents and Cabinet Memos; human capacity building through trainings at regional and country levels, Curriculum Development, Technology transfer and equipment support; assistance in project development for resource mobilization; Regional Design Studio project launch and initiation of Satellite Design Studios at each member State level, and others.
27. Cross-cutting activities included COMESA/LLPI participation in more than ten Regional and Global events, workshops, seminars; winning of first prize for 2016 United Nations World Interfaith Harmony Week, (partnering with EUCLID University); visits of Officials and delegates from the region and elsewhere to LLPI Headquarters office; signing of MoUs with various partner organizations; Publications (books, scientific journal, weekly newsletter etc), Certification in Quality Systems Management and Environmental Systems Management (QMS & EMS) and others.
28. 2017 activities and project dimensions are as presented in Table 1.

Activities	Expected Output	Justification
SO.1: Strengthen COMESA/LLPI Capacity to Share Best Practices and Generate Networks in order to deliver High Quality Services Effectively, Efficiently and Competitively		
1.1 Implement the new approved organogram	Job descriptions for the new positions designed and approved by board by mid-2017 Recruitment initiated by July 2017	The required skills, knowhow and responsibilities of persons to be hired to fill the new positions should be clearly indicated Staffing situation should match the scope of COMESA/LLPI mandate
1.2 Build the technical and professional capacity of current staff to enhance efficiency and effectiveness	25% of Staff trained by Mid 2017	Skills requirements should match the scope of COMESA/LLPI mandate
1.3 Ensure effective implementation of the Quality Management and Environment Management Systems	Quarterly internal reviews on the adherence undertaken	QMS/EMS is considered as important tool for effective and efficient delivery of services by COMESA/LLPI
1.4 Building capacity of LLPI with basic Software, Hardware, and Internet Connectivity	Webhosting and Upgrading of Fiber Optic to 9 Mbps	IT is an important instrument for communication with and delivery of services to member States and other stakeholders
1.5 Undertake a Gap Analysis	Benchmarking analysis undertaken by	COMESA/LLPI should strive to

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with premier global institutions with similar mandates	mid 2017 Roadmap for closing the gaps designed by end of 2017 (to institutions),	continuously develop its capacity in terms of human and material resources and working conditions
1.6 Design and Implement an M&E System for COMESA LLPI	Resources for its implementation incorporated in a draft regular budget for 2017;	M & E is important to make sure that LLPI set objectives have been achieved
1.7 In consultation with the MSs and Industry identify skills gaps at the various levels of the leather value chain (Tanneries and footwear companies)	Incorporate its requirements in the 2017 regular budget; Develop fund raising proposals annually until the end of the strategy period	Gap analysis will allow to plan and implement evidence based interventions for the leather sector development
1.8 Design online training programs (negotiating with online e. learning)	First online training program rolled out by July 2017 Program reviewed by December 2017;	Enables to conduct trainings cost-effectively with participants for training across multiple locations, it's flexible and many advantages
1.9 Implement training program	Train at least 10 officials from the Leather Councils or Apex council in project design and implementation by end of 2017; Train at least 240 artisans in footwear and leather goods making by end of 2017; Train at least 20 tanning technicians by end of 2017; Training at least 5 tanning supervisors in quality and process control by end of 2017; RDS Training of 2017 (15)	Human resource development is the major focus of intervention to develop the regional leather sector
1.10 Facilitate the development of curriculums	Facilitate Curriculum harmonization in MSs Identification of collaborating institutions for training programs and initiating process of engagement for co-certification	Further strengthens LLPI's role in the region and globally, it helps to reach a consensus about a set of needs for value addition. It provides a framework to help plan and coordinate value addition activities, provide a roadmap for creating a unique competitive advantage.
1.11 Financial and budgetary review quarterly of LLPI	Financial and budgetary matters reviewed quarterly	To insure efficient budget utilization
1.12 Enlarging membership basis COMESA/LLPI	COMESA/LLPI membership basis enlarged	
1.13 Strengthen LLPI Institutional Project management capacity and delivery service	Project management and quality service deliver augmented	In adequate institutional capacity to manage clusters, enhance value addition and development of appropriate ICT technologies to super leather development in the region.
SO 2: Facilitate Market-led Service Centres for Cluster Development and the Production and Trade of Value Added Products in the COMESA Region		

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2.1 Design a model roadmap for value addition for adoption and domestication at MS level	Member States assisted to domesticate it upon officials request up to 2018	
2.2 Design a model for Clusters development for adoption and domestication at MS level	Member States assisted to domesticate it upon officials request up to 2018	Clusters are the major focus of intervention to develop the regional leather sector. It helps reach a consensus about a set of needs for Cluster development required resources to satisfy the needs. It provides a framework to help plan and coordinate Cluster developments.
2.3 Train 400 official, and SMEs representatives in Cluster Development and Management	100 trained by end of 2017	It helps to enhance awareness and reach a consensus about a set of needs for Cluster development and required resources to satisfy the needs. It helps to plan and coordinate Cluster developments.
2.4 Facilitate the setting up of Service/Incubation Centres, each serving a minimum of 25 SMEs	5 Service centers set up in 2017	Nurture MSMEs to develop into vibrant business enterprises
2.5 Target the production of 1,250,000 pairs of footwear per annum at the set up services by 2025	In consultation with MSs facilities for setting up of Model of Service Centres allocated in 5 MSs Fund raising proposal at both national and regional levels to facilitate the establishment and operationalisation submitted to Development Partners	There is continuously increasing and unmet huge demand in footwear in the region.
2.6 Design a model for tannery modernization for adoption and domestication at MS level	Draft documents published by Mid 2017; Draft tabled to MS for review, validation and adoption by end of 2017;	To produce improved quality finished leather and minimize impact on the environment.
SO 3: Facilitate and Promote the Strengthening of the Regional Leather Value Chain (trade, Joint Research and Networking)		
3.1 Undertake a benchmarking analysis of premium trade vs regional trade Fairs (India and Dubai)	Benchmarking report Roadmap for improving fairs taking place in Africa	It is important to identify gaps of trade fairs taking place in Africa in order to achieve a competitive position.
3.2 Undertake trial reverse engineering of some of the selected equipment	First prototype manufactured (UNEP)	That will be cost effective.
SO 4: Generate and Collect Reliable Information for Enabling Decision Making and Baseline Production, Trade and Firm Performance-Competitiveness		
4.1 Map out the production and trade data requirements for the leather value chain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sources and institutions involved in production and trade data collection and publication identified and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Production and trade data are very important to facilitate market access • Provides guidelines for collaboration

