



SDI Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	Journal of Economics, Management and Trade
Manuscript Number:	Ms_JEMT_44627
Title of the Manuscript:	Regional Integration and Industrial Development: The African Experience
Type of the Article	

General guideline for Peer Review process:

This journal's peer review policy states that **NO** manuscript should be rejected only on the basis of '**lack of Novelty**', provided the manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound. To know the complete guideline for Peer Review process, reviewers are requested to visit this link:

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PART 1: Review Comments

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment (if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
Compulsory REVISION comments	Overall, this paper gives a good overall view of the role of Africans regional integration in promoting industrialization in the continent. Some minor revisions and additions to be done to improve the quality of the authors' paper: In section 2.1.1., lines 129-130, the author mentions "Unfortunately, due to low level of technological development in Africa which is currently not sufficient to provide for the needed intermediate goods necessary for industrial production". Statistical evidence could be provided to support the paper's main points that infrastructure and technology being "insufficient" or thereby, weaker than other countries. Prior to the conclusion section, a section on recommendations and policy implications that elaborates as to <u>how each of the major Regional Economic Communities mentioned in section 2</u> could be reorganized in other to facilitate the ratification and implementation of the regional integration agenda which has direct consequence on sustainable industrialization in Africa, on <u>top of challenges</u> that come along with them. Therefore, meaning the conclusion section that currently includes recommendations should be separated, and moved to a prior section. In addition, your conclusion could also state what are some limitations in your study. As for Figure 1, lines 138-141, I suggest that the authors draw a framework with their own originality instead of quoting to express what framework is suggested in their paper. [Quote: Figure 1: The Five Dimensions of the Regional Integration Agenda with their Specific Indicators]. Please also edit, proofread your paper thoroughly, and review your English; editing punctuations wherever necessary. For example, in your abstract section : (1) "The study therefore argued.." → edited to "This study, therefore, argues that..." (2) In addition, use the present tense whenever writing a paper. (3) Marks in red (lines 15-17) have been edited. We, therefore, recommend (present tense) that the Regional Economic Communities should be reorganized in order to	Unfortunately, due to low level of technological development in Africa (ICT Development Index 2017 average for Africa=2.64, Asia & Pacific=4.83, Europe=7.5, and America=5.21) which is currently not sufficient to provide for the needed intermediate goods necessary for industrial production, may limit the use of these intermediate goods for production processes thereby reducing the possibilities for the 4. Conclusion Despite the inherent potentials embodied in the regional integration strides, the increasing level of insecurity in the continent of Africa will significantly hinder the anticipated result of free movement of people and goods which the integration agenda advocates. 1. Policy Implications and Recommendations For instance, one regional economic organization should serve only Northern Africa countries, others to serve each of Southern Africa countries, Central Africa countries, Eastern Africa countries, and Western Africa countries. This however is to replace the current multiplicity of regional economic organization with overlapping membership as identified in appendix 1 Figure 1: Dimensions of the Regional Integration Agenda with their Specific Indicators This study theoretically examines the role of African regional integration in promoting industrialization in the continent. We traced the effort of various Regional Governments, Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and African Union (AU) in promoting industrialization in Africa. The stage of industrial development in Africa is still at the primordial level, making Africa depend mainly on primary commodity for export, leading to the reduction in the continents share of the global export of manufactured good, increase in unemployment, and poverty. The study, therefore, argues that regional integration is a veritable instrument in achieving structural transformation and industrial development in Africa. We, therefore, recommend that the Regional Economic Communities should be reorganized in order to facilitate the ratification and implementation of the regional integration agenda which has direct consequence on sustainable industrialization in Africa.
Minor REVISION comments		
Optional/General comments		

PART 2:

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment (if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?	(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)	