



WEST AFRICA REGIONAL MINING FORUM

CONAKRY, February 11-12, 2008

**The Mining sector Governance
in the Regional Integration
Dashboard of ECOWAS**



Content

Introduction

- 1) Governance in ECOWAS platform
- 2) the Governance of Mineral and other Natural Resources in the ECOWAS and NEPAD dashboard
- 3) The response of the ECOWAS Conflict Prevention Framework

Conclusion



INTRODUCTION

- ✦ West Africa is endowed with significant amount of mineral resources
- ✦ Major mineral resources include gold, diamond, iron ore, manganese, uranium, bauxite, phosphate, titanium, Lead/Zinc, Limestone, etc
- ✦ However, Poverty & Impoverishment are widely spread
- ✦ Resource-rich countries do not take advantage of this endowment to speed up their development
- ✦ These Countries have rather been confronted with civil wars, non-stability, etc.
- ✦ Hence, the importance of Good Governance !



ECOWAS Vision

- Create a borderless sub-region in which the peoples have access to and are able to enjoy its enormous resources through the creation of opportunities of sustainable production and jobs, with equitable distribution systems;
- A space in which the people transact business and live in peace under the rule of law, good governance and in a healthy environment;
- A zone that is an integral part of the African continental space, within the context of a global village, where all human beings live in dignity through an equitable exchange and mutual solidarity, guided by shared principles.

