



FEDERAL MINISTRY OF
INDUSTRY, TRADE &
INVESTMENT



Nigeria AfCFTA Achievements

Report 2025



2025 AfCFTA Milestones

January 2025 - January 2025 – hosted the Secretary General of the AfCFTA Secretariat along with Nigerian Digital Operators.

February 2025 - Appointed as Co-Champion of the AfCFTA Protocol on Digital Trade (alongside Kenya and South Africa) by the African Union Assembly of Heads of State and Government.
- Mr. President received the commendation of the African Union Assembly of Heads of State and Government for advancing digital trade in Africa.

March 2025 - Inaugurated the AfCFTA Central Coordination Committee (CCC) that establishes a whole-of-economy structure bringing together over twenty key public and private stakeholder institutions.

April 2025 - Gazetted Nigeria's Provisional Schedule of Tariff Concessions for Trade in Goods.
- Conducted the first-ever national mapping of digital services, generating directory of over 200 digital service firms operating in 17 sectors.

May 2025 - Won hosting rights for the second edition of the AfCFTA Digital Forum.
- Launched a dedicated Exports Air Cargo Corridor to East and Southern Africa in partnership with Uganda Airlines and UNDP.
- Published a Market Intelligence Tool covering cosmetics, agro-processed products, and textiles across thirteen East and Southern African markets, in collaboration with UNDP.

July 2025 - Became the first AfCFTA State Party to conclude and publish review of AfCFTA implementation at the 5th year mark as mandated by Article 28 of the AfCFTA Agreement.

September 2025 - Won the bid to host the Intra-African Trade Fair 2027 and Creative Africa Nexus 2026.

October 2025 - Submitted Nigeria's Schedule of Specific Commitments for Trade in Services to ECOWAS Commission.
- Convened the first AfCFTA Regional Digital Market Access and Regulators' Roundtable with Egypt, Ghana, Kenya, Rwanda and South Africa and established a Regional Digital Trade Regulators' Working Group.
- Won the bid to host the 2026 meeting of the AfCFTA Council of Ministers.

November 2025 - Approved the ratification of the AfCFTA Protocol on Digital Trade.
- Convened the AfCFTA Public Sector, Private Sector and Press (P3) Summit.
- Launched a nationwide AfCFTA Sensitisation and Consultation Campaign.
- Published the National Action Plan Framework of the AfCFTA Central Coordination Committee.

December 2025 - Preparation of AfCFTA Knowledge Products.

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01 Overview

The African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Agreement is the apotheosis of Africa's journey of trade-led economic integration. Through the progressive elimination of tariffs, removal of other barriers, and regulatory cooperation among AfCFTA State Parties, the continental trade agreement establishes an economic arrangement that ensures African producers, investors, traders and workers can profitably convert opportunity and effort to prosperity. The key argument for the AfCFTA is simply that Africa retains more value when she trades with herself. By implication, Africa's economic development ambitions are inseparable from the ambition of the AfCFTA market.

Nigeria is Africa's champion of trade-led regional integration, the birthplace of a significant number of the anchor continental instruments that underpin the AfCFTA Agreement. These include the Lagos Plan of Action (1980) and the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community (1991), also known as the Abuja Treaty. It was also in Nigeria

that the negotiations for the AfCFTA Agreement were concluded in 2017. Nigeria signed the AfCFTA Agreement in 2019 and ratified it in 2020. In 2025, the Federal Government of Nigeria through the Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment (FMITI) reinvigorated implementation of the AfCFTA Agreement.

FMITI led Nigeria to many important 'firsts' – Nigeria is the first AfCFTA State Party to undertake a review of AfCFTA implementation at the 5th year mark, to ratify the AfCFTA Protocol on Digital Trade, and to establish a dedicated AfCFTA air cargo exports corridor. In addition, FMITI has taken concrete steps to position and equip Nigerian businesses to succeed in the AfCFTA market.

This report presents Nigeria's renewed efforts and successes on AfCFTA implementation in 2025 that contributes to a thriving and prosperous One African Market.

02

Institutional Mechanisms and Policy/Regulatory Action for Effective Implementation of the AfCFTA Agreement

The Honourable Minister of Industry, Trade and Investment inaugurated the AfCFTA Central Coordination Committee (CCC) in March 2025. This whole-of-economy structure brings together over twenty (20) key stakeholder institutions in the public and private sector to strengthen multistakeholder coordination of Nigeria's efforts for effective implementation of the AfCFTA Agreement and its Protocols.

