



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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ECA deepens support to NEPAD Agency



Dr. Ibrahim Assane Mayaki, Chief Executive of NEPAD Agency

The United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) has substantially increased its support to the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency, the technical arm of the African Union that is charged with planning and coordinating regional and subregional projects and programmes in Africa.

Some observers who attended last week's meeting of the NEPAD Steering Committee in Addis Ababa, said this was not unusual for the Commission whose flagship Division is called "Economic Development and NEPAD Division" with a dedicated

"NEPAD Support Section". Last week, at the request of the NEPAD Agency, ECA seconded to Midrand, a topnotch communication expert, Paul Okolo, to provide much needed technical support to the Agency.

Mr. Okolo, who has close to 30 years of experience and has worked for Voice of America, Reuters, and Bloomberg, will act



Mr. Abdoulie Janneh, Under Secretary - General and the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)

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as the Head of Communication at NEPAD Agency until a substantive head is recruited. ECA has also extended support for the re-engagement of another Communication Expert, Ms. Abiola Ajayi, a former GTZ Fellow, and a specialist in branding of Africa. Ms. Abiola, whose service was also requested by the Agency, will work in the redesigned NPCA communications unit. These consultants are in addition to Dr. Mohammed, a micro-economist seconded to Midrand for over one year to provide technical support to the Agency.

As the year rolls on, ECA and NPCA are already talking about operationalizing the memorandum of understanding which exists between them with a multi-year programme developed by the staff of both institutions. ECA is also planning to carry out a capacity building exercise for NPCA in the framework of the UN Ten-year capacity building programme for the African Union. It is hoped that this exercise will help to identify the Agency's needs and the modalities for responding to them in the context of the UN Regional Coordination Mechanism for "delivering as one" for Africa.

Additionally, over the next few weeks, ECA, which is the official partner of "NEPAD@10" will co-organize a high level NEPAD Colloquium and Congress in Addis Ababa to address the challenges of the past ten years and the prospects for the future. A video documentary co-produced by the two institutions will premiere during the event while their joint book project "Deepening African private sector partnership in NEPAD" will also be launched.

The Director of ECA's Economic Development and NEPAD Division, Prof.

Emmanuel Nnadozie, announced at the last NEPAD Steering Committee meeting that ECA would also assist NPCA in mobilizing the Regional Economic Communities and all NEPAD Focal Points and Offices in African countries to achieve better coherence and coordination in their work regarding the priorities of the NPCA.

The "Coherence and Coordination Workshop" is expected to take place in the first quarter of 2012. Interested RECs and NEPAD Focal points should contact marega2@uneca.org



Prof. Emmanuel Nnadozie - Director of the Economic Development and NEPAD Division of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)

Source: Special to ECA

Upcoming Events

- MDG Review Exhibition & Summit 2012
3- 4 May 2012, Cape Town, South Africa
- Young People, Farming & Food: The Future of the Agrifood Sector in Africa, 19 -21 March 2012, Ghana
- 5th Joint Annual Meetings of the AU Conference of Ministers of Economy and Finance and ECA Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, 22-27 March 2012, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Please let us hear from you

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