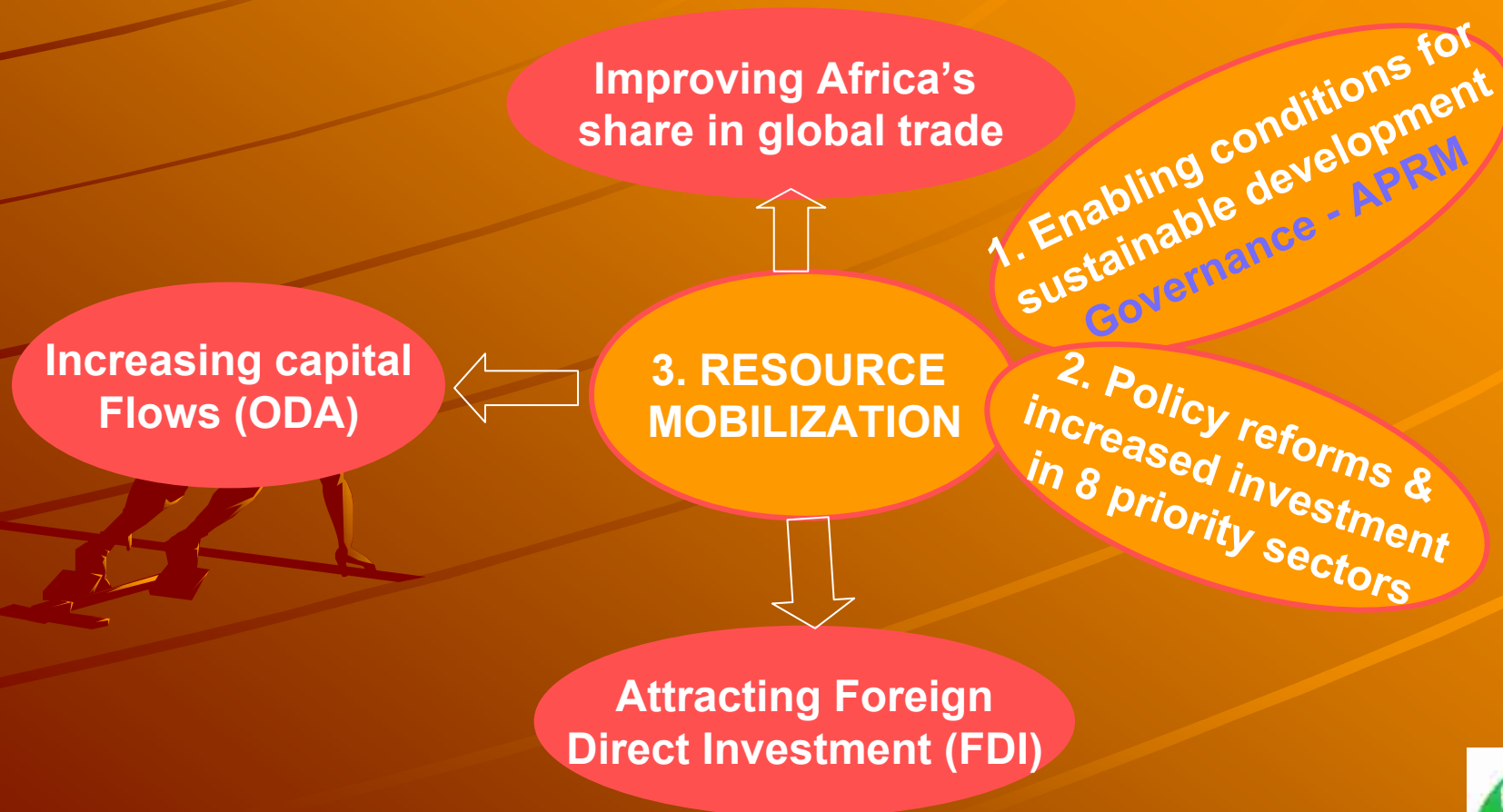


The Regional Integration dashboard

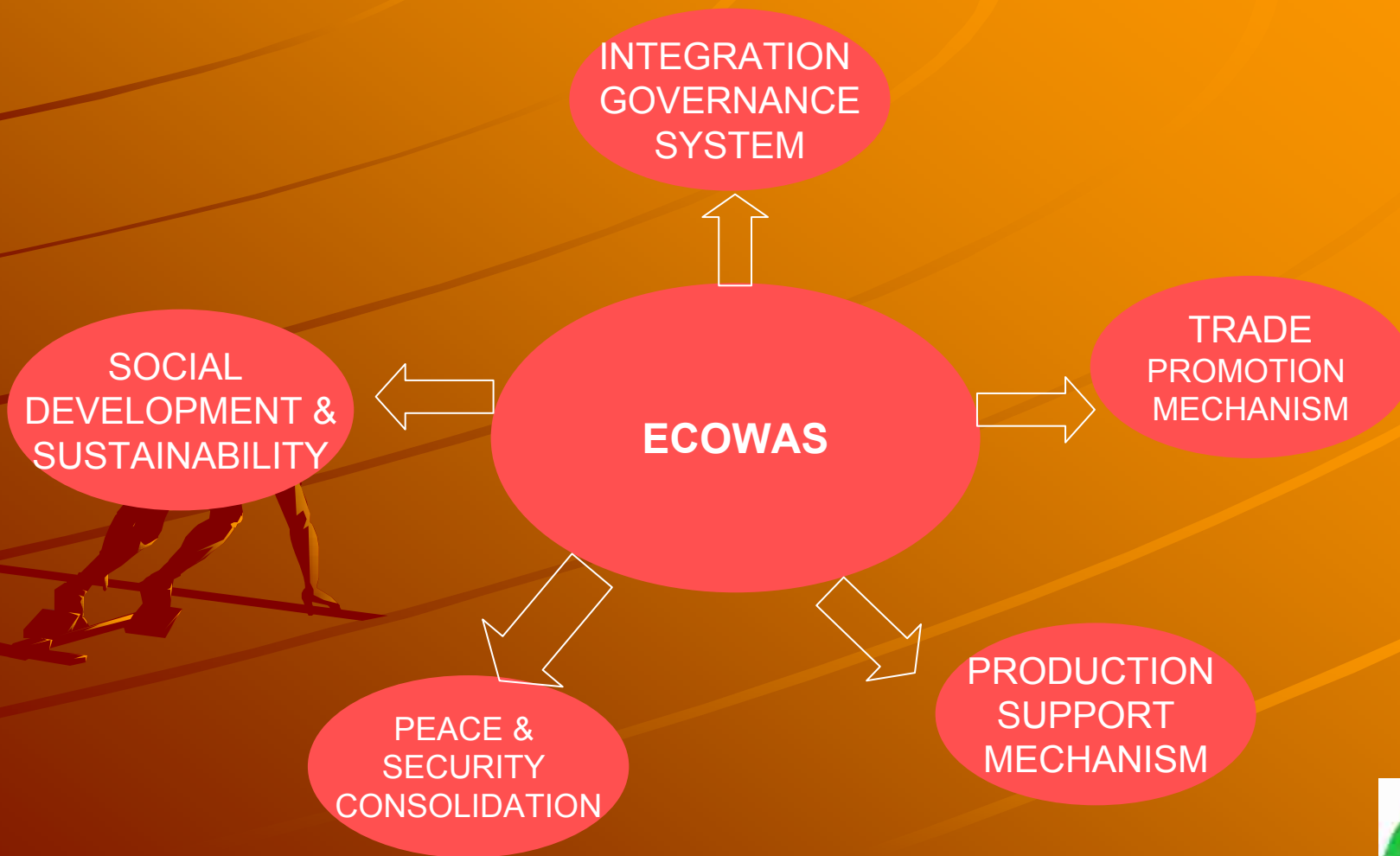
SHARED VISION

- Effective Community Governance System
- Effective Common Market
- Effective Monetary Union
- Effective Integration Financing System
- Common Conflict Prevention, Defence and Security System
- Key Integration Policies/Programmes (including Mining)
- Key Regulatory Bodies in Strategic Sectors (including Mining)
- Other Conditions for an Effective Economic Union established