Key Results

In July 2025, Nigeria became the first AfCFTA State Party to conclude and publish a review of AfCFTA implementation at the 5th year mark, as mandated by Article 28 of the AfCFTA Agreement. This review is an honest and objective self-reflection to indicate frictions, challenges, and successes that has informed key actions by FMITI and the AfCFTA CCC.

In November 2025, the AfCFTA CCC under the direction of the Honourable Minister of Industry, Trade and Investment convened the AfCFTA Public Sector, Private Sector and Press (P3) Summit to foster a common understanding of the AfCFTA Framework and the resultant implications and opportunities for Nigeria. The Summit kickstarted a nationwide AfCFTA Sensitisation and Consultation Campaign that will formulate a national blueprint to ensure the AfCFTA works for Nigeria.



AfCFTA Public, Private and Press Summit

Other key outcomes include the following:

- Constituent institutions of the AfCFTA CCC have clearly articulated their roles and responsibilities for AfCFTA implementation. The Framework of the AfCFTA CCC National Action Plan is also publicly published.
- An AfCFTA Institutional Barometer has been developed to enable performance assessment and ensure accountability of AfCFTA CCC constituent institutions.
- FMITI, in collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning, will work with State Governments to ensure that every Local Government Area indicates a minimum of one product that can be exported to the AfCFTA market.
- The core elements of a national AfCFTA market strategy are outlined, to be made more robust through deeper consultation with the private sector throughout 2026.
- The Press have a better appreciation of the AfCFTA Agreement and Protocols, as well as a holistic understanding of Nigeria's approach to implementation.

03

Nigeria is Ready, Equipped, and Positioned to Trade in the AfCFTA Market

FMITI has taken concrete steps to ensure Nigeria's substantive readiness to trade within Africa under the preferential terms of the AfCFTA. Nigeria has fulfilled key obligations under the AfCFTA Agreement and Protocols on Trade in Goods, Trade in Services, and Digital Trade by gazetting the relevant legal instruments. Accordingly, Nigerian businesses and products can benefit from better and preferential treatment in the AfCFTA market. In addition, FMITI has undertaken strategic initiatives to position and equip Nigerian businesses to succeed in the AfCFTA market.

A. Trade in Goods

Nigeria gazetted the Provisional Schedule of Tariff Concessions for Trade in Goods in April 2025, to trade goods under AfCFTA terms, as outlined in Articles 8–9 of the Protocol on Trade in Goods, on tariff liberalisation.

Implication: Nigeria now applies preferential and reduced tariffs on goods originating in Africa. Nigerian-made goods will receive similar preferential treatment in other AfCFTA State Parties that have gazetted AfCFTA Schedules of Tariff Concessions.

Positioning Nigerian Businesses to Benefit:

FMITI launched a dedicated Exports Air Cargo Corridor to East and Southern Africa, in partnership with Uganda Airlines and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Cargo rates on this corridor are 50% - 75% cheaper than prevailing comparative market rates.

Also, in collaboration with UNDP, FMITI published a Market Intelligence Tool on the trade of cosmetics, agro-processed products, and textiles with thirteen (13) East and Southern

African markets. This tool provides Nigerian businesses with insights into trade trends that contribute to better informed market decisions.



Launch of the Nigeria/East and Southern Africa Air Cargo Corridor

B. Trade in Services

Nigeria submitted the Schedule of Specific Commitments for Trade in Services to the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Commission in October 2025. This Schedule will be further submitted to the African Union Assembly of Heads of State and Government by the ECOWAS Commission in 2026. This reflects tangible progress toward fulfilling Nigeria's obligations on progressive

liberalisation of services sectors under Articles 18 and 19 of the AfCFTA Protocol on Trade in Services.

Implication: After gazetting of the Schedule, Nigerian services suppliers (firms and individuals) of over 90 specific services in the five AfCFTA priority sectors of Business Services, Communication Services, Financial Services, Transport and Tourism will benefit from preferential treatment in AfCFTA State Parties. Nigeria will provide similar preferential treatment to service suppliers from other African countries.

Positioning Nigerian Businesses to Benefit: Consultations with Nigerian service suppliers from 2026 are expected to highlight key markets of interest, barriers, concerns, opportunities and the necessary actions for FMITI and the AfCFTA CCC.

