



Economic Commission for Africa

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Only a few people benefit from Nigeria's growth - ECA's Nnadozie

Prof. Emmanuel Nnadozie, Director, Economic Department and NEPAD Division, UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), on Monday said despite the current security and economic challenges being faced by Nigeria, it could still be among the biggest economies of the world in the near future

Nnadozie said in Addis Ababa that if the ongoing security crisis could be well managed, Nigeria would surely move forward and her economy would grow fast.

"Countries have their ups and downs including civil wars, with sound economic policies, you find that their economies rebound.

"If Nigeria can handle the current security problem very well, her economy will grow and the country will move forward and become one of the strongest in the world," he said.

Nnadozie said one of the ways of improving the nation's economy was to translate growth into development. He said as a country with full potentials, which could be utilised to improve the welfare of all Nigerians. "Nigeria is growing in a respectable way and the last election had portrayed the country in very good light. "We are happy that a lot of policies are being implemented to improve the welfare of the citizenry," Nnadozie said.

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ECA says North Africa is ready for

Rio + 20

One of the highlights of the 27th session of ICE to be organized by the Office for North Africa of ECA (Rabat, 6- 9 March 2012) will be the Expert Group Meeting on "Rio + 20: Progress and Challenges for North Africa". Scheduled to convene on March 7, one day after the ICE kick starts, this meeting has two major objectives: i) to assess the nature and extent of progress the sub region has made in the area of sustainable development, and ii) to build consensus on what North Africa can expect

from Rio +20 Conference due to be held in June 2012.

This Conference will take stock of progress made twenty years after the holding of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development also known as the "Earth Summit" (Rio de Janeiro, June 3 to 14, 1992). It will cover two main topics: the promotion of green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, and the institutional and

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Only a few...

Nnadozie also urged the government to create more jobs for the youths, saying only a few people benefit from the country's growth.

"There is a need to ensure that the country's growth benefit all categories of Nigerians. The rate at which young people enter the labour force is higher than the rate at which jobs are being created," he said.

Nnadozie, therefore, urged Nigerians to collectively and individually put in their best to achieve high growth rate, reduce poverty or eliminate it all together and make the country realise its vision of being one of the biggest economies of the world.

Source: Africa News, March 5, 2012 Monday

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ECA says...

strategic framework for sustainable development.

The Expert meeting expected in Rabat echoes the African Regional Preparatory Meeting of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio +20) ECA has organized back in October 2011 in Addis Ababa (Ethiopia), leading to the adoption of The African Declaration on Rio +20. This preparatory meeting was also an opportunity to examine the new and emerging issues and to identify potentials for the green economy within the context of sustainable development in Africa.

The relevance of all these issues in the specific context of North Africa is well established; and the expected Expert group meeting RIO + 20 will primarily aim to strengthen the commitment to the priority issues of sustainable development, and to

define a better approach to development.

Source: Special to ECA : www.uneca.org

AU celebrates Wangari Maathai Day

March 3 is celebrated every year as Africa Environment Day. This emanated from 2000 Durban Summit of the then Organization of African Unity (OAU) as a way of creating awareness about the environmental issues and the challenges facing the continent.

The celebration for this year is of a particular significance following the Decision of the AU January 2012 Summit that chose March 3 as Wangari Maathai Day. Thus, Africa Environment Day celebration will henceforth be commemorated in conjunction with remembering Prof. Wangari Maathai, an illustrious daughter of the African continent who spent her entire life promoting and protecting human well-being through her pioneering Green Belt Movement and grassroots activism, inspiring people to promote sustainable development. Combining the celebrations of the Africa Environment Day and Wangari Maathai Day therefore, is a fitting tribute to the values she so steadfastly stood for.

Source: www.nepad.org

Upcoming Events

- High level NEPAD Colloquium and Congress, 28 March 2012, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
- 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

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