Mining in the NEPAD dashboard



Mining in the ECOWAS dashboard





Mining & the ECOWAS Platform

- ◆ ECOWAS Treaty, (28th May 1975), &
- ◆ Revised Treaty of ECOWAS (24th July, 1993)
- ◆ The Protocol on Non-Aggression (1978) and the related Protocol on Mutual Assistance in Defence (1981).
- ◆ The Protocol on Free Movement of Persons, Residence and Establishment (1979) with its associated supplements sets out the principles, definitions, criteria, obligations and codes of movement and settlement, as well as citizenship within the Community.
- ◆ The Declaration of Political Principles (1981) reaffirmed the commitment of ECOWAS Member States to guarantee fundamental human rights, individual freedoms, the rule of law, and responsive and responsible governance to their citizens.
- ◆ The Protocol Relating to the Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management, Resolution, Peace-keeping and Security (10 December 1999)



Mining & the ECOWAS Protocol on Democracy & good governance

- ✦ The Supplementary Protocol on Democracy and Good Governance (21 December, 2001) was adopted to reinforce the Declaration of Political Principles and the Mechanism. It sets out the constitutional convergence criteria for Community membership based on the principles of good governance :
- ✦ – respect for the rule of law, the separation of powers, the independence of the judiciary, the promotion of non-partisan and responsible press and the democratic control of the armed forces.
- ✦ It also commits Member States to ensure poverty alleviation, uphold, defend and promote international norms regarding basic human rights, including the rights of minorities, children, youth and women.



Mining & the ECOWAS Protocol on Democracy & good governance

- ◆ The Protocol on Democracy and Good Governance also advocates for the strict adherence to constitutional norms in electoral practices that reject unconstitutional accession to or maintenance of power and sets the parameters for the conduct of peaceful and credible elections that are free, fair and transparent.
- ◆ The protocol further tasks ECOWAS to assist Member States in electoral matters.



The ECOWAS Conflict Prevention Framework *(Adopted in January 2008)*

- ◆ **EARLY WARNING**
- ◆ **PREVENTIVE DIPLOMACY**
- ◆ **DEMOCRACY AND POLITICAL GOVERNANCE**
- ◆ **HUMAN RIGHTS AND RULE OF LAW**
- ◆ **MEDIA**
- ◆ **NATURAL RESOURCE GOVERNANCE**
- ◆ **CROSS-BORDER INITIATIVES**
- ◆ **Etc.**



NATURAL RESOURCE GOVERNANCE IN THE ECPF

- ✦ Designed to facilitate the implementation of Articles 25 and 29-31 of the Revised ECOWAS Treaty and Article 3 (i), (j) of the Mechanism,
- ✦ the objective of Natural Resource Governance shall be to ensure that the management processes for natural resources, including the identification (exploration), contract award and exploitation, as well as the disbursement and use of benefits accruing from such resources, are transparent, equitable, environmental-friendly and ensure balanced and sustainable development, social cohesion and stability.
- ✦ For the purposes of this ECPF, natural resources refer to land, water, the environment and all material objects, natural or synthetic, found on and below the land, in and beneath water masses and in the atmosphere, and which can be transformed to produce value.



NATURAL RESOURCE GOVERNANCE IN THE ECPF

- ✦ **the mapping of resource endowments in Member States and in the sub-region through an audit of current reserves and projections into the future**
- ✦ develop and apply regional norms and standards in natural resource governance, and which shall draw from existing national, regional and international regulatory mechanisms such as the Kimberly Process Certification Scheme (KPCS) and other transparency and responsibility pacts.
- ✦ develop, capitalise and apply government and corporate social responsibility pacts to underpin resource exploitation in the extractive sector.
- ✦ **A regional programme of capacity support for the Natural Resource Governance enables ECOWAS Commission & Member States to implement the regional strategy**
- ✦ **Etc.**



ECONOMIC EXPECTATIONS

- ◆ Economic recovery of the region
- ◆ Increased industrialization
- ◆ Job creation
- ◆ wealth creation and
- ◆ Poverty reduction



Conclusion



The good governance of mineral resources should help consolidate peace, and accelerate the integration of West Africa's mining industry. It should attract mining investment needed to create wealth for the citizens while protecting and enhancing the social life and environment of local mining communities.