C. Digital Trade

Nigeria approved the ratification of the AfCFTA Protocol on Digital Trade in November 2025, signalling its readiness to advance intra-African digital trade, in accordance with Articles 5 - 7 of the AfCFTA Protocol on Digital Trade.

Implication: Nigerian digital products can benefit from preferential treatment and better regulatory protections when traded across Africa. Nigeria provides similar preferential treatment to digital products originating in AfCFTA State Parties.

Positioning Nigerian Businesses to Benefit:

- i. **Mapping of Nigerian Digital Services:** In April 2025, FMITI conducted the first-ever national mapping of digital services. This mapping has generated a directory of over 200 Nigerian digital service firms, operating in 17 distinct sectors, that are willing to explore the African market. Five countries are prioritised by these digital service firms - Egypt, Ghana, Kenya, Rwanda, and South Africa.
- ii. **Regional Digital Trade Roundtable:** The mapping exercise informed Nigeria's convening in October 2025 of the first AfCFTA Regional Digital Trade Market Access and Regulators' Roundtable with these five countries. This Roundtable also established a Regional Regulators' Working Group that facilitates market access, works toward streamlined regulatory approvals, and supports continuous dialogue among five priority countries to benefit Nigerian digital services.



AfCFTA Digital Trade Market Access and Regulators' Roundtable

04

Continental Influence and Recognition on Intra-African Trade

At the regional level, Nigeria is an influential and recognised champion of intra-African trade. In 2025, Nigeria secured strategic recognitions and hosting rights that position the country as a key facilitator of intra-African trade:

i The Creative Africa Nexus (CANEX) and Intra-African Trade Fair 2027

The Intra-African Trade Fair is Africa's largest marketplace, organised by the African Export-Import Bank, in collaboration with the African Union Commission, and the AfCFTA Secretariat. The Fair connects buyers, sellers, investors, and governments to unlock opportunities presented by the African Continental Free Trade Area. In September 2025, Nigeria successfully won the bid to host the Intra-African Trade Fair 2027 and the precursor Creative Africa Nexus 2026.



Nigeria winning the bid to host the Intra-African Trade Fair 2027

ii Digital Trade

In February 2025, His Excellency, President Bola Ahmed Tinubu was appointed as a Co-Champion (with Kenya and South Africa) of the AfCFTA Protocol on Digital Trade by the African Union Assembly of Heads of State and Government.

As Co-Champion of this Protocol, Nigeria is responsible for supporting the development of implementation modalities and mobilising other AfCFTA State Parties towards effective implementation. In May 2025, Nigeria won the hosting rights for the second edition of the AfCFTA Digital Forum, organised by the AfCFTA Secretariat. The first edition of the Forum held in Zambia.



05 Global Advocacy for the AfCFTA

At global fora, the Honourable Minister, Industry, Trade and Investment engaged the trade and investment community on opportunities under the AfCFTA, encouraged respect for Africa's trade/development agenda, and advocated for investment into Africa's productive capacity and trade infrastructure.



UNCTAD16 with Dr. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala; Director-General, World Trade Organisation, Ms. Pamela Coke-Hamilton, Executive Director, International Trade Centre, and Ms. Rebeca Grynspan, Secretary-General, UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD)



Meeting with Prof. Benedict Oramah, the Immediate Past President of AFREXIM Bank at the World Economic Forum 2025



Meeting with Dr. Marion Jansen, Director of the Trade and Agriculture Directorate, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development



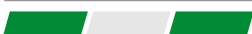
United Nations General Assembly 80 with Ms. Ahunna Eziakonwa, UN Assistant Secretary General and Director of the UNDP Regional Bureau for Africa



Meeting with Mr. Shri Piyush Goyal, Minister of Commerce and Industry, India on the sidelines of the Informal Meeting of WTO Ministers hosted by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development



Informal Meeting of WTO Ministers hosted by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development



06

Looking Forward – the Nigeria AfCFTA Agenda in 2026

These milestones form the baseline for deepened efforts in 2026 to ensure that institutional processes are efficient and effective. FMITI and the AfCFTA CCC will intensify efforts for public sector, private sector and press collaboration to ensure Nigeria maximises the AfCFTA opportunity. Key elements of the work programme are highlighted below:

Establishing an Enabling Policy/Regulatory System for Implementation of the AfCFTA

A. Aligning Policy and Regulatory Systems for Full Implementation of the AfCFTA

FMITI will lead efforts on regulatory alignment with the AfCFTA Agreement and Protocols to ensure significant legal, economic, and developmental benefits for Nigeria. Regulatory clarity and legal certainty will contribute to business confidence, and foster economic growth, competitiveness and sustainable development.

