

Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title: Conflict and Trade in Africa: Implications for the African Continental Free Trade Area

Type of Report (ERR, EIB, EB) EIB

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

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Subject of Review: Despite an increase the number of regional trade agreements in Africa, the prevalence of conflict on the continent continues to persist and grow. With the recent launching of the Africa Continental Free Trade Area in 2021, this raises two important questions: (i) Will the presence of conflict limit the gains to be had from more open trade? (ii) Will more open trade decrease or increase the prevalence of conflict? This report discusses both sides of the bi-directional relationship between conflict and international trade by reviewing the associated theoretical and empirical literature. This report also conducts three regional case studies that illustrate the complex relationship between conflict and trade within some of the existing free trade areas in Africa to offer important lessons for the AfCFTA.

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: 04/08/2022 Completed: 07/07/2022

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

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