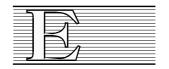


UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL



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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Twenty-fourth meeting of the Committee of Experts of the Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development

Abuja 11-13 May 2005

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Thirty-eighth session of the Commission/Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development

Abuja 14-15 May 2005

UNITED NATIONS TRUST FUND FOR AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT (UNTFAD) – A NOTE BY THE SECRETARIAT

Introduction

It will be recalled that the follow-up Ministerial Committee of the Conference of African Ministers of Planning and Economic Development held in Abuja, Nigeria, 1–3 May 2000, had in its Resolution 836 (NFC.2) recommended that the Pledging Conference of the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development (UNTFAD) be transferred back to Africa from New York. It was also agreed during the same session of the Committee that the Pledging Conference be held annually and be convened alongside the annual session of the ECA Conference of Ministers. In the same Resolution, the Committee also called on African Governments and their development partners to seize the opportunity of the transfer to show their support for African development by increasing their contributions to the Fund.

In fulfilment of this recommendation, UNTFAD was re-launched during the thirty-seventh session of the Commission/Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, held 21–23 May, 2004 in Kampala, Uganda.

Response from member States since the re-launching of UNTFAD

No pledge/contribution has so far been received by ECA since the re-launching of UNTFAD in May 2004.

The Secretariat, in its presentation during the re-launching of the Fund in Kampala, gave the historical background, the rationale and justification for the Fund and called on all African nations existing and new bilateral partners to embrace this renewed initiative and opportunity to contribute towards the sustainable economic and social development of Africa. This call is still open.

It was also indicated that pledges and contributions could be made in any of the following ways:

- UNTFAD General. For pledging and direct contributions made to the Fund with the responsibility for utilization left with the Executive Secretary of ECA, to be used in the priority areas defined in the work programme of the Commission.
- **UNTFAD Specific.** For pledges and direct contributions that are made with precise conditions for utilization indicated by the donor(s).

This brief note by the Secretariat is intended both as a reminder and an appeal to member States that pledges and contributions to the Fund can be made throughout the year, and that member States and their partners who wish to pledge or contribute can do so directly to ECA or through their respective Embassies or representatives in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Preparation for the 2006 UNTFAD Appeal

As part of the preparations for the 2006 UNTFAD Pledging Conference, the Secretariat promised to prepare and forward to member States, a profile of ECA's approved regional and subregional work programme and projects to which they may choose to pledge and contribute.

The following documents have been prepared and will be forwarded to member States and partners within the next four months, in order to prepare them for the relaunch of the Pledging Conference during the thirty-ninth session of the Commission/Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development in 2006.

- The ECA proposed work programme for 2006 2007;
- The ECA 2004–2006 prospectus, which provides the detailed thematic extrabudgetary work programme of the Commission in the triennium; and
- The ECA Trust Funds Activity Report 2003 2004, which provides a review of the services provided and projects executed by the Commission from extrabudgetary resources in the biennium.

A formal letter of appeal for your contributions and support will also accompany these documents.