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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Ghana hosts the Second Joint Meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Senior Officials and Experts for North & West Africa

Accra, 31st October 2023 – From the 1st to the 3rd of November 2023, Ghana will host the Second Joint Meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Senior Officials and Experts (ICSOE) for North Africa and West Africa, with the theme, "**Investing in Energy Transition, Food Security, and Regional Value Chains for Sustainable Development in the North and West Africa Sub-Regions.**"

The event will serve as a forum for cross-learning and cross-fertilization between the two regions. Policymakers and professionals from the two sub-regions will explore some of the most pressing problems to sustainable development, share best practises, and design actionable solutions for member states, the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), and other development players.

The 2023 second joint ICSOE meeting will be attended by Policymakers and Experts from twenty-two (22) countries of the two sub-regions, North African countries and fifteen West African countries.

There will also be high-level officials from national ministries, administrations, and institutions in charge of planning, economic and social development, finance, employment, trade and industry, statistics, energy, agriculture, and the environment.

The following main issues will be addressed at the Second Joint ICSOE Meeting:

- i. North and West Africa's serious food security challenges Sub-regions
- ii. Promoting regional value chains across West and North Africa for long-term industrialization
- iii. Accelerating the energy transition for North and West Africa's sustainable development

Proposals, along with the conclusions of the policy dialogues held independently in the two sub-regions, will be offered for assessment and decision at the ECA Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning, and Economic Development.

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