B. Demystifying the AfCFTA Agreement and Implementation Modalities

FMITI and the AfCFTA CCC will publish a series of briefs aimed to demystify the architecture and implementation modalities of the AfCFTA. **The AfCFTA ABC Series** will provide guidance to the private sector on the Protocols on Trade in Goods, Digital Trade, Investment, Trade in Services and Women and Youth in Trade. **The AfCFTA Understanding Series** will highlight the compliance obligations of the Private Sector.

C. Enhancing Institutional Coordination and Effectiveness

The AfCFTA CCC will publish the AfCFTA Institutional Barometer to foster public accountability on efficiency and effectiveness of AfCFTA implementation. In addition, a certification and award system will be put in place to recognize high-performing and responsive public sector institutions.

D. Improving Monitoring of AfCFTA Trade Flows

The AfCFTA CCC will update the relevant trade data systems to include disaggregated metrics to capture trade in goods and services under the AfCFTA. Also, these systems will be updated to measure the level of participation of Nigerian women and youth in AfCFTA trade.

Looking Outwards to the AfCFTA Market

E. Mobilising AfCFTA-inclined Production and Trade across Nigeria

The FMITI and the AfCFTA CCC will undertake a nationwide AfCFTA awareness and sensitisation campaign. FMITI will work with the Nigerian Governors' Forum and State Governments to identify a minimum of one (1) product that each Local Government Area can export into the AfCFTA market. Investment mobilisation efforts with foreign and domestic investors will prioritise the exponential increase of productive capacity in key sectors, to position Nigeria as the innovation, production and distribution hub of the AfCFTA market.

F. Framing a National AfCFTA Market Strategy

FMITI will develop a trade intelligence platform – a digital public infrastructure repository of market insights gained from other governments, trade associations and consumers. This platform will provide insights into other markets to inform Nigerian businesses as they navigate the African market.

G. Expanding Global Advocacy for the AfCFTA

The Honourable Minister, FMITI, and the AfCFTA CCC will continue to advocate for the AfCFTA at regional and global convenings.

H. Supporting AfCFTA State Parties on AfCFTA Implementation

Nigeria will also provide technical assistance and capacity building support to other AfCFTA State Parties as requested.

I. Hosting of Continental Convenings

FMITI and relevant partner institutions will ramp up preparations to host continental convenings:

- 18th Meeting of the AfCFTA Council of Ministers.
- The Second Edition of the AfCFTA Digital Trade Forum.
- The Creative Africa Nexus (CANEX) 2026.
- Preparations will continue for the hosting of the Intra-African Trade Fair 2027.

07 The Nigeria AfCFTA Implementation Team

Implementation of the AfCFTA Agreement in Nigeria is overseen by the Honourable Minister, Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment, and operationalised through the AfCFTA Central Coordination Committee, with support of partners.

A. Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment



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B. AfCFTA Central Coordination Committee

Ministries

- Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment (Departments of Trade, Commodity Export, Legal Services, Investment, Press, Federal Produce Inspection Service)
- Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security
- Federal Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning
- Federal Ministry of Communications, Innovation and Digital Economy
- Federal Ministry of Finance
- Federal Ministry of Justice

Departments, Agencies, and Offices

- Central Bank of Nigeria
- Federal Inland Revenue Service
- National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control
- National Bureau of Statistics
- Nigeria AfCFTA Coordination Office
- Nigeria Agricultural Quarantine Service

- Nigeria Customs Service
- Nigerian Export Promotion Council
- Nigerian Investment Promotion Commission
- Nigerian Office for Trade Negotiations
- Nigerian Shippers' Council
- Nigerian Ports Authority
- Standards Organization of Nigeria

Private Sector

- Manufacturers Association of Nigeria.
- Nigerian Association of Chambers of Commerce, Industry, Mines and Agriculture.
- Nigeria Employers' Consultative Association.

Subnational Representation

- Nigeria Governors' Forum

Secretariat

- Nigeria AfCFTA Coordination Office
- Department of Trade, Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment

C. Partners



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