

SPECIAL RESEARCH REPORT

CONSTRUCTING A NETWORKED MULTILATERALISM BETWEEN ADDIS ABABA AND GENEVA: SEIZING POLICY OPPORTUNITIES

AMANI AFRICA

Media and Research Services



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SUMMARY

This Special report explores the potential for networked multilateralism to facilitate a more inclusive system of global governance through building networked policy exchanges and policy making between Addis Ababa and Geneva, two major global policy hubs. In response to shifting global power dynamics and complex challenges, it argues for a more connected, flexible, and inclusive multilateral system that leverages and draws on the role of multilateral diplomatic hubs and centres of decision-making in different parts of the world. Addis Ababa, as Africa's diplomatic capital, excels in diplomatic negotiation for consensus-building and advancing regional priorities and global solidarity for a fairer global system, while Geneva offers a dense ecosystem of international organizations and technical expertise. Closer collaboration between the two diplomatic hubs could enable both to leverage their strengths, thereby becoming the example in practicing and organising networked multilateralism. Addis Ababa could access Geneva's science diplomacy, data governance, and urban planning expertise, while Geneva could benefit from Addis's experience in political negotiation, youth and gender inclusion, and Africa's role as a major centre where current policy issues around energy transition and critical minerals and understanding African interests. Structured exchanges, joint research, and dedicated liaison platforms are recommended to operationalize this partnership. By moving beyond fragmented interactions, a structured and dynamic Addis-Geneva nexus can enhance collective action, better reflect African priorities in global forums, and model innovative approaches to global

governance challenges.

INTRODUCTION

Global governance today faces significant challenges, from navigating shifting power dynamics to overlapping poly-crises, prompting calls for a reinvention of multilateralism.¹ The United Nations Secretary-General's 2020 report, *Our Common Agenda*, captured this sentiment by urging a move towards "inclusive, networked, and effective multilateralism to better respond to humanity's most pressing challenges". In an era of rapid and radical change, global governance needs a multilateral system that is more inter-connected, flexible, and inclusive, where multiple institutions and actors collaborate across regions and sectors to deliver results.

However, this statement is easier said than done, and this is why this report draws together the findings of what it would take to build such a networked, flexible, and inclusive multilateralism between two multilateral policy hubs – Addis Ababa in Ethiopia and Geneva in Switzerland. Amani Africa Media and Research Services (Amani Africa) and the Geneva Graduate Institute join forces to better understand the respective policy hubs in view of exploring, on the one hand, the rationale and mechanics of a networked multilateralism between the two hubs, and on the other hand, the opportunities for policy that derive from a stronger connectedness and collaboration.

¹ Amani Africa, *Report of the Joint Namibia-Amani Africa Panel of Experts on Africa and the Reform of the Multilateral System in a changing global order* (August 2024) <https://amaniafrica-et.org/wp-content/uploads/AFRICA-AND-THE-REFORM-OF-THE-MULTILATERAL-SYSTEM.pdf>.

Addis Ababa and Geneva stand out as two distinct but complementary hubs. The former is known for its political authority, influence in the UN General Assembly and regional leadership, the latter for the administration and defence of norms and strategy-level decision-making in several global policy fields (e.g., humanitarian, health, and trade diplomacy). By drawing on their respective strengths and deepening structured collaboration, this report asks how these hubs can coordinate and deepen policy dialogue and co-creation to operationalise networked multilateralism in practice. The report argues that practical opportunities for network multilateralism will evolve from a shift from a centralised, hierarchical model of global governance toward a more distributed architecture of cooperation.

