



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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UN submits support package to African Union

The African Union Commission (AUC) lauded the newly completed UN-wide capacity building package in support of the Union as a major contribution that would fashion the work plan of the Commission for several years to come.

The support package is contained in a 151-page document outlining the capacity challenges as identified by AU senior officials as well as the specific areas of intervention in capacity building as requested by the AUC. It was presented to the Deputy Chairperson of the African Union Commission, Mr. Erastus Mwencha, at a ceremony attended by many UN agencies.

Speaking at the hand-over ceremony, UN Under Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Abdoulie Janneh said he was sure that even non-UN partners would find the UN support package and its plan of action, to be a useful tool for engaging the African Union and its various organs, and responding to their various capacity needs. The United Nations supports the African Union capacity needs through the Regional Coordination Mechanism (RCM) consisting of UN agencies “delivering as one” for the AU and its NEPAD Programme. The RCM works through nine clusters aligned to the priorities of the AU. Its joint Secretariat is located at the ECA.



(From left) Prof. Emmanuel Nnadozie, Director of ECA's Economic Development and NEPAD Division, UN Under Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Mr. Abdoulie Janneh and Deputy Chairperson of the AUC, Mr. Erastus Mwencha

At its 11th session, in 2010, the RCM had mandated ECA to lead the preparation of a work programme to further implement the framework of the UN Ten Year Capacity Building Programme signed in 2006 by Secretary General Kofi Annan and AUC Chairperson, Alpha Konare.

The work programme is published in a document titled “UN System Support to the African Union Capacity Building Programme: Diagnosis and Work Programme of RCM-Africa Clusters”.

Receiving the document, Mr. Erastus Mwencha, praised Janneh for his personal commitment to seeing through all the aspects of the preparation of the work programme, with the active collaboration of the AU. He described the document as “far-

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Trade and Development policy leaders reflect on NEPAD and its achievements

As NEPAD, the blueprint for the continent's development marks 10 years, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) convened a panel to reflect on NEPAD's achievements and challenges in advancing Africa's development.

Speaking at the panel discussion on trade and development in Africa, CEO of the NEPAD Agency Dr Mayaki explained that NEPAD has played a crucial part in the steady progress made by the continent, both in terms of democratisation and development.

"If we look at NEPAD, the focus has been on strategic thinking, planning and coherence in resource mobilisation. There has also been an emphasis on proper governance and management of public resources, with effective tools such as those provided by the APRM. Today African countries are quite well managed," said Dr Mayaki.

Participants at the conference, who included Ambassadors from Gabon, Rwanda, Algeria, Tunisia and Nigeria called on NEPAD to accelerate regional integration, technology, economic progress, peace and mobilise local funds to deepen gains recorded in the past ten years.

In his remarks, UNCTAD Special Coordinator for Africa Mr. Kamran Kousari stressed that NEPAD must reduce aid-dependency and focus on domestic resource mobilisation for sustainable development. Africa's leaders must renew their commitments to mobilise adequate financial resources for NEPAD, he said.

The session agreed that the relevance and success of NEPAD depends on the extent

to which African leaders, the African people and particularly civil society and development partners are involved in the process of implementing NEPAD.

Source: www.nepad.org

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reaching and innovative."

According to the Information and Communication Service (ICS) of ECA, the work programme covers the key target beneficiaries, including the various Departments of the AUC; capacity requirements of each Department and a consolidated programme of capacity building for the Commission. It also includes a narrative of the proposed work programme of all the 9 UN clusters in the context of the RCM and associated frameworks for monitoring and evaluating the implementation of capacity building interventions.

Mr. Janneh, in presenting the report, said that he was pleased to note that the outcome of this process is "a document that is collectively owned by the AU and the UN System".

Source: *Special to ECA, for full story: <http://www.uneca.org/>*

Upcoming Events

- 44th Meeting of the NEPAD Steering Committee, 11 July 2012, Addis Ababa (New AU Conference Centre)
- 27th Meeting of the NEPAD Heads of State and Government Orientation Committee (HSGOC), 14 July 2012, Addis Ababa (New AU Conference Centre)
- Presidential Infrastructure Champion Initiative (PICI) - Special High Level Meeting of the Regional Economic Communities (Executive Secretaries/ Heads); and other High Level Stakeholders, Pretoria, South Africa, on 3 July 2012

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