



**UNITED NATIONS  
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA**

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

**2012 ECOSOC Annual Ministerial Review  
“Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) as drivers of productive  
capacity and job creation”**

**Statement**

**by**

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Economic Commission for Africa**

**AU, Addis Ababa  
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**the experiences of post-conflict countries attest to the havoc that political**



**participation by the State and the private sector to stimulate an environment that nurtures and supports SME productive capacity and creativity. I believe that this factor, coupled with the other critical development paradigms, will facilitate Africa's emergence as the next global growth pole.**

**I thank you for your kind attention and I wish you fruitful deliberations.**