

**Economic Commission for Africa** 

A service of the UN system-wide support to the African Union and its NEPAD Programme

## NEPAD TODAY

Every Wednesday

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# UNAIDS and NEPAD Agency sign MoU on Africa's AIDS response

he Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and NEPAD Agency signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) calling for strategic collaboration to advance sustainable responses to HIV, health and development across the African continent. The MoU was signed by UNAIDS Executive Director Michel Sidibé and Chief Executive Officer of NEPAD Agency, Dr Ibrahim Mayaki, on the sidelines of a colloquium marking the 10thanniversary of NEPAD in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Under the terms of the agreement, UNAIDS and the NEPAD Agency will work with partners to: support the development of common African positions for the AIDS response, with an emphasis on sustainable financing; address constraints in access to HIV medicines; facilitate policies and partnerships to eliminate new HIV infections in children and improve the health of mothers; enhance country ownership and accountability; and encourage South-South cooperation.

"This new partnership will bring us one step closer to our goal of zero new HIV infections, zero discrimination and zero AIDS-related deaths," said the UNAIDS Executive Director, at a press conference on 27 March after the signing of the MoU. Mr Sidibé said that "getting to zero" would demand Continued on page 2

### **RCM Governance Cluster meets**

he Governance Cluster of the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa (RCM-Africa) held its first meeting of 2012 on 29 March 2012 in the large Briefing Room of UNCC. The meeting was opened by Mr. Eugene Owusu, UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in Ethiopia.

The main purpose of the meeting was to provide a platform for cluster members for joint planning and adoption of agreed strategies on how best to support the governance agenda of the African Union Commission, its NEPAD programme and the Regional Economic Communities in 2012, with a particular focus on the Year of Shared Values agenda.

Key outputs of the meeting included:

- 1. Taking stock of the major governance trends and developments in Africa during the first quarter of 2012;
- 2. Reviewing the recommendations of the 12th Session of the RCM-Africa:
- 3. Assessing progress in the development of

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### Angola invited to attend 27th FAO Regional Conference

Brazzaville – Angola has been invited to attend the 27th regional ministerial conference of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) set for April 23-27 in Brazzaville, Congo.

The meeting will be preceded by a regional session of concert among organisations of the civil society tasked with drafting the proposals on the topics linked to agriculture in the continent.

The importance of the conference rests with the fact that the resolutions coming from the meeting will serve for the African

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### RCM Governance...

the new comprehensive Ten-Year Capacity Building Programme of the African Union;

- 4. Making concrete commitment of cluster members' support to AU Shared Values Agenda and planning a resource mobilization strategy;
- 5. Ensuring mainstreaming of cross-cutting issues in work of the cluster and its sub-clusters including gender; and
- 6. Information-sharing and joint planning for the up-coming Eighth African Governance Forum (AGF-VIII) on the theme "Democracy, Elections and the Management of Diversity in Africa.

For more information about the meeting and the Cluster you can contact Mr. Khabele Matlosa (khabele.matlosa@undp.org) the UN Coordinator for the cluster or Mr. Olabisi Dare (Dareo@africa-union.org), the AUC Coordinator for the Cluster.

countries and FAO to better coordinate the policies in the continent, with a view to food security included in the Detailed Programme of Development in Africa, under NEPAD.

Source: http://www.portalangop.co.ao/motix/en\_us/no-ticias/economia/2012/3/13/Angola-invited-attend-27th-FAO-Regional-Conference,cd51e3c8-fcc2-47bc-952f-86003260fce5.html

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#### **UNAIDS and NEPAD...**

effective and inclusive partnerships, shared responsibility, greater transparency and a focus on results—areas in which NEPAD is known to excel.

Speaking alongside Mr Sidibé at the press conference, Dr Ibrahim Mayaki said that country ownership would be critical to advancing AIDS and development responses in the coming decade. "Partnerships for development can only succeed if they are led by developing countries," said the Chief Executive Officer of NEPAD Agency. "AIDS programmes must be financially sustainable over the long term and tailored to specific national settings," he added.

For full story: http://www.unaids.org/en/resources/ presscentre/pressreleaseandstatementarchive/2012/ march/20120327prunaidsnepad/

### **Upcoming Events**

- Forum 2012: "Beyond Aid... Research and Innovation as key drivers for Health, Equity and Development", 24 - 26 April 2012 Cape Town, South Africa
- MDG Review Exhibition & Summit 2012
  3 -4 May 4 2012, Cape Town, South Africa
- 8th CAADP Partnership Platform (PP) 3 4 May 2012, Nairobi, Kenya

#### Please let us hear from you

How useful do you find NEPAD Today? Are there other issues you would like us to address? Please send an email to: marega2@uneca.org