1. RATIONALE FOR NETWORKED MULTILATERALISM

Multilateralism is at a crossroads. It is important to shape a discussion about the adaptation of and alternatives to the current form of multilateralism institutionalised through the UN. This discussion is particularly important in a context in which there is uncertainty over whether the current multilateral system will undergo reform or be completely reconstructed. The UN's Pact for the Future plainly recognizes that the multilateral system needs to be reformed. While reform agendas have come and gone in recent decades, this time calls for reform are more urgent. This urgency is a function of important developments including the failure of the *status quo* to address pressing peace, security, climate and development

challenges, as well as policy shifts in the United States of America (prioritizing and 'America first agenda') and in Europe (prioritizing a security agenda) that have contributed to important budget cuts and limitations of data sharing. The result is a multilateral system that rushes to adapt administratively through short-term measures, or ad hoc processes, but with minimal medium to long-term strategic direction.

In this context of adaptation, networked multilateralism offers a tangible framework to shape the adaptation of multilateralism, including the UN systems and other multilateral bodies. Networked multilateralism is premised on the recognition of the existence of multiplicity of actors and various hubs of decision making necessary for a more effective and inclusive global governance. Its rising appeal is also connected and responds to an ever-greater degree of regional and national agency across continents that have questioned policy approaches in which global policy decisions are north-centric, concentrated in a limited number of hubs – like New York and Geneva – while the rest of the world is merely a passive area of implementation.

Within this global context of historic shifts, Africa emerges as a continent increasingly engaged in constructing a more coherent role of Africa in the world, particularly through its diplomatic hub Addis Ababa. These efforts also translate into better policy coordination at the global level, as demonstrated in the critical role played by African countries in the adoption of the reform agenda in the Pact for the Future, despite the Pact falling short in various ways.² Africa,

² Dersso, S. (2025). *Networked Multilateralism: A Case for the Geneva-Addis Ababa Nexus*. Geneva

and its diplomatic hub Addis Ababa in particular, have consistently championed international cooperation as a cornerstone for advancing global public goods that are critical to regional welfare and global stability.

As the UN's localization agenda is likely to gain further momentum in the years ahead, we might see further strengthening of Africa's global hubs.

In the context of shifting global power structures and the increasing relevance of regional leadership, networked multilateralism might be an effective approach that can nurture and facilitate a more inclusive and dynamically interconnected multilateral system, one that becomes cognizant of the realities of political pluralism in international relations and the existence of global governance hubs in various regions of the world. In a departure from the *status quo ante*, networked multilateralism draws on and leverages multilateral hubs distributed across different parts of the world. As such it serves as a framework to adapt multilateralism as a social practice that resolves practical problems through webs of exchanges, agreements, and actionable partnerships. In this way, networked multilateralism emerges as a promising framework for a more inclusive multilateral system.

2. CONCEPTUAL FOUNDATIONS OF NETWORKED MULTILATERALISM

Multilateralism, in its current form, is northern-centric, characterized by centralized decision-making and

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hierarchical institutions, aligning itself politically and geographically with policy centres in North America and Europe, symbolized in the UN system by New York and Geneva. With unfolding shifts in global power, this hegemonic design resulting from the so-called 'American Century' – which captures the dominance of US leadership on the world stage – formed the foundation of the multilateral system. With the world and the power structure of international relations changing, the system is challenged, raising the question of what a truly global multilateral system would look like – one in which different regions and centres of power of the world would exercise the role of co-governing the world, giving way to a networked multilateralism. Describing the shift that networked multilateralism entails, the [Report of the High-Level Advisory Board on Effective Multilateralism](#) proposed that 'global governance must evolve into a less hierarchical, more networked system wherein decision-making is distributed, and where the efforts of a large number of different actors are harnessed towards a collective mission.'

