

## Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title: The African Continental Free Trade Agreement: Prospects for U.S. Agricultural Trade and Investments

Type of Report (ERR, EIB, EB, TB, SOR,) EIB

Agency: Economic Research Service [X] Influential Scientific Information  
USDA [ ] Highly Influential Scientific Assessment

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Subject of Review: The African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) will soon be the largest free trade area in the world once fully operational (in terms of the number of countries)– connecting 1.3 billion people across 55 countries with a combined gross domestic product (GDP) valued at \$3.4 trillion. The free trade area could, particularly, impact African agricultural trade as growth in their economies could increase the demand for processed agricultural products – offering expanding opportunities for U.S. agricultural trade and investments in the region. This report examines past and emerging trends in Africa’s agricultural trade to discuss sources and destinations and investigates what it may mean for future U.S. investments and trade in the region. Particular attention is given to assessing changing patterns of agricultural trade from within and outside the continent, including within existing free trade areas.

Purpose of Review: The purpose of the review is to ensure the high-quality of the economic analysis, transparent explanation of methods, objective interpretation of results, and effective communication to the intended audience.

Type of Review: [ ] Panel Review [X] Individual Reviewers  
[ ] Alternative Process (Briefly Explain):

Timing of Review (Est.): Start: 10/28/2021 Completed: 3/3/2022 Withdrawn: --/--/----

Number of Reviewers: [ ] 3 or fewer [x] 4 to 10 [ ] More than 10

Primary Disciplines/Types of Expertise Needed for Review: Economists

Reviewers selected by: [X] Agency [ ] Designated Outside Organization  
Organization’s Name:

Opportunities for Public Comment? [ ] Yes [X] No

If yes, briefly state how and when these opportunities will be provided:

How:

When:

Peer Reviewers Provided with Public Comments? [ ] Yes [X] No

Public Nominations Requested for Review Panel? [ ] Yes [X] No