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	collaboration efforts instituted by March 2017 • MOUs for collaboration signed by at least 5 such institutions by July 2017	between different institutions and the COMESA/LLPI
4.2 Undertake a Mini Assessments of National collaborating institutions involved in data collection	• Implementation of Template of data collection • 20 experts from national Public and Private Sector institutions trained in the collection and collation of relevant data by March 2017 (Webnair) • Draw 3 fundraising proposals by December 2017	• Human resource development is the major focus of intervention to develop the regional sector • Extra budgetary resource mobilization is of paramount importance to support the sector
SO 5: Strengthen Member States and Institutional Capacity to Design and Implement SAA and Deliver Support, Services and Policies Aimed at Improving the Performance of the Sector		
5.1 Identify and map out national institutions relevant to the development of the Leather Value Chain at national level	• Institutions identified and mapped out by July 2017; • Gap analysis of the institutions completed by October 2017; • Roadmap for upgrading them designed by December 2017;	Identifying and analyzing institutional incentives, opportunities and blockages that may influence leather sector development.
5.2 Core Team, Triple Helix and SME Committee , Academia, RDS meeting	Cluster Expert, Value Chain Expert and Information System Expert are critical requirements for the Triple Helix approach and implementation of other Strategic Objectives of LLPI	Cluster Expert, Value Chain Expert and Information Systems Expert are critical requirements for the Triple Helix approach and implementation of other Strategic Objectives of LLPI.
5.3 Review the structure and composition of Committees	The structure and composition of Committees reviewed	Optimum resource utilization and limit committee size with adequate member states representation
5.4 International Tanners Council meeting participation and membership fees		Provides opportunity to access latest trends and developments in the leather industry and a recognized place to voice the Region's views on leather sector trade issues
SO 6: Facilitate the Development and Implementation of Environmental and Occupational Health Standards in the Leather Industry		
6.1 Design a regional roadmap on occupational health and standards	• Baseline survey on occupational health and standards management undertaken by July 2017 (Projects) • Results shared by December 2017	Occupational health and standards management is a major concern for the safety of workers and the environment at large
6.2 Design a regional roadmap on effluent and environmental management upgrading	• Baseline survey on effluent and environment management undertaken by July 2017 • Results shared by December 2017;	It is important to build empirical based body of evidence with regard to the status of effluent and environmental management in the region for any improvement intervention.
SO 7: Facilitate Leather Development and Investment Fund as well as Resource Mobilization		

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7.1 Develop an intimate and strategic relationship with development Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each COMESA/LLPI staff (Experts) design 4 fundraising proposals annually • 6 strategic meetings held with potential development partners annually 	Extra budgetary resource mobilization is of paramount importance to support the sector and enhance the visibility of LLPI
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COMESA/LLPI 2016 Budget Performances and 2017 Approved Budget

29. Mrs Tigist Hailegiorgis, the Head of Administration, Budget and Finance presented the 2016 Budget Performance for the period January to 31st October. She reported that the collection from assessed contribution for the year was USD 951,639.00 which is 82 % of the approved budget. The high collection ratio was considered positive, however delays were experienced in receiving payments from MS consequently impacting negatively on the implementation of activities.

30. The Budget (Expenditure) Performance of the last 10 months of 2016 – (As at 31st October 2016) was presented as follows:

Employment Cost	82%
Operations and Maintenance	66%
Strategic Activities (Up-to Nov.)	91%
Total Budget Expenditure Performance shows	82%

2017 Approved Budget

31. The 2017 Budget of COMESA/LLPI, amounting USD 1,277,311.58, was presented to and approved by the COMESA Budget Sub-Committee, Administration Committee, Intergovernmental Committee and the Council of Ministers respectively.

Draft Cluster Development Model for the COMESA Region

32. Mr. Nicholas Mudungwe, Cluster Expert at COMESA/LLPI, started by discussing the rationale for clustering, He said that the SMEs when working on isolation, are faced by a number of challenges that include: inadequate supply of raw materials, limited or inadequate linkages to Government Agencies, lack of technical and other support from institutions and lack of marketing strategies among others. These can be overcome by formation of the Clusters. He said that the industrial enemy number one in the member States is institutional disconnect, i.e. the players in the leather sector such as Government Agencies, Academia, Private Sector and SMEs are not working together. Thus, the importance/need of the Triple Helix approach (the joint effort of Government, Private Sector and Academia) to solving the problems affecting the leather sector was emphasized.

33. In the discussion that followed, it was noted that:

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- Clustering is a process that requires every stakeholder to be involved;
- Universities to take initiative in clustering programs;
- Government policies on cluster development to be emphasized;
- Government to support SMEs to be globally competitive (incentives);
- Engagement and involvement of lawmakers in leather sector development activities;
- Within the Triple Helix approach, all institutions should consider SMEs not as small businesses but as big enterprises of tomorrow; and
- SMEs to be given support for growth through gap analysis approach.

VI. Country Presentations

34. Country level reports were shared focussing on the status and implementation of the national leather value chain strategies were presented by country representatives as summarized here below.

Burundi

35. The country prepared a guideline for the implementation of the Burundi Leather Value Chain Strategy (2015-2019) which was subsequently presented to the Council of Ministers
36. The actions so far undertaken included:
- Facilitating the reorganization of craftsmen working in the leather sector in order to make them contribute to the implementation of the National Value Chain Development Strategy for the leather sector.
 - Processing of AFRITAN Tannery's application relating to authorization to sell a proportion of its output of finished leather and footwear on the local market although the company operates under the Free Zone status, which makes it mandatory to export 100% of its products.

AFRITAN Tannery has tremendously developed over the past 3 years moving from the export of wet blue into the production of finished leather footwear and upholstery.

Ethiopia

37. Highlights of the Ethiopia leather sector activities were presented by mr. Admassu Yifru, Director at Ministry of Industry. He enumerated the Government's assistance programs to SMEs that encompass affordable finance (the finance sources for SMEs development are Ethiopian Industrial input Development Enterprise, Machinery lease system., Loan from Bank and Microfinance, Special Aid from Development Partners, etc..). He also mentioned the challenges the SMEs are facing in their efforts to access loans that included limited managerial capability to develop bankable projects proposals and limited technical capability to develop proper business plan.

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38. Incentives available for SMEs and other investors to enhance Trade and Development in the leather sector were indicated as:

- Land and shed is prepared for the selected enterprise;
- Custom duty is 100% exempted for machinery, equipment, plant and building materials;
- Income tax exemption for investment grace period;
- No export tax for exported products (except raw and semi-finished leather it is 150% taxed);
- Duty Draw Back scheme;
- Bonded factory and manufacturing warehouse schemes – raw material is duty free;
- Technical and managerial capability training from Government institution e.g. LIDI for leather sector;
- Onsite technical support, etc;
- Bonded factory and manufacturing warehouse schemes – raw material is duty free;
- Government of Ethiopia already availed institutional set up for long term and short term learning curve skilled manpower constraint;
- For the leather sector the capacity building activity is given to LIDI;
- LIDI gives training of Leather and Leather Product Technologies in collaboration of four universities, and 32 TVETs in the region and city administrations; and
- The training programs range from a half day training to five years degree program and also second degree programs both for the leather technology and products.

