



Economic Commission for Africa

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

NEPAD TODAY

Every Wednesday

The articles published in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of UNECA or NPCA

44th meeting of NEPAD Steering Committee kicks off in Addis NEPAD Agency reports on its work

Chief of Section
Kwabia Boateng
Editor
Yinka Adeyemi
Assistant Editor
Meseret Arega

Members of the NEPAD Steering Committee today met in Addis Ababa to review the work, programmes and activities of the NEPAD Agency ahead of the 27th meeting of the NEPAD Heads of State and Government Orientation Committee (HSGOC) taking place on July 14 at the margins of the AU Summit. The NEPAD Steering Committee is composed of representatives of African heads of state who make up the HSGOC and reports directly to it.

At today's meeting the CEO of NEPAD Agency, Dr. Ibrahim Mayaki, presented the activity report of the NPCA for the period January-June 2012 which touches on the key outcomes of the 10th NEPAD anniversary colloquium and congress of stakeholders co-organized by ECA, NPCA and OSAA. Dr Mayaki also spoke on the proposed organizational structure of the NPCA, the harmonization of AUC-NPCA programme, the 2013 NPCA budget and the outcome of the regional dialogue on enhanced coordination for NEPAD focal points, co-organized in June by the ECA and NPCA.

The Steering Committee also received NPCA's reports on its engagements with African partners, the conclusions of the 18th meeting of the Africa Partnership Forum in April in Paris; the outcomes of the 2012



CEO of NPCA, Dr. Mayaki and Amb. Neway, Special Economic Advisor to the Prime Minister

Camp David G8 meeting and G20 (Los Cabos) Summits; the post-Busan global partnership arrangements and the 2012 ECA/OECD report on mutual review of development effectiveness (MRDE).



Ambassador Tunji Olagunu (left), representing the Nigerian President at the 44th Steering Committee Meeting

Continued on page 2

NEPAD says private sector “critical” in developing Africa’s infrastructure

The private sector has a critical role to play in reducing Africa’s infrastructure deficit which is militating against its economic growth, the NEPAD Agency said. It was for this reason that the African Union endorsed the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA) to channel resources to deal with the deficit, the Agency said at the opening of an annual Infrastructure Africa Business Forum in Johannesburg.

“With support from the private sector, PIDA is expected to play a critical role” in addressing the continent’s infrastructure problems, said Mr Adama Deen, head of Infrastructure Programmes and Projects at the NEPAD Agency, who represented the CEO, Dr Ibrahim Mayaki at the forum. “Infrastructure is essential for integrating regions, realising socio-economic potential and fast-tracking development in Africa,” he said.

PIDA’s main goal is to accelerate the delivery of current and future regional and continental infrastructure projects in transport, energy, information and communications and technology, and trans-boundary waterways. PIDA was approved by African heads of state and governments at their January 2012 summit in Addis Ababa.

In a presentation, Mr Ralph Olaye, Manager, NEPAD Division at the African Development Bank (AfDB), said the continent would require investment of about \$360 billion in infrastructure in order to be well connected to the rest of the world by 2040. In most African countries, infrastructure remains as a major constraint to doing business and if African governments and the private sector were to invest adequately in infrastructure, the continent would grow by 2 per cent per year, Mr Olaye said.

PIDA, which is a joint initiative by the AU, NEPAD and the AfDB, aims to develop a web of 37,200 km of highways, 30,200 km of railways and 16,500 km of interconnected power lines by 2040, said Mr Olaye. It also plans to add 54,150 MW of hydroelectric power generation capacity and an extra 1.3-billion tons capacity at the ports. South Africa’s Energy Minister, Dipuo Peters, said no infrastructure programme could be successful if it is not linked to continental development objectives. PIDA therefore remains key for the Southern African region and the entire Africa to promote socio-economic development, she said.

One of the outcomes of the two-day conference is to explore how to maximise economic growth in partnership with the private sector through initiatives such as PIDA. It will also explore new trading opportunities and business partnerships across the continent.

Source: www.nepad.org

Continued from page 1

44th meeting...

When the NEPAD heads of state meet on Saturday, July 14, they will review and take decisions on various issues discussed by the Steering Committee. They will also hear the status of the Presidential Infrastructure Champion Initiative (PICI) and three key presentations by ECA’s Executive Secretary, Abdoulaye Janneh; UNAIDS’ Executive Director, Michel Sidibe and the Executive Secretary of the African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF), Frannie Leautier.

Source: *Special to ECA*

Upcoming Event

- 27th Meeting of the NEPAD Heads of State and Government Orientation Committee (HSGOC), 14 July 2012, Addis Ababa (New AU Conference Centre)

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: maregaz@uneca.org