Networks bring together people or institutions that are geographically or institutionally distinct. They usually start small and can evolve into self-governing entities that help produce collective outcomes.³ Over the last thirty years, the internet and globalization have transformed the role and significance of networks. The US intelligence community argued in 2021 that networks would increase their policy influence: 'Enabled by communications technologies, power

³ Ben Ramalingam, Enrique Mendizabal, and Ed Schenkberger van Mierop (2008) *Strengthening Humanitarian Network: Applying the Network Functions Approach*. London: Overseas Development Organization, p.1.

will shift to multifaceted and amorphous networks that will form to influence state and global actions. Those countries with some of the strongest fundamentals – GDP, population size, etc. – will not be able to punch their weight unless they also learn to operate in networks and coalitions in a multipolar world.⁴

Within this new world order, governance is becoming increasingly distributed across multiple centres of partly or fully autonomous decision-making that interact competitively or cooperatively. In this context of *polycentric governance*, networks are key to connecting different centres and levels of decision-making as well as the interests, actors, and information relevant to conflict resolution and collective action.⁵ Networked multilateralism, therefore, represents an adaptation trajectory for multilateralism for an era of polycentric governance.

A key conceptual foundation of networked multilateralism is the theory of collective action. This theory is based on the premise that social change requires cross-sector coordination of capabilities.⁶ In many systems, it argues, organizations are set up to create *isolated impacts* which represent an “approach oriented towards finding and funding a solution embodied within a single organization, combined with the hope that the most effective organizations will grow or

4 National Intelligence Council (2012) *Alternative Worlds*. Washington DC: National Intelligence Council, p. iv.

5 Keith Carlisle and Rebecca L. Gruby (2019) *Polycentric Systems of Governance: A Theoretical Model for the Commons*. *Policy Studies Journal* 47(4), 927-952.

6 John Kania and Mark Kramer, ‘Collective Impact’, *Stanford Social Innovation Review*, Winter (2011), p. 36-41

replicate to extend their impact more widely.” As a consequence, organizations “compete to be chosen by emphasizing how their individual activities produce the greatest effect. Each organization is judged on its own potential to achieve impact, independent of the numerous other organizations that may also influence the issue.” This is the way the UN system is currently composed – many different institutions, wishing to deliver on their mandate, with network effects as a coincidental outcome at best.

Shifting from isolated to *collective impact* requires an approach that ‘focuses on the relationships between organizations and the progress towards shared objectives. It also requires the creation of a new set of [actors] that have the skills and resources to assemble and coordinate the specific elements necessary for collective action to succeed.’ These elements include a common agenda, a shared measurements system, mutually re-enforcing activities, continuous communication, and a support capability described above as ‘backbone support organization’ or platform in other words.⁷

The flexible and horizontal nature of networks often stands in contrast to the procedures and mechanisms that shape hierarchical institutions. To make networks more tangible, the network functions approach (NFA) is a useful way of conceptualizing how networks work.⁸

7 *Ibid.* 38-39

8 Ben Ramalingam, Enrique Mendizabal, and Ed Schenkberger van Mierop (2008) *Strengthening Humanitarian Network: Applying the Network Functions Approach*. London: Overseas Development Organization.

According to this perspective, networks have six distinct functions:

1. *Community-building.* The community-building function promotes and sustains the values and standards of a network of individuals or groups. These networks often include similar kinds of members, which leads to strong links within the network, but only a few weak links beyond it.
2. *Filtering.* Filtering enables the organized and productive use of information, providing decision-makers with a valuable support service that includes synthesizing ideas and evidence from diverse sources.
3. *Amplifying:* This function involves taking a private or complex message and transforming it into a more public or understandable message. Amplification can be used to disseminate a message or idea, and can also be part of a two-way process of communication and feedback.
4. *Learning and facilitating.* Learning and facilitating functions help members undertake their activities more efficiently and effectively. This function enables network members to acquire new knowledge and develop practical abilities.
5. *Investing and providing.* The investing and providing function offers a channel to give members the resources they need to undertake their activities. Investor and provider networks act mostly to connect donors, thematic experts, and trainers with the members of a network.
6. *Convening.* These networks bring together individuals and groups

from different nationalities, disciplines, and practices. This function allows the development of more systematic and sustainable linkages between groups.