39. It was also noted that the interventions have started to bear fruit as the sector is expanding.

40. Mr. Admassu expressed Ethiopia's appreciation to COMESA/LLPI for its assistance and collaboration activities with the Ethiopian leather sector and government. In this respect Mr. Admassu made mention of the Ethiopian National Leather value chain Strategy (2016-2020) that was developed with full financial and technical assistance by COMESA/LLPI. He also pointed out Government's interest to further strengthen the collaborative activities in the areas of Capacity Building, Improving Quality of raw hides and skins and finished leather; producing accessories and other intermediate inputs Locally; Access to export markets; Environmental Protection, Unpacking of the Leather Value Chain Strategy.

Kenya

41. Leather sector recent activities were reported as:

- Leather Value Chain Strategic Plan for 2016-2021 has been finalized and is awaiting launching;
- As part of affordable Sources of finance for MSMEs the Government has regulated interest rates at not more than 4% above the Central bank lending rates;

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- Currently financial institutions lending at an average of 14%;
- Other Incentives available to MSMEs to enhance trade and development that encompass:
- Faster registration of companies/business enterprises
- 30% procurement for youth, women and PWDs and 40% brand Kenya buy Kenya for all Government Procurements.

42. Other activities being implemented or in the process of implementation, as part of promoting sustainable production and consumption in the leather products were indicated as:

- Skills Gap Assessment: Diagnostic Study report, findings and conclusion.
- Successful implementation of Switch Africa Green Year 2: this program is implemented through a grant to COMESA-LLPI in partnership with KLDC, from Project Donor Partners: European Union, UNDP, UNOPS and UNEP;
- Cluster Development: Supporting clusters with common manufacturing facilities to enhance efficiency and quality production;
- Creation of more opportunities to Students at tertiary/vocational Training: 2 Universities offering Degree Programmes.; Animal Health and Industry Training Institute (AHITI) Kabete offering Certificate and Diploma programmes.

Malawi

Mr. Mayeso Nsokera from the Ministry of Industry and trade, Malawi presented the challenges of the leather sector in his country that include absence of a leather finishing tannery, lack of skilled manpower, the country exporting raw hides and skins and importing finished leather and leather products, He acknowledged the work that COMESA/LLPI has undertaken in its efforts to support the development of the sector in Malawi. The activities undertaken to date include the design, launch and unpacking of the leather value chain, capacity building of in footwear production and trade fair participation. He also took note on the current efforts to support the acquisition of equipment for the designer studio and designing of a feasibility study to set up a tannery.

Rwanda

43. The Rwanda report was presented by Madam Annoncée Kuradusenge. The report addressed the following fundamental issues:

- Rwanda Leather Sector Potential, Constraints and actions taken to empower the Rwanda Leather Sector to the Next level.
- The Government Set up a regulatory framework encouraging value addition and competitiveness of the industry; Made in Rwanda (MIR) Program;

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- VAT exemption on capital goods and on raw material;
- Export Development Fund;
- Local preference of 15% for public procurement;
- Development and validation of National standards on H&S; Develop a programme to build Rwandan skilled people in Hides and Skins processing and leather product design industry;
- Curriculum development by the Workforce Development Authority (WDA) in collaboration with LLPI;
- Masaka Incubation Center (MIC) is functioning and it is the national satellite of RDS;
- MIC to be equipped by new machineries with LLPI support under BADEA funds;
- Organizing and operationalizing a Leather value chain platform;
- Establishing and operationalizing H&S collection centers;
- Providing Trainings to Leather value chain actors;
- Setting-up of a modern tannery park;
- Feasibility & engineering studies for establishment of a Common Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP), sewer lines and a general layout plan of tannery park under development with LLPI support; and
- Feasibility study and business plan for a model finished leather factory and a modern shoe factory developed with LLPI support.

Sudan

44. The Sudan country presentation which was made by Mr. Nasser Hashim, Director at Investment Encouragement Commission - Khartoum State, highlighted the current status of the Sudan Leather Value Chain Strategy implementation at national and Khartoum State levels. Key points mentioned were as follows:

- Value Chain Strategy Implementation at National level:
 - Strategy Launch & Unpacking in March, 2015;
 - Sudan Leather Development Council formation July, 2016 (Government + Leather Chamber + Private Sector) headed by Minister of Industry;
 - Leather Council Technical Committee formation July, 2016 (National specialized Institution, Academia and Private sector).
- Value Chain Strategy Current Situation – Khartoum State:
 - Strategy Launch & Unpacking as regards Khartoum State, July, 2015.
 - Khartoum State Leather Development Council formation August, 2016 (Government + Leather Chamber + Private Sector) headed by Minister of Industry.
 - Khartoum Leather Council Executive Committee formation September, 2016 (National specialized Institutions, Academia and Private sector).

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- Action plan ready to be implemented after being ratified in next meeting within 2 weeks.
- Incentives for SMEs Development:
 - Kerari Vocational Training and Entrepreneurship Center has been nominated as a national focal point for Satellite Design Studio for SMEs Training;
 - National Training Program has been designed to receive Trainers from all Sudanese State;
 - National Training Program will be funded by COMESA/LLPI in 2017
- Vocational Training Students Opportunities:
 - Kerari Vocational Training and Entrepreneurship Center has been nominated as a second focal point for Leather Training in Sudan;
 - COMESA/LLPI has offered a new curricula for Leather Sector (L1, L2, L3 and 2 years Vocational Diploma);
 - COMESA/LLPI has prepared a gap analysis report;
 - Required Equipments will funded within Regional Integration Support Mechanism for Sudan (RISM, 2015 – 2016).
- Kerari VTEC Leather Sector Development:
 - Kerari Vocational Training and Entrepreneurship Center has established an Advisory Board for Leather Sector (Strengthen relations with Private Sector and SME representatives) ;
 - New curricula for Leather Sector (L1, L2, L3 and 2 years Vocational Diploma) accreditation process is finalized and will be reported to COMESA/LLPI.
- Academia:
 - COMESA/LLPI has granted Sudan University for Science and Technology, Leather Incubator 25 Thousand USD for equipment;
 - Now Equipment has been imported, commissioned and inauguration will be organized the coming month (January 2017);
 - New Incubator Equipments will funded within Regional Integration Support Mechanism for Sudan (RISM, 2015 – 2016) – extension required as time frame has been exceeded.
- Government:

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- Aside from formation of the Leather Development Councils, the government (both federal and Khartoum State) has taken the following steps:
 - Coordinated with Local Authorities to raise awareness of the importance of the sector among them.
 - Coordinated visits to tanneries and leather-related business for related authorities;
 - Issued a Decision to ban exports of sun-dried skins and hides;
 - Khartoum State has started building a state-of-the-art slaughterhouse;
 - Signed a bilateral agreement with the Ethiopian Government to extend training services to technical staff;
 - Allocated land for future leather business clusters and ordered business plans to be prepared for funding either through government or other;
 - Allocated land for a specialized Leather City (1.8 million sq. meters) and finalized planning and budgeting and City is now being promoted as a business to investors in partnership with Khartoum State Government;
 - Provided funding for specific TOT training;
 - Leather capacity and resource survey undertaken (NLTC);
 - Participation in REACH program (COMESA) through NLTC as national coordinator;
 - Leather Footwear project prepared (with COMESA\LLPI help) and presented for financing to the Chinese government.
- Private Sector:
 - The Private sector has also started to interact with the Leather Councils;
 - coordinated with government in planning and implementing a system to collect hides and skins from different areas at agreed-upon prices;
 - provided information on their needs and requirements of man-power and finance and equipment through their representatives in the Leather Councils;
 - begun to interact to develop the local market.

