



Economic Commission for Africa

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

Special edition

# NEPAD TODAY

Every Wednesday

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## RCM-Africa Clusters take stock; agree to raise resources for AU assistance

The Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa (RCM-Africa) Inter-Cluster Coordination Meeting which took place on 26-27 July 2012 in Naivasha, Kenya agreed to identify ways of mobilising resources to accelerate the implementation of the United Nations Ten-Year Capacity Building Programme for the African Union (TYCBP-AU) signed in 2006 between former AUC Chairperson Alpha Konare and former UN Secretary-General, Kofi Annan.

The meeting, first of its kind, was hosted by UNEP and co-organized by the RCM-Africa Secretariat at ECA. Clusters made presentations on their achievements and challenges.

The challenges were many: inadequate intra and inter-cluster coherence and coordination; some clusters did not base their Business Plans on agreed programmes such as CAADP, PIDA, APRM, and African Water Vision; some Clusters did not undertake adequate demand and supply analysis before preparing their Business Plans.

Additionally, it was also reported that RCM-Africa lacks a robust accountability framework for its members, including the UN system, AUC, and RECs while guidelines are needed for mobilising resources to implement RCM-Africa activities. The

roles and responsibilities of RCM-Africa Secretariat, as well as those of co-coordinators of clusters need to be clarified and UN system needs to manage expectations on the type and scale of support it could provide to the AU family through RCM-Africa.



Mr. Emmanuel Nnadozie, Director, Economic Development and NEPAD Division ECA (left), Ambassador Zachary Muburi-Muita, Head of the United Nations Office to the African Union, Mr. Mounkaila Goumandakoye, Director and Regional Representative, Regional Office for Africa, UNEP and Representative of AUC

Accordingly, several possibilities for strengthening or building synergies and linkages between clusters were identified, including strengthening intra and inter-cluster coordination involving all relevant UN agencies in developing and implementing their cluster activities. They should also take into consideration the next AUC Strategic Plan in their programming process, and strive to attend AUC-RECs Coordination Committee meetings that are held twice a year. Alternatively, clusters or issues

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## RCM-Africa Clusters...

could be included in the agenda of these meetings.

It was also recommended that RCM-Africa should develop a communication strategy linked to resource mobilisation and for the

Secretariat to develop a consolidated Business Plan to support resource mobilisation as well as a monitoring and evaluation framework for RCM-Africa.

*Source: Special to ECA*

## Naivasha RCM inter-cluster meeting in pictures



## NEPAD on drive to push Africa to produce bio-energy

NEPAD is on a mission to get the continent producing bio-energy. It says Africa has the potential to be the largest producer of bio-fuels in the world by 2050.

With the world seeking to become more carbon-neutral, there is a strong emphasis to shift to alternative, renewable energies. NEPAD says investment in this area will build a significant industry and create jobs.

Gathering scientists, private investors and policy makers around a table, NEPAD's seeking to sell the viability of the development of bio-energy in Africa. However, it concedes that much work needs to be done to ensure harmony of national, regional and continental bio-fuel policies that will cre-

ate certainty and predictability for potential investors. It also says there should be no contradiction between food security and the continent's ability to produce bio-energy.

NEPAD's CEO Dr Ibrahim Mayaki says: "By having a clear cut national policy, transparent with participation of the main stakeholders which means stakeholders who are linked to the food security issues. Stakeholders who are linked to the bio-energy sector, if you create the necessary space for a coherent and intelligent interaction then you have common objectives which can allow the resolution of these contradictions."

Source: <http://www.sabc.co.za/news/a/f2c-198004c2a3b23a97aad6995218ba3/Nepad-on-drive-to-push-Africa-to-produce--bio-energy-20123007>

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## Naivasha RCM inter-cluster meeting in pictures



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## Upcoming Event

- Expert Group meeting on Implementation of NEPAD and the Ten-Year Capacity Building Programme for African Union, 14 - 15 August , 2012 Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
- AU/NEPAD Science & Technology Policy Workshop, 1- 5 Oct 2012, Nairobi, Kenya

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