The NFA might produce relevant insights to inform decisions about the evolution and adaptation of international institutions. Such an approach does not fundamentally question the existence of international institutions themselves, but supports these institutions in implementing their mandates, together with other actors with whom mandates converge.

However, as networks expand, they also necessitate their own institutionalization. Collective action theory describes such entities as *backbone support organizations* that provide services seen as a critical enabler of collaborative efforts, including problem solving, conflict resolution, technology and communication, data collection and reporting, and administrative support.⁹ Emphasizing the importance of the support organizations, the G-20 High Level Panel on Infrastructure stated that partnerships that bring diverse actors together ‘require their own infrastructure.’¹⁰ This infrastructure goes beyond ad hoc processes convened directly by stakeholders. Unless supported by an infrastructure, these can die from exhaustion, especially if the management of collaborative initiatives is outside of the core mandate or expertise of process

⁹ John Kania and Mark Kramer, ‘Collective Impact’, *Stanford Social Innovation Review*, Winter (2011), p. 36-41, at p. 40.

¹⁰ High Level Panel on Infrastructure, c.f. World Bank (2014) *Overcoming Constraints to the Financing of Infrastructure: Success Stories and Lessons Learned*. Washington D.C: World Bank, p.3.

participants.

This, in turn, leads to the question of institutionalizing networked multilateralism across policy hubs. Reflections in this report suggest that each hub requires a bridgehead that can deliver network functions and dispatch 'traffic across the bridge' to other hubs, guiding incoming traffic from other hubs to relevant partners within the system.

3. UNDERSTANDING ADDIS ABABA AND GENEVA

Networked multilateralism fosters horizontal working relationships and decision-making processes between multilateral hubs such as Addis Ababa and Geneva. For networked multilateralism to work, multilateral hubs in the Global South, like Addis Ababa, need to be brought from the margins to the centre, while those in the Global North, like Geneva, must unlearn the hierarchical and centralised ways of working and engage with hubs like Addis Ababa as equal partners- recognising their distinct strengths and responding to the need for more adaptive, inclusive, and resilient systems of global governance.

Addis Ababa: Where the world meets Africa and Africa engages the world

Addis Ababa is a city with immense historical, political, and diplomatic significance in Africa's international relations. As the seat of the African Union, it is the continent's diplomatic capital where pan-African strategies are formulated, and the regional consensus is negotiated. Beyond its role as Africa's diplomatic capital, the city hosts the

UN Economic Commission for Africa, a network of nearly 140 liaison offices and diplomatic missions from around the world. While its role as a global hub is less formally recognized, Addis Ababa functions as the point where the world meets Africa, and Africa engages with the world. The diplomatic positioning of African Groups in various multilateral hubs outside of the continent is primarily driven and shaped by policy decisions taken in Addis Ababa.

It is in Addis Ababa that actors from various parts of the world engage in campaigns and negotiations on matters of broader global governance, from elections in UN structures to rallying African support on global issues that are the subject of policy engagements in various multilateral forums such as the UN General Assembly. The role of Africa in shaping global policy action is increasingly reflected in the continent's position on issues ranging from peace and security to negotiations on the Pact for the Future¹¹ and on elaborating a treaty on international tax cooperation within the framework of the UN.¹² Addis Ababa can therefore also be viewed as a microcosm of networked multilateralism. Multilateral policy debates and actions involve the engagement of not just the AU structures in which AU member states are represented, but also negotiations with regional bodies and the contribution of non-state actors. The policy ecosystem of the city involves not only formal policy-

¹¹ Amani Africa, *Repositioning Africa for a multipolar global order: Insights from negotiating the Pact for the Future*, Policy Brief (November 2025).