Swaziland

45. The report was presented by Mr. Micheal Zwane, who is the Director of SMEs and Cooperatives in the Ministry of Industry and Trade, in The Kingdom of Swaziland. The following issues were addressed in the presentation:
- With the assistance of LLPI, the country completed the formulation of its national Leather Value Chain Strategy;

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- Activities so far accomplished included Leather Value Chain Strategy Development, Identification of two colleges for capacity building and training of potential leather crafters;
- Over 80 participants were trained on Governance, Cluster Management and Activities of the Leather Value Chain Strategy implementation;
- The process of procuring hand-tools and equipment to start training and for the Incubation centre is underway;
- Draft curriculum was also completed with the facilitation of COMESA/LLPI; and
- It was also indicated that since the start of the leather sector activities, there is a growing interest from foreign investors who are in liaison with locals/politicians.

Uganda

46. The report was presented by Dr. Joshua Mutambi, who is the Commissioner of SMEs in the Ministry of trade, Industry and cooperatives in the Republic of Uganda. The report addressed the following issues:

- The leather sector is considered as an important value chain in the socio-economic transformation of Uganda;
- The Uganda Leather Value Chain Strategy 2015-2025 was formulated and launched in April 2015, with the facilitation of COMESA/LLPI;
- Uganda has also enacted a policy to support the development of the leather sector.

As part of Progress on the Strategy Implementation and facilitation of the Growth of the Sector the following were reported:

- H.E. the Presidential Directives on the Local Procurement of Goods and services including Leather Products were issued. Modalities are being finalized. Government institutions such as Army, Police and Prisons have responded emphasizing adherence to quality requirements of the products;
- Ban of importation of Used shoes: EAC 17th Heads of State Summit directed on the phase out of importation of used shoes and textiles within 3 years. Action Plans are being developed for the implementation of the Summit Directive;
- H. E. The President further sponsored traders of imported and used shoes to Addis Ababa for a study tour to learn from the experience of Ethiopia. They have started making shoes;
- H.E the President has promised land for workspace to the Kampala Shoe dealers Association (former second hand shoes importers turned into manufacturers);
- Formation of the public private sector Institution-Apex Body including Leather Development Council) to support the Government in the implementation of the Strategy is in progress;
- Ministry received the Grant for Equipment from the PTA Bank for the Incubation Center. Government has provided the space where the Equipment will be installed and commissioned;

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- In respect to the Design Studio, space has also already been provided at MTAC-Management Training and Advisory Center;
- Draft Concept for the operationalization of the Studio has been developed;
- Skills Development: two companies have received training under SITA Program;
- Cleaner and Environmental Sustainable Production techniques: Four companies have been trained and are participating under the Switch Africa Green Energy Efficiency and Industrial Symbiosis Projects (SWT, Elgon, Novelty, LIU)
- MTAC has started the training of the youth and women in Shoe design and manufacturing courses;
- Regarding Triple Helix interactions, MTAC which is an Agency under the Ministry has signed an MoU with Makerere University Business school;
- Makerere University has been running an Innovation Systems and Clusters Program since 2005 with support from SIDA. From 2010, the program started getting funding from H.E The President's Initiative to support Research and Innovations. Leather Cluster is among the clusters being supported;
- Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives has introduced a Buy Uganda Build Uganda (BUBU) Exhibition for MSMEs including Leather Products Manufacturers. First one was held in November 2016;
- Government has continued to support EA Jua Kali Nguvu Kazi Exhibition to promote innovation, marketing and networking of Micro/informal and small enterprises. This year, it has been held in Kampala, 5-11 December 2016;
- Implementation of the reduced power tariffs from the 12cents to US Cents 5/KWH for manufacturing industries starting from the next financial year, July 2017;
- Government will Capitalize UDB to enable lending of long term financing at 12% per annum interest rate to manufacturers.

Zambia

47. The report was presented by Mrs. Theresa Chulu, who is the Manager of SMEs Development in the Zambia Development agency. She presented the report on behalf of the Ministry. The Zambia leather sector activities implemented in 2016 were reported as:

- Eleven Cluster have been formed;
- Training have been conducted in hides and skins for small scale farmers;
- Standards needs assessment undertaken to develop Standards for the value chain;
- Proposals to support various institutions have been developed and submitted to Cooperating Partners;
- Government, in the 2017, Budget has removed 15% customs duty on various inputs used in the shoe industry;
- Sensitization of the Zambia Value Chain Strategy commenced with Eastern, Central , Copperbelt, Western and Southern Province being the first ones;
- Small scale footwear manufacturers trained in shoe production;
- Procurement of machinery for two clusters is in the process;

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- Conducting quality standards consultative meeting;
- Some MSMEs facilitated to attend regional trade fairs; and
- Leather and Textile Value Chain Expo scheduled for Dec 2016.

48. Major challenges in the leather sector were also enumerated as:

- No Leather and Leather Products Institute to foster leather and leather products development;
- Lack of machinery and equipment for the clusters;
- Lack of operating space for the clusters;
- No organized collection of hides and skins;
- Few and under-operating tanneries which makes procurement of leather as a raw material difficult;
- Inadequate budgetary allocation;
- Need for Standards in the leather value chain; and
- Lack of access to affordable finance.

Zimbabwe

49. The Report was presented by Mrs. Hazel Magumise, who is a Chief economist in the Ministry of Industry and Commerce. The report addressed the following issues:

- Formation of the Zimbabwe Leather Development Council (ZLDC) – to date the principles of the proposed council have been validated by stakeholders;
- Skills and entrepreneurial training of SMEs – this has enhanced the quality of footwear and other leather products being produced;
- Participation in national and regional trade fairs – this has improved the exposure of SMEs in regional markets;
- Training in SME Business Management. The training was done in all the 5 provinces and it was well received. More SMEs need to be trained;
- Profiling of SMEs in the leather sector carried out in all provinces by the Ministry of SMEs. The data base still has to be completed;
- Training of the Trainers on peri- and- post slaughter defects, with a view to enhance the grading framework for hides and skins; a total of 70 extension officers were trained;
- 3 SMEs cooperatives (Bulawayo, Harare and Gweru) were registered;
- Bulawayo Leather Cluster signed two Memorandum of Understanding with Zambezi Tanners and Prestige Leather. The leather is given on credit on a 30 day period. Cluster members will produce more since they now have access to leather;
- Zimtrade facilitated a meeting for members of the cluster to meet PUM representatives. The representatives managed to visit 3 cluster members. PUM representatives will second experts to the cluster for a maximum period of 6 months;

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- Cluster Management and Governance Training facilitated by COMESA/LLPI. 70 participants drawn from Government line Ministries and SMEs were trained and this enhanced the capacity of officials and to support the development of clusters in Zimbabwe;
- Cluster members had the privilege to further their cluster management training. This training also covered participation of cluster members from Harare and Gweru as well;
- Training by Zimtrade on using Standards as tools. Members learnt about the importance of standards when producing their products;
- Training Workshop by Zimtrade on the use of the Trade Map. Members were taught how to access the trade map. Members will be able to market their products using e-commerce ;
- Training Workshop by Old Mutual on Money Management; and
- The Bulawayo Cluster is about to register their own brand that will be called “KHUMBA”.

