

AU Commissioner meets joint EU-Africa PanAfGeo and AfricaMaVal delegation

8th July 2022, Lusaka, Zambia

The African Union Commissioner for Economic Development, Trade, Tourism, Industry and Minerals (ETTİM) H.E. Ambassador Albert Muchanga met a joint EU-Africa PanAfGeo and AfricaMaVal projects delegation composed of French Geological Surveys (BRGM), EuroGeoSurveys (EGS), Organisation of African Geological Surveys (OAGS) and Minerals Africa Development Institution (MADI). The meeting took place at the Kenneth Kaunda Wing of the newly refurbished Mulungushi International Conference Centre in Lusaka, Zambia on 8th July 2022.



Delegation with the African Union Commissioner

The purpose of the meeting was to develop a strong relationship between the OAGS and the AUC and to inform the Commissioner about key projects being implemented in Africa supported by the EU namely; the PanAfGeo 2, a capacity Building Project for African geoscientists that are being implemented jointly by EGS and OAGS and AfricaMaVal with an objective of building partnerships on critical raw materials value chains between EU and Africa.

In his opening remarks, H.E Ambassador Albert Muchanga welcomed the delegation and thanked BRGM and EGS for having organised and coordinated the meeting. He informed the meeting that he had a fruitful virtual meeting with Executives of the Organisation of African Geological Surveys (OAGS) that was organised by the African Minerals Development Centre (AMDC). He was happy to meet the representatives of OAGS in a physical meeting.



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During the meeting, Mr. Jean Claude Guillaneau, (BRGM) Coordinator of both PanAfGeo and AfricaMaVal projects and Head of Delegation informed the Commissioner about the objectives of the meeting and made a detailed presentation of both projects highlighting key objectives and intended outcomes. He presented the key results of PanAfGeo phase 1, which impressed the Commissioner. He also gave reasons why some AU member States such as Burundi, Angola or Mauritius had not fully benefited from Phase one due to language as well as challenges of getting participants from member States to apply and stressed that these would benefit from Phase 2 of PanAfGeo. He gave an example of the Portuguese-speaking countries which benefited only partially from phase one because the Portuguese language was included only at the end of phase one but it is fully included in phase 2. He, therefore, called upon the African Union Commission to recognise the Organisation of African Geological Surveys (OAGS), which is in partnership with the EuroGeoSurveys (EGS) in the implementation of the PanAfGeo project. He specifically requested support from the Commissioner to expedite the Memorandum of Understanding between AUC and OAGS.

In his concluding remarks, the AU Commissioner offered full support to the conclusion of the MoU between AUC and OAGS and requested his staff members to follow up expeditiously. He informed the meeting that the process of finalising the MoU has commenced and could take between three to six months. He welcomed the partnership between the AUC and EU (BRGM and EGS) in the implementation of the Africa Mining Vision. It was, therefore, agreed that the MoU should include the collaboration between OAGS and BRGM/EGS for the implementation of PanAfGeo and any other EU funded projects.

Further, the delegations paid courtesy calls to the Zambian Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development officials including the Minister Hon. Paul Kabuswe and the Permanent Secretary Mr. Sakwiba Musiwa who welcomed and thanked the delegation on behalf of the Zambian Government. The Minister and his staff pledged support for the projects and unveiled and outlined key projects being undertaken by the government where partnership and collaboration could be pursued. These include harmonisation and professionalisation of Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining (ASM) and conducting extensive geological surveys and exploration of the country among others.

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Meeting with the Zambian Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development

Composition of the delegation: Mr. Jean-Claude Guillaneau – Head of Delegation (BRGM); Ms Celine Adriene - EGS; Mr. David Khoza – OAGS; Mr. Frank Mugenyi – MADI.

PanAfGeo Project

PanAfGeo is an EU co-funded initiative that began in 2016 and is supported by the European Union and the African Union through the Africa-EU Partnership. The project gives trainees from the geoscientific staff of the African Geological Surveys state-of-the-art tools, methods and experienced knowledge in 8 geoscientific skills through innovative training methods.

A brochure outlining the aims and plans for PanAfGeo-2 can be found, [here](#).

For more information, visit: <http://panafgeo.eurogeosurveys.org/>

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