¹² Solomon A. Dersso, *Africa led UN to make history with vote for global tax convention*, *The Nation* (28 November 2023) <https://nation.africa/kenya/blogs-opinion/blogs/africa-led-un-to-make-history-with-vote-for-global-tax-convention-4447620>

making processes but also the informal processes that draw on the interaction of the epistemic and policy communities.¹³

Addis is an adept norm entrepreneur which offers useful lessons on instituting structures and processes institutionalising multilateral norms. It sets global examples in how the Women, Peace and Security and the Youth, Peace and Security Agenda are given institutional expression through the web of structures and processes put in place. Apart from having these themes as a standing agenda of the Peace and Security Council, both items have dedicated special envoys. These are further bolstered through the FemWise and the Youth Peace and Security Ambassadors. As a hub that hosts the representative offices of various international bodies, Addis has also positioned itself both as a catalyst for shaping global decision-making on a wide range of subjects, from humanitarian, migration, development cooperation, to human rights, and as a facilitator of national-level implementation and action.

Addis draws on both political processes and the lead role of technical agencies despite its historic bias towards political processes and diplomacy. Apart from the contribution of long-existing technical agencies such as the Pan African Veterinary Vaccine Centre, Addis is fast expanding its technical agencies with the establishment of the Africa CDC, the AU development Agency (AUDA/NEPAD), the African Free Trade Area (AfCFTA)

¹³ See <https://amaniafrica-et.org/mapping-the-roles-of-the-african-union-commission-in-the-decision-making-processes-of-the-african-union/> & <https://amaniafrica-et.org/the-role-of-civil-society-organizations-in-african-unions-decision-making-processes-agenda-setters-participants-collaborators-and-shapers/>

Secretariat, the African Humanitarian Agency, and the African Medicine Agency. The enormous potential and contribution of the combination of the political and technical components of the AU became evident in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, in which the AU became an example of effective multilateralism at work.¹⁴

Geneva: A multilateral ecosystem on global challenges

The strength of Geneva as a multilateral hub, is not necessarily the individual institutions but the entire ecosystem of actors of different natures – international organizations, NGOs, academia, banks, corporations, federations, etc. Geneva is a global hub with a concentration of 40 international organizations, 184 permanent missions, 478 non-governmental organizations, 16 platforms, and numerous renowned academic institutions. In 2024, these entities employed 36, 460 persons – a figure that is likely to decrease in the coming years given current downsizing dynamics.¹⁵ The development of this ecosystem confirms the key assumptions of cluster theory – a concept from industrial economics – by which various specialized actors co-locate in one locality and thereby benefit from economies of agglomeration and agglomeration spill-overs.¹⁶

¹⁴ See Babatunde Fagbayibo and Udoka Ndidiamaka Owie, *Crisis as opportunity: Exploring the African Union's response to COVID-19 and the implications for its aspirational supranational powers*, 63(52) *Journal of African Law* (2021).

¹⁵ <https://www.geneve-int.ch/facts-figures> (accessed 16 April 2025)

¹⁶ Fiorenza Belussi, Katia Caldari, *At the origin of the industrial district: Alfred Marshall and the Cambridge school*, *Cambridge Journal of Economics*, Volume 33, Issue

The diverse ecosystem of institutions and themes emphasises the technical level competences that are the foundation of many multilateral negotiations or standard-setting processes. Given the diversity of actors, Geneva is the ideal location for crosscutting partnerships to shape these negotiations and processes and help address global problems.

The density of key organizations around specific issues is an important driver of Geneva's identity as a multilateral hub in four different ways. First, this density provides the rationale for permanent missions in Geneva as governments must maintain a permanent presence to follow the work of the organizations. Second, this density provides a predictable supply of technical meetings and large conferences (e.g., the International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, the WHO Governing Council Meeting, or the WTO Public Forum). Third, the density of HQs is the reason why many organizations have established liaison offices, be that from other international organizations or NGOs headquartered elsewhere. Fourth, the density of HQs provide the foundation for development of clusters around specific themes that further stimulate the diversity of actors.