The Democratic Republic of Congo

50. DRC is in the process of establishing Leather Sector Strategy with the support of COMESA/LLPI. Regardless of the vast resources of DRC, its leather sector is in its infancy stage. Estimated footwear market is 70 million pairs and cost of leather is way above world average (20 USD per square foot).

VII. Regional Design Studio

51. The Regional Design Studio (RDS) is an ambitious project by COMESA-Leather and Leather Products Institute (COMESA/LLPI) in partnership with the Commonwealth Secretariat’s (COMSec) Trade Competitiveness Section. The importance of RDS to the leather sector was articulated as stimulating the leather Sector’s productivity and competitiveness through harnessing and mentoring design skills,
52. Activities so far accomplished with regard to the regional design studio include: Holding of two awareness creation workshops, in Addis Ababa and Kigali, respectively for Public and Private Sector representatives, Launch of the RDS Project’ Training in technical and creative design; Establishment of RDS Panel; Recognition of RDS by COMESA Heads of State as a Flagship Project; Establishment of Satellite Studios in all member States; Host Institutions identification, etc...

VIII. All Africa Leather Fair (AALF)

53. Mr. Abdissa Adugna, General Secretary of ELIA, briefed participants on the upcoming 9th AALF. He informed the delegates that the trade fair shall be held between 17th – 19th March 2017. Invitation to the 2017 AALF Event was extended to all Delegates. The Executive Director, Prof. Mwinyihija, assuring COMESA LLPI’s usual collaboration and financial

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assistance to ELIA in organizing the AALF, informed participants that there will be cost sharing with LLPI-sponsored participating SMEs. He also requested Member states to select and send the best performing SMEs to the Event to reflect the best image of their respective countries. Member States were also requested to give dates and logistical requirements of their respective National Exhibitions to the COMESA LLPI, for any possible support.

IX. Gruppo Biokimica Company

54. FGruppo Biokimica is a chemical company located in Santa Crocia in Italy, Eric Robert from the Company, by giving a brief presentation on the Profile of the Company, and products and services offered to the tanning industry, expressed the Company's willingness to work with COMESA member States to improve the quality of leather and leather products for compliance and conformity.

X. REACH Compliance Among COMESA Footwear Tanners and SMEs Project

55. REACH Compliance among COMESA Footwear Tanners and SMEs is a COMESA/LLPI project supported by ACP-EU TBT Programme. The Project, currently being undertaken in Ethiopia and Sudan, has the objective of promoting COMESA LLPI Member States' intraregional and international trade in the field of footwear.
56. Mr. M John Avery and Mr. John Hubbard, Consultant Experts of the Project, gave presentation on new perspectives towards compliance, conformity and standards in the Region. Members were briefed about Registration, Evaluation, Authorization (restriction) of Chemicals. (REACH). As part of the project implementation, it was noted that two trainings were given to tanners and footwear manufacturers and footwear and leather samples from tanneries and footwear factories in Sudan and Ethiopia were analysed to asses if they conform with laid down standards. Participants were briefed on the Project preliminary findings and informed that once the Project is completed the results will be shared to all stakeholders in the region.

XI. Role of Higher Learning Institutions in Innovation and Transformation of Leather Technology

57. Vice Chancellors and Senior Academicians from the Sudan University of Science and Technology, Copperstone University, Makerere University Business School, National University of Science and Technology and Dedan Kimathi University of Technology, who participated in the workshop held a panel discussion on the Role of higher learning institutions in innovation and transformation of the leather technology. Representatives of the Institutions highlighted the activities being undertaken by their respective Universities.
58. Issues raised and agreed on encompass:

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- Academia to carry out research (applied) that addresses needs of SMEs and the industry;
- Approach and interaction between the academia and SMEs;
- R and D outputs to be readily commercialized; and
- Emphasize on practical skill when training.

59. Three Universities namely; Dedan Kimathi University of Technology (DeKUT), Makerare University Business School (MUBS) and National University of Science and Technology (NUST) will be undertaking Research Projects in the year 2017. The topics for those Projects are:

- Identifying the Determinants of the Leather Technology Adoption in Artisans/SMEs Involved in Leather Footwear and Leather Goods Manufacturing – DeKUT;
- The Supply and Demand Implications on the Restriction on the Exports of Hides/Skins and Imports of Second Footwear in Eastern Africa – MUBS; and
- Establishment of a leather products and their accessories Businesses Incubation Center (BIC) at the National University of Science and Technology –NUST

60. The Academia platform also made a sideline meeting and thoroughly discussed on the need for a ToR for the Academia platform, Strategies and programs for the platform, relevant programs to assist the leather sector in the region, etc.. The minutes of the academia platform meeting is attached herewith as Annex III.

XII. Success Stories

61. Members drawn from the SMEs, Academia, and Private Sector and Government Agencies highlight the achievements they have made in the leather sector as summarized in a tabular form here below:.

No.	Name	Organization	Achievements
1	Mr. Bam Musisi Robert	FLEMIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobilization and formation of Footwear and leather goods manufacturers association • Visibility by government urgencies • Leather strategy and policy in place • Building for incubation centre • SME SACCO • Skills upgrading for members,
2	Mr. Preston Viswamo	Copperbelt Leather Industry Cluster	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registration of cluster and development of cluster profile, • Defining of corporate governance structure • Cluster orientation and mentorship for leaders and members • In-house competence based hands on training • Creation and demonstration of prototype facility • Joint action, production and marketing under group

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> banner Devising/ fund-raising framework for the cluster Creation of partnerships and access of market with mining companies Identification of collaborative stakeholders
3	Dr. Douglas Onyancha	Dedan Kimathi University of Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formulation of curriculum for Dip, BSc and MSc Training of undergraduate students Received grant for scholarship for MSc student from AfDB Masters student from industrial reengineering working with tanneries to turn around production NRF grant for infrastructure support
4	Mr. George Onyango	Kenya Leather Development council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training and upskilling of SMEs Formation of clusters Policies and strategies formulated and implemented
5	Mr. Gizaw Molla	ELICO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assisting the clusters in improving productivity Owns three large tanneries and a footwear plant-fontanina Providing employment Providing internship to students from various universities Cooperate responsibility programme
6	Ms. Stabile Mulilo	Bulawayo Leather Cluster	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spearheaded the formation of Bulawayo cluster started self-help scheme to rent space for members signed contracts with Zambezi and prestige tanneries to supply leather at affordable rates Branding of their products Bulawayo cluster has undergone training by COMESA/LLPI Group has been assisted By Old mutual and Bata
7	Ms. Beatrice Kemunto	Sanabora Design House Limited	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An SME From Kenya Spearhead in forming Leather articles association Formation of virtual cluster Forming a common front for negotiation and bargaining for SMES Production of quality products and exporting into international markets Capacity building for member of association via USAID
8	Mr. Nasser Hassim	Sudan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leather strategy for Sudan formulated and launched Formation of the state leather council Vocational training revived Turnaround of white Nile and Khartoum tanneries
8	Mr. Ifa Abdi Dobi	Skyline Production technologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Started private company Helps the venerable groups in the leather sector Training SMEs Product Development for SMEs

XIII. Awards

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62. COMESA/LLI recognized and awarded a number of participants for the role they have played in the leather sector. The list of different Awardees with their respective achievements is attached as Annex II.

