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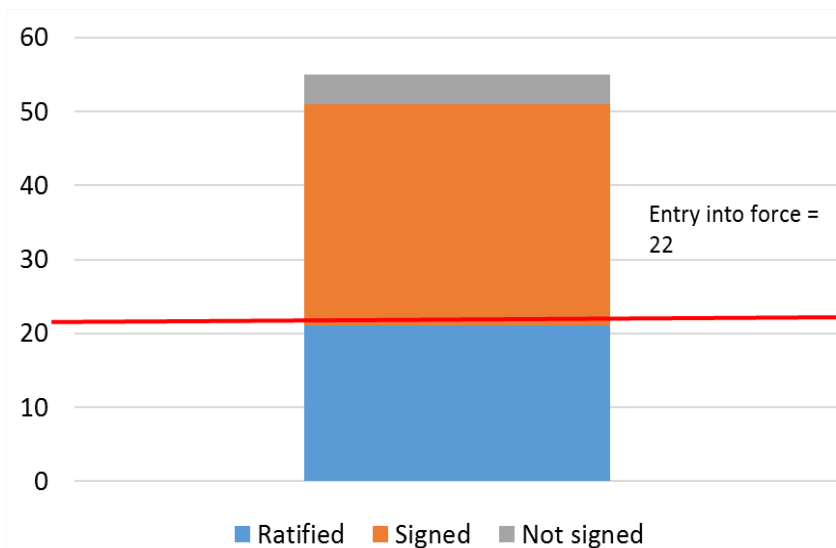
Gender considerations in FTAs, regional integration agreements and preferential trade schemes

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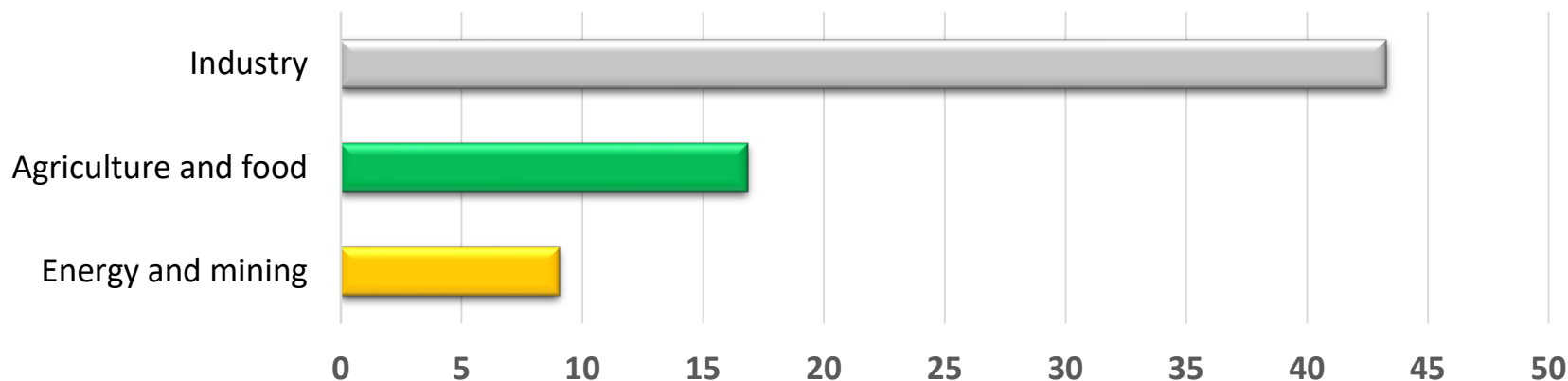
Geneva

GENDER CONSIDERATIONS IN TRADE AGREEMENTS



- As of 26 March 2019, 21 African Union member states have ratified the Agreement.
- All but 3 (Benin, Eritrea, and Nigeria) have signed the Agreement since Kigali Summit 21 March 2018.

Change in Africa's exports to Africa, by main sectors, most ambitious scenario (as compared to baseline) – in 2040 - US\$ bn





Gender equality impacts of the AfCFTA can be derived from differences in:

- Higher barriers to trade
- Different levels of formalization
- Formal qualifications
- Information gaps
- Sectoral distribution
- Stage of value chain

ECA and FES (2017) ex-ante human rights analysis of the AfCFTA identified risks to small holder farmers and informal traders in particular.

Explicit text in trade agreements addressing the issue of gender equality can increase commitments and provide an avenue for civil society and citizens to hold the government responsible for gender-equality in implementation.

- The AfCFTA does not have a separate gender chapter.
- However its provisions can directly or indirectly support gender equality.

| DIRECT | INDIRECT |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Preamble | Trade facilitation |
| General objective | Customs cooperation |
| Technical Assistance, Capacity Building & Cooperation | NTB reporting mechanism |
| | Double qualification approach |
| | Sensitive goods and exclusion lists |
| | Rules of origin |
| | Liberalization of services |

Design/negotiations

- "Gender" text
- Provisions indirectly supporting gender equality

Governance

- Continental working group on gender and inclusion
- Women's participation in national AfCFTA committees

Implementation

- Gender dimension/chapter of the national AfCFTA strategy
- Supporting policies/programmes
- Advocacy on the AfCFTA (national, REC, continental)
- Support to women's business networks on AfCFTA (national, REC)
- Exchange of best practices in supporting women's participation in trade (REC, continental)

M&E

- Gender equality indicators in the AfCFTA M&E framework (national, REC, continental)
- Gender dimension of the AfCFTA Country Business Index



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FIRST

THANK YOU!

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