In or through Geneva, it is possible to connect with decision makers and professional networks alike, with governments through Permanent Missions or with armed groups anywhere in the world through the humanitarian or peace networks. These networks have existed for decades and are the foundation for effective problem solving, especially in delicate political crises or security, disaster, or climate emergencies.

2, March 2009, Pages 335–355, <https://doi.org/10.1093/cje/ben041>

The quality of networks underlines the agility of Geneva to work through processes of formal politics with *de jure* power holders and through private diplomacy in hybrid political orders with *de facto* power holders. These networks extend across the entire range of actors in Geneva, from IOs to NGOs and from governments to business and banks.

4. OPERATIONALISING NETWORKED MULTILATERALISM BETWEEN ADDIS ABABA AND GENEVA

Networked multilateralism builds on the notion that a multilateral system that is sensitive to polycentric governance can rely on distributed leadership and shared innovation among key regional and global hubs. Both conceptual analyses and recent experiences highlight that forging stronger links between hubs like Geneva and Addis Ababa can make the multilateral system more effective, inclusive, and responsive. Addis Ababa and Geneva are well-positioned to pioneer in networked multilateralism, drawing on their respective comparative advantages and shared commitment to finding solutions for global challenges. They represent two important nodes of networked multilateralism in an era of polycentric global governance.

Both Addis Ababa and Geneva are high-density multilateral hubs that convene diverse ecosystems of states, international organizations, permanent missions, technical agencies, NGOs, and epistemic communities on different issues or regions. Each hub blends formal decision-making with influential informal networks that shape agendas through the

interaction between formal negotiation spaces and informal spaces, fostering understanding, common ground, and compromise. There is already significant overlap in the thematic priorities of the two hubs, including peacebuilding, humanitarian cooperation, trade, digital governance, and climate diplomacy. However, cooperation has remained fragmented and often unstructured. Creating a formalized, intentional relationship between Geneva and Addis Ababa would enable leveraging complementary capacities.

Exchanges between Addis and Geneva already exist in fragmented forms. The African Union and the UN have calendar-based engagements. The African Union also has an established presence at the Human Rights Council and the World Health Assembly in Geneva. Many organizations headquartered in Geneva also have standing operational meetings with regional offices, such as the ICRC or IFRC, for instance. However, these exchanges remain within intra-institutional dynamics.

These exchanges do not yet add up to a structured dialogue between Addis Ababa and Geneva. Such dialogues already exist between Addis Ababa and Brussels as well as Addis Ababa and New York. A more structured engagement, Addis Ababa and Geneva could present both multilateral hubs with several opportunities, summarised in Box 1.

Forging the link between Addis Ababa and Geneva under the framework of a networked multilateralism would also require developing a series of new instruments dedicated to this purpose. One idea is the creation of a Geneva–Addis Ababa exchange programme to nurture

‘hub-literate’ professionals capable of navigating both ecosystems. Similarly, university and think tank partnerships can facilitate a better understanding of the comparative foundations and policy interests in both hubs while shaping a shared research agenda on relevant technical and geographically focused issues. A collaboration that has already worked well is the events of Geneva Peace Week meets Addis Ababa, and there is room to transform this exchange into a tradition. Facilitating more regular exchange between Geneva Peace Week and the Tana Forum and Amani Africa could signpost additional areas of collaboration on peace and security topics.

The open question is who might serve as a bridgehead to facilitate the exchange inherent in making networked multilateralism work. On the one hand, existing formal relationships do exist, but they do not always muster the resources and agility to drive network exchanges. So far, the liaison office of the AU in Geneva also does not have a mandate for such work. On the other hand, institutions from the academic or think tank sector might serve as the pioneers to start constructing network relationships because their competencies are so closely aligned to the network functions, described in section 2, including community-building, filtering, amplifying, learning, and facilitating, and convening. Compared to larger international organizations, they are also usually more agile and responsive in exploring new issues and approaches relevant to the Addis Ababa–Geneva exchange.