XIV. Recommendations

63. The following Recommendations were made by participants to be overseen by COMESA/LLPI, Member States, SMEs, Private Sector and Academia.

Recommendations to COMESA/LLPI:

- Assist Members states to strengthen cluster development;
- Assist private sector to create a marketing strategy for both regional and international markets;
- Facilitate effective and efficient communication between stakeholders involved in the leather sector at regional level; and
- Invite footwear and Leather goods accessories manufactures in the next consultative meeting.

Recommendations to Member States:

- Member States to enforce Standards Compliance and Conformity;
- Resource mobilization for Leather Value Chain Strategy implementation at National level;
- Establish Strategies to access affordable finance for SMEs in Member States; and
- Carry out needs assessment for common use facilities and resource mobilization in the Value Chain for member States.

Recommendations to the SME's and Private Sectors:

- To adhere to standards and conform to REACH regulations

Recommendations to the Academia:

- The academia to work with the private sector to carry out research focused on sectoral specific needs.

The 11th Regional Leather Sector Core Team (RLSCT), and 5th Stakeholder's Consultative Workshop

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- It was proposed and agreed that the next meeting (The 11th Regional Leather Sector Core Team (RLSCT), and 5th Stakeholder’s Consultative Workshop) to be hosted by Swaziland.

XV. Adoption of the Report and Closure of the Workshop

64. Following the recommendation of the Meeting, the Report, as correct records of the proceedings was adopted and then approved by acclamation.
65. In closing the Meeting, the Guest of Honour: Hon. Felix .E. Jumbe, thanked the COMESA/LLPI, Staff of the Haile Resort for their hospitality, saluted, the SMEs, Academia and National Delegates and recognized the role played by each party. He said that the SMEs have to embrace efficiency and increase productivity so that they can make economic sense. He made mention of the importance of Market Strategy, Product Development Strategy and Organization Strategy to drive the Leather Sector. Hon. Felix also mentioned the importance of inviting members of Parliament and other law makers to such forum in the future so that they can be able to formulated laws that protect the sector.

XVI. Vote of Thanks

66. The vote of thanks was given by Mrs. Beatrice Kemunto. She thanked all the participants for their commitments. She extended here sincere thanks to Honorable Jumbe, former Board Chairmen of COMESA/LLPI, Chairperson RLSCT, Chairperson SMEs and the Academia for their participation in the forum. The Private Sector, for investing in the sector, the Hotel Management for the hospitality services, LLPI Staff for tireless support. Finally wished everybody a safe fight back home.

Annex I
List of 10th RLSCT and 4th Stakeholder Consultative Workshop Participants

No.	Name	Country/City	Organization	E-mail
1.	Mr. Birizanye Serge	Burundi	Ministère du Commerce, de l'industrie des Postes et du Tourisme	sergebirizanye@yahoo.fr
2.	Mr. Bede Bedetse	"	Private Sector-Afritan	afritanleather@yahoo.fr
3.	Mr. Lazard Wamutuka Kapengela	D.R. Congo	Private Sector-SME	
4.	Mr. Ezechel Musumbu Biduaya	"	OPEC	ebiduaya@yahoo.fr
5.	Mr. Abdissa Adugna	Ethiopia	ELIA	elia.aalf@gmail.com
6.	Mr. Ifa Abdi Robi	"	Skyline Ethiopia	ifaabdi@yahoo.com
7.	Mr. Gizaw Molla	"	Private Sector -ELICO	gizawmolla@ymail.com
8.	Mr. Kidane Haile	"	Private Sector -EIFCCOS	eifccos2@gmail.com
9.	Mr. Admassu Yifru	"	Ministry of Industry	admassuyifru@ymail.com
10.	Mr. Wendu Legesse	"	LIDI	wonduleg@gmail.com
11.	Ms. Bilen Mammo	"	AYIN Institute	bilwec@hotmail.com
12.	Mrs. Nalina Rupani	Kenya	Private Sector	info@adelphileather.biz
13.	Mr. George Onyango	"	KLDC	onyangoaguyo@gmail.com
14.	Mr. Simon Nganga	"	Private Sector	sjn.nganga@gmail.com
15.	Ms. Beatrice Kemunto	"	Private Sector	bmwasi@yahoo.co.uk
16.	Mr. Yassin Awale	"	Private Sector and Advisor to the Hon. Minister	Yassin.awale@gmail.com
17.	Dr. Issack Mohamed Noor	"	KLDC-CEO	imnoor60@gmail.com
18.	Dr. Douglas Okerio Onyancha	"	, (Academia)	onyanchadouglas@gmail.com
19.	Eng. Martin Nozomo	"	Former LLPI Board Chairperson	nzomo.martin@ku.ac.ke
20.	Dr. Charles Moturi	"	Former LLPI Board Chairperson	zuriels@yahoo.com
21.	Mr. Nicholas Waitathu	"	Mass Media	nickwaitathu@yahoo.com
22.	Mr. Mayeso Nsokera	Malawi	Ministry of Industry and Trade	mayemsokera@gmail.com
23.	Mr. Crispin Amasi	"	Private Sector	masilent94@yahoo.com
24.	Mr. Felix Elia Jumbe	"	Guest of Honor	fejumbe@gmail.com
25.	Mrs. Annoncée Kuradusenge	Rwanda	LLPI Board Chairperson	akuradusenge@yahoo.fr
26.	Ms. Mukashyaka Germaine	"	Private Sector	mgermaine35@yahoo.fr
27.	Dr. Abdel-Rahim Ahmed	Sudan	TVET	rahimahmed2007@yahoo.com

