

**DECISION ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AFRICAN CONTINENTAL FREE TRADE AREA (AfCFTA) AND THE THEME OF THE YEAR 2023 – “ACCELERATION OF THE AfCFTA IMPLEMENTATION”– Doc. EX.CL/1441(XLIII)**

**The Executive Council,**

1. **RECALLS** Decisions Assembly/AU/Dec.861(XXXVI) on the Theme of the Year as “*Acceleration of AfCFTA Implementation*” and EX.CL/Dec.1202(XLII) on the report of the AfCFTA Secretariat of February 2023;
2. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the AfCFTA Secretariat and the recommendations therein on the implementation of the AfCFTA and celebration of the Theme of the Year 2023;
3. **REQUESTS** the Regional Economic Communities (RECs), African Financial Institutions and other Development Partners to support the 2<sup>nd</sup> AfCFTA Guided Trade (GTI), the Corridor approach intervention in Trade Facilitation and other on-going initiatives aimed at boosting Intra-Africa Trade;
4. **ALSO REQUESTS** the AfCFTA Secretariat to continue supporting the negotiation of pending legal instruments; implement the AfCFTA Private Sector Strategy and the Host Country Agreement;
5. **DIRECTS** the AfCFTA Secretariat to engage in revenue- generating activities and resources mobilization to facilitate the full implementation of the AfCFTA and report as specified under the Revised Financial Rules;
6. **FURTHER DIRECTS** the AfCFTA Secretariat to continue monitoring the implementation of the AfCFTA and present an update report to the 44<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the Executive Council in February 2024.