A key starting point for the construction of a networked multilateralism between Addis Ababa and Geneva could be

the strengthening of collaboration between actors such as Amani Africa and the Geneva Graduate Institute to act as conveners, bringing together stakeholders, structuring engagements, and documenting lessons learned. As both Institutions accompany the evolution and adaptation of their respective hubs, Amani Africa and the Geneva Graduate Institute will continue to serve their pioneering functions to help find new approaches to multilateralism and to dealing with global challenges.

Box 1: 'What's in it for me?' – Opportunities for closer exchange

What Addis Ababa could achieve through a closer link to Geneva

- *Understanding host state infrastructure and urban planning:* Geneva offers practical insights into managing the complex legal and operational architecture of a global policy hub. Addis Ababa can draw on this and deepen its role as a pan-African and global conferencing hub. Technical exchanges with Swiss authorities at the federal, cantonal and municipal levels could help Addis Ababa with technical knowledge on streamlined services for international delegations and large-scale events. Drawing from Geneva's cluster logic, Addis can redesign its existing conferencing space with reliable mobility and logistics.
- *Access to technical dialogues:* Increased linkage to Geneva's science diplomacy and data governance platforms can strengthen Addis's role in global norm shaping. A closer partnership could offer Addis Ababa the opportunity to plug directly into avenues like science-diplomacy and data-governance to model global governance

norms regionally in Africa.

- *Advancing key issues:* Given AU's role in peace and security, effective collective action on peace and security can be enhanced through closer coordination between Addis Ababa and Geneva. At the very least, this could result in minimising opposition of the Africa Group to initiatives of the UN Human Rights Council to address the human rights dimension of conflicts. The AU could also advance its workstream on 'Justice for Africans and People of African Descent through Reparations' and on the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

What Geneva could achieve through a stronger link with Addis Ababa

- *Relearn Politics:* Geneva can benefit from Addis's deep political experience and context-specific negotiation practices, particularly in terms of continental consensus-building. Geneva can relearn politics by drawing on Addis Ababa's craft of consensus-building, where continental positions are forged through iterative, context-specific negotiations.
- *Strengthen youth and gender Inclusion:* The AU systematically includes youth and women in its processes, offering a model that Geneva-based institutions could adopt. Learning from AU practices on the Women, Peace and Security and Youth, Peace and Security agendas would present Geneva with the opportunity to address the challenge of tokenism in engaging with issues on gender and young people. Forums in Geneva could also draw on the presence and expertise of initiatives like FemWise and AU Youth Peace and Security Ambassadors across health, trade, and humanitarian tracks.
- *Shaping its engagement around cli-*

mate, energy transition and new tech having regard to Africa's role in the critical minerals that shape policy and a better understanding of African interests: Closer ties with Addis Ababa can ensure that Geneva-hosted multilateral processes more accurately reflect African positions and interests as well as leverage Africa's role as a major hub of the critical minerals that shape policy discussions on climate, energy transition and new tech. Liaison desks hosted in Geneva by AU entities and African research organisations and CSOs working on the AU and global governance could provide a conduit for African priorities to be reflected in Geneva and enrich the policy thinking of Geneva based intergovernmental and non-state actors engaging in various policy areas.



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The authors would like to thank Prathit Singh and Previne Habu for their extraordinary research and editorial support for this publication.

ABOUT AMANI AFRICA

Amani Africa is an independent African based policy research, training and consulting think tank with a specialization and primary focus on African multilateral policy processes, particularly those relating to the African union.

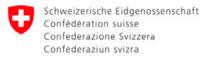
We support the pan-African dream of peaceful, prosperous and integrated Africa through research, training, strategic communications, technical advisory services, and convening and facilitation.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Amani Africa acknowledges with appreciation the contributions of the Government of Switzerland towards the publication of this Special Research Report. We also thank the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway, the Ireland Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland.



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