28.	Dr. Haytham Osman Awadelkariem	“	NLTC	Haytham.osman@gmail.com
29.	Mr. Nasser Hashim	“	Investment Encouragement Commission - Khartoum State	elnaser56@gmail.com
30.	Mr. Nasir Mahmoud Talab	“	Ministry of Foreign Trade	nasirmt@hotmail.com
31.	Mr. Hashim Fatah Alla Khalid	“	LLPI Board Member	hashim_export@yahoo.com
32.	Prof. Mahir Salih Suliman Khaleel	“	SUST (Academia)	erosust@gmail.com
33.	Mr. Michael Zwane	Swaziland	Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry	mszwane@realnet.co.sz
34.	Mr. Sekandi Abdul Hakim	Uganda	Private Sector	sekandiha@gmail.com
35.	Mr. Musisi Bam Robert	“	Private Sector	b.musisi@yahoo.com
36.	Mrs. Victoria S. Byoma	“	Private Sector	victoriasbyoma@gmail.com
37.	Dr. Mutambi Joshua	“	Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives	jmutambi@gmail.com
38.	Ms. Diana Mtamu Muwanga	“	Makarere University	dntamu@mubs.ac.ug
39.	Mr. Charles Byogi	“	Mass media	cbwogi@yahoo.com
40.	Mrs. Theresa Chipulu	Zambia	Zambia Development Agency	Theresah.Chuula@zda.org.zm
41.	Mr. Preston Viswamo	“	Private Sector	pviswamo@yahoo.com
42.	Mr. Moses Ngosa	“	Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry	mosengosa@yahoo.com
43.	Prof. Mundia Sitwala	“	Cooperstone Univ. (Academia)	sitwalamundia@yahoo.com
44.	Mr. John Mulungoti	“	Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry	yoannes18@yahoo.co.uk
45.	Ms. Stabile Mlilo	Zimbabwe	Private Sector	mlilostar@yahoo.co.uk
46.	Mrs. Hazel Q. Magumise	“	Ministry of Industry and Commerce	hmagumise@yahoo.co.uk
47.	Mr. Clement Shoko	“	ZLDC	shokoclement@gmail.com
48.	Prof. Londiwe Nikiwane	“	National Univ. of Sc. & Techn. (Academia)	lcfigg@gmail.com
49.	Prof. Mekonnen Hailemariam	“	COMESA/LLPI	mekonnen57@gmail.com
50.	Prof. Mwinyikione Mwinyihija	Ethiopia	Executive Director – COMESA/LLPI	mmwinyi@gmail.com
51.	Mr. Nicholas Mudungwe	“	COMESA/LLPI	nikmudungwe@gmail.com
52.	Mr. Zewdu Kebede	“	“	zewdukebede@yahoo.com
53.	Dr. Tadesse H.Mamo	“	“	tadessehmamo@gmail.com
54.	Mr. Awlachew Sintie	“	“	awlachews@gmail.com

55.	Mrs. Tigist H/Giorgis	“	“	tg_zenebe@yahoo.com
56.	Mrs. Aster Shiferaw	“	“	belaynehaster@gmail.com
57.	Mr. Wondwosen Ayele	“	“	
58.	Mr. Shemsedin Nur Abdelaziz	Ethiopia	COMESA/LLPI	
59.	Mr. Paul Nteza	“	UNDP	Paul.nteza@undp.org
60.	Mr. John Avery	UK	Director, FSLTC	avery.leather@gmail.com
61.	Mr. John Hubbard	UK	SATRA Technology	John.Hubbard@satra.com
62.	Mr. Eric Robert Themmen	Italy	Gruppo Biokimica	e.themmen@gruppobiokimica.com
63.	Mr. Hernan Manson	ITC	ITC	hmanson@gmail.com

Annex II: List of Awards

Awardees	Citation
<u>Award Category A: Former Board of Directors Chairpersons</u>	
1. Dr. Charles Moturi (2012 – 2014)	has been Awarded the Certificate for His Dedicated Leadership to the Leather Sector in Africa and Sterling Recognition as the 3rd Chairperson of the Board of Directors to the COMESA/LLPI from 2012 to 2014
2. Mr. Wilson K. Mazimba (2004 – 2013)	has been Awarded the Certificate for His Dedicated Leadership to the Leather Sector in Africa and Sterling Recognition as the 2nd Chairperson of the Board of Directors to the COMESA/LLPI from 2004 to 2012
3. Eng. Martin M. Nzomo (1994 – 2004)	has been Awarded the Certificate for His Dedicated Leadership to the Leather Sector in Africa and Sterling Recognition as the 1st Chairperson of the Board of Directors to the COMESA/LLPI from 1994 to 2004
<u>Award Category B: Recognition towards Individual Efforts in the Development of the Regional Leather Sector</u>	
Mrs. Nalina Rupani	For Her Exemplary and Meritocratic Leadership for the Leather Sector Development at National and Regional Level.
Mr. Simon Nganga	For His Lifelong Dedication and Support for the SMEs Especially Directed Towards the Footwear Sub-Sector Both Nationally and Regionally.
Mrs. Victoria Senkubenge Byoma	For Her Outstanding Efforts in Spearheading SME Participation and Innovation in Both Regionally and Uganda's Leather Sector.
Eng. Mohamed Suliman Hussein	For His Unswerving Support, Commitment and Dedication to the Development of the Leather Sector in Africa.
Mr. Bede Bedetse	For His Most Outstanding and Promising Private Sector Initiative Leading to the Leather and Leather Products Development in the Region.
<u>Award Category C: Recognition for Exemplary role in Cluster Development</u>	
Mr. Preston Viswamo	For His Utmost Dedication and Commitment to the Copperbelt Leather Industry Cluster Group and for Scaling the Heights of Success in Leather Development and Trade in Zambia.
Ms. Stabile Mlilo	For Her Utmost Dedication and Commitment to the Bulawayo Leather Product Cluster Group and for Scaling the Heights of Success in Leather Skills Development in Zimbabwe.
<u>Award Category D: .Recognition of Best Institution in Artisan Training</u>	
Kerari Vocational Training Institute	By Recognizing Institution as a Center of Excellence in Artisanal Training for the Leather Sector Both Regionally and at National Level in Sudan.
<u>Award Category E: Recognition of Excellence in Collaboration with LLPI in Capacity Building and Technology Transfer</u>	
Prof. Bahri Basaran	In Attestation to His Excellent Collaboration Towards Technology Transfer Through Valued Partnership and Support to LLPI Initiatives.
Mr. Hernan Manson	For His Unswerving Support, Commitment and Dedication to the Development of the Leather Sector in Africa.

