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NEPAD TODAY

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Experts say development solutions get lost without coordination

On 4th July 2011, the Director of Economic Development and NEPAD Division (EDND) at the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Mr. Emmanuel Nnandozie, called upon development experts who began a three-day meeting in Addis Ababa to recommend concrete steps on how to better coordinate development efforts in Africa.

In an address read on his behalf by Mr. Adam Elhiraika, Chief, Macroeconomic Analysis Section at EDND, the Director said that the case for action on development coordination could hardly be overstated because the “multiplicity of actors in the continent’s development scene comes with its own challenges”, including overlapping and conflicting tasks being undertaken by different partners, resulting in waste of time

and resources, according to the Information and Communication Service of ECA.

He also cited duplication of efforts with the same or similar outputs being delivered by different partners; inadequate sharing of resources; and over-stretched attention and capacities of beneficiary institutions, as some of the other reasons why coordinating development in Africa has become an imperative.

Mr. Nnandozie recalled that to address these challenges, different types of reporting and coordination mechanisms had been employed and or adopted, including, the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, informal networks, division of labour and inter-organisational groups or clusters, coordinating units, and joint Secretariats, among others, but said that stakeholders still look up the

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NEPAD and ECCAS Sign MoU

On Monday, the 27th of June 2011, the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NEPAD Agency) and the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that is aimed at strengthening fisheries governance in central Africa.

The signing ceremony took place on the margins of the 17th African Union Summit in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea. The MoU was signed by Dr. Ibrahim Assane Mayaki, NEPAD Agency CEO and General Louis Sylvain-Goma, the Secretary General of ECCAS.

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Experts say...

improvement of the performance of these structures.

He said that the Addis meeting was organized to provide participants with an opportunity to contribute to the debate on improving the coordination of development in Africa, in particular to discuss existing theories and cutting edge research on organizational coordination and explore their applicability to Africa's development scene.

The Director said the present meeting was indeed a follow up to a High-Level Meeting organized in Kigali in March 2010 to discuss a framework for the establishment of a functional Sub-regional Coordination Mechanism for Eastern and Southern Africa, conceived to facilitate the coordination of development at regional level.

The Kigali meeting recommended the establishment of a multi-agency and multi-stakeholder Task Force coordinated by ECA to operationalise the SRCM. The inaugural meeting of the Task Force was held in Kigali in October 2010 during which concrete modalities for operationalising the SRCM had been proposed.

Mr. Nnandozie called on the participants to build on the outcome of the Kigali meeting and strive to come to a conclusion on key issues such as the priority sectors of focus of the Sub-regional Coordination Mechanisms (SRCMs); flagship programmes and activities for joint implementation, including capacity building activities for the relevant RECs in the two sub-regions; assignment of roles and responsibilities for programme implementation; and an implementation mechanism, including resource mobilization mechanisms.

The meeting comes at a time when African institutions are strengthening themselves and preparing to tackle development challenges by engaging with multiple partners in a more productive manner.

Source: Special to ECA

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NEPAD and...

The agreement aims to support the implementation of joint efforts between the NEPAD Agency and ECCAS in assisting the Regional Fisheries Commission (Commission Regionale Des Peches Du Golfe De Guinee – COREP) to strengthen its capacity to implement the regional fisheries strategy for central Africa.

The NEPAD Agency's support to ECCAS will result in strengthening human, institutional and professional capacities in the sub-region so as to enable ECCAS Members States to tap into the wealth-generation potential of their rich fisheries resources. This support has been made possible through funding from the United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID), within the context of the Partnership for African Fisheries.

For full stories: www.nepad.org

Upcoming Event

- Expert Group Meeting on "Coordinating Development"

6-7 July 2011, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

- Brown Bag seminar on "The role of the right to food in guiding agricultural development" series

12 July 2011, Pretoria, South Africa

- Africa Trade and Investment Expo

27 July 2011 Midrand, South Africa

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