

Dear Editors and Reviewers,

Thank you for conditionally accepting the paper. I have implemented the minor additional comments of Reviewer 1, to which I respond below. Furthermore, I have gone through the entire document once more to consolidate it further and have been able to remove a bit more than a page's worth of text. With 33 pages, including 12 tables and 21 figures, the manuscript is still large, but this is the most I can do without removing parts of the analysis (relegating the regression tables to the appendix in the initial submission was criticized by reviewers) or the extensive literature reviews demanded by the reviewers. I thus hope that this manuscript can be published. It is certainly among the most detailed and rigorous analyses of GVCs and RVCs in an African REC and should make a fine addition to this special issue.

Yours sincerely,

Sebastian Krantz

### **Response to Additional Comments of Reviewer 1**

There seem to be some issues with references in the main text. Similarly, some figures' notes override the main text. Please, check it.

*I have checked all references and notes and made some corrections which I believe this comment refers to.*

I still disagree with the statement made by the author about the lack of mapping from EORA sectors to standard classification.

*I have removed this statement.*