Dr Rashmi Banga	In Recognition and Appreciation of Her Unswerving Support and Significant Expertise for the Development of African Leather Sector.
Award Category G: LLPI 2016 Best Employee Award	
Estate Staff: Mr. Demise Yimer	In Recognition of and Appreciation for the Outstanding Commitment and Unparalleled Service to COMESA—Leather and Leather Products Institute, has been Awarded this Certificate of Best Employee at the Estate Staff Cadre for the Year 2016.
General Staff: Mr. Mekonnen Yeshitla	In Recognition of and Appreciation for the Outstanding Commitment and Impearled Service to COMESA—Leather and Leather Products Institute, has been Awarded this Certificate of Best Employee at the General Staff Cadre for the Year 2016.
Professional Staff: Mr. Nicholas Mudungwe	In Recognition of and Appreciation for the Outstanding Commitment and Unparalleled Service to COMESA—Leather and Leather Products Institute, has been Awarded this Certificate of Best Employee at the Professional Cadre for the Year 2016.
Award Category H: LLPI 2016 Executive Director's Award	
Long Serving Staff: Dr. Tadess H. Mamo	COMESA/LLPI Awards this Certificate For His Excellent Exhibition of Professionalism and Unparalleled Dedicated Service to COMESA/LLPI, the Region and Africa as whole during His Tenure of 13 Years of Service.
Award Category I: LLPI 2016 ED's Book Donation	
Kerari Vocational Training Institute	Book Donation
Dedan Kimathi University of Technology	Book Donation
National University of Science and Technology, Zimbabwe (NUST)	Book Donation

See the list of awardees with pictures at our website at the following link : [List of Awardees](#)

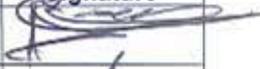
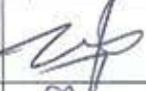
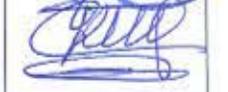
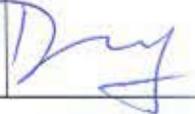
Annex III : Minutes of Academia Meeting

	Organization Name:	Document No:
	COMESA-Leather and Leather Products Institute	COMESA-LLPI-OF-020
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1. KEY INFORMATION

Description/Department	Minutes of Consultative Meeting of Academia Platform to Promote Leather Sector Development in the COMESA Region
Meeting No.	02
Previous M. No	01
Initiated by	
Date	14 th December 2016
Venue	Haile Resort, Hawassa, Ethiopia
Start/finishTime	18:00 Hrs. – 18:45 Hrs.

2. PARTICIPANTS

Nc	Name	Title	Address	Signature
1.	Prof. Sitwala Mundia	Vice Chancellor Copperstone University, Zambia	sitwalamundia@copperstone.ac.zm Tel: +260966945926	
2.	Prof. Mekonnen Hailemariam	Leather Value Chain Expert and Personal Assistant to the Executive director, -COMESA/LLPI	mekonnen57@gmail.com mekonnenh@comesa-llpi.int Tel: +251 911 662669	
3.	Diana Ntamu	Makarere University Business School-Uganda	dntamu@mubd.ac.ug dntamula@mmbs.ac.ug	
4.	Prof. Londiwe Nkiwane	National University of Science and Technology, Zimbabwe	lonliwe.nkiwane@nust.ac.zw	
5.	Prof. Dr. Mahir Salih Suleiman Khaleel	Deputy Vice Chancellor, Sudan University of Science and Technology, Sudan	Mahirkhaleel@yahoo.com Tel: +249914000753	
6.	Eng. Marthin Nzomo	Dean School of Engineering and Technology, Kenyatta University, Kenya	nzomo.martin@ku.ac.ke Tel: +254722516125	
7.	Mrs Annoncee Kuraduserge	Manager, Agro processing, Biotechnological Research Division, National Industrial Research and Development/NIRDA	annonceek@gmail.com annonce.kuraduserge@nirda.gov.rw Tel: +250 788430260	
8.	Dr. Douglas Onyantha	Dean School of Science, Dedan Kimathi University of Technology (DeKUT), Kenya Secretary of the day	douglas.onyantha@dkut.ac.ke Tel: +254 712982910	

3. AGENDA

Agenda Item	Status	When	Who
Point of Clarification	Prof. Sitwala Mundia was elected as the	Chairperson of the	academia platform
The minutes of the previous meeting held November 20, 2015 were read and adopted			
1. Collaboration between Academic Institutions and COMESA/LLPI to support the development of the Leather Sector in the COMESA Region			
Heads of Academic Institutions invited by COMESA-Leather and Leather Products Institute (COMESA/LLPI) to attend the "4 th Regional Stakeholders Consultative Meeting and COMESA/LLPI" had sideline meeting to discuss on the importance of collaboration between Academic Institutions and COMESA/LLPI to support the development of the Leather Sector in the COMESA Region. The following items were discussed and agreed on.			

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<p>A. <i>That the Universities in COMESA region with interest in leather science, teaching and business collaborate to support the leather sector development.</i></p> <p>Terms of references (TOR) to be prepared by COMESA LLPI and come up with program of action.</p> <p>COMESA/LLPI to facilitate/support Capacity building of Universities so that they are able to undertake projects.</p>	<p>Agreed</p>	<p>Starting from December, 2016</p>	<p>COMESA/LLPI DeKUT, MUBS, NUST,SUST, KU, Copperstone</p>
<p>B. <i>That an Academia Collaboration Platform, under the auspices of COMESA/LLPI be established.</i></p> <p>That the academia collaboration platform under the auspice of COMESA/LLPI be launched</p>	<p>Agreed</p>	<p>Starting from December, 2016</p>	<p>DeKUT, MOBS, COMESA/LLPI, NUST,SUST, KU, Copperstone</p>
<p>C. <i>That the Universities DeKUT, MOUBS and AAIT represented at this consultative meeting be initial members of this platform as other interested Universities are invited to join in future.</i></p> <p>New member Universities were admitted to the academia platform and these are.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Kenyatta University, Kenya 2. Copperstone University, Zambia 3. Sudan University of Science and Technology, Sudan 4. National University of Science and Technology, Zimbabwe 	<p>Agreed</p>	<p>Starting from November, 2015</p>	<p>DeKUT, MUBS, COMESA/LLPI, NUST,SUST, KU, Copperstone</p>
<p>D. <i>That Prof. Sitwala Mundia from Copperstone University, in his capacity as Chairperson, to represent Academia in discussions and communications with COMESA/LLPI as a chair person.</i></p>	<p>Agreed</p>	<p>Starting from December, 2016</p>	<p>DeKUT, MOUBS, NUST,SUST, KU, Copperstone</p>
<p>E. <i>Prof. Mekonnen Hailemariam will serve as contact person from COMESA/LLPI side for all communications with the Academia</i></p>	<p>Agreed</p>	<p>Starting from November, 2015</p>	<p>COMESA/LLPI</p>
<p>F. <i>That subsequently, strategies and programmes for the platforms shall be developed with initiatives from COMESA/LLPI and of the Academia.</i></p> <p>Needs assessment of leather sector by the universities to understand the gaps that are existing.</p> <p>Universities to come up with relevant programs to assist the leather sector in the region and be results driven.</p> <p>Each university to develop strategies and engage with COMESA/LLPI.</p>	<p>Agreed</p>	<p>Starting from December, 2016</p>	<p>DeKUT, MUBS, COMESA/LLPI, NUST,SUST, KU, Copperstone</p>

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<p>Universities to collaborate among themselves on issues of leather technology in the region.</p> <p>Noted that concept notes and projects have been initiated for the following universities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DeKUT • MUBS • NUST 			
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4. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

As there was no any other business to be discussed the meeting was closed at 18:45 pm

Note: Participants informed that COMESA/LLPI Academic activities are recommended by the COMESA high level organs.


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