



Economic Commission for Africa

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# NEPAD TODAY

Every Wednesday

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## AU-NEPAD hosts workshop on the African Solidarity Initiative (ASI)

The AUC and NEPAD Agency are hosting a three-day high-level meeting in Johannesburg, South Africa, to draft a Roadmap for the implementation of the African Solidarity Initiative (ASI) for the mobilization of support for post-conflict reconstruction and development in Africa.

The meeting which runs from 24 to 26 October is sponsored by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), is chaired by the Former Prime Minister of the Central African Republic, Mr. Anicet Georges Dologuele.

Welcoming participants at the opening session, the Director of the National Office for the Coordination of Peace Missions in South Africa's Department of

International relations and Cooperation, Ms. N.M Dwabayo, commended the African Union Commission for its tireless efforts towards the implementation of AU decisions, including the organization's policy on Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development (PCRD) adopted by African Heads of State in Banjul, Gambia, in June 2006.

"Launching the ASI was part of the AU's endeavour to promote African solidarity and mutual assistance and propel the Continent to a higher level of development and self-confidence, driven by the motto: Africa helping Africa. It is time to turn this motto from a slogan to reality. This Initiative needs to be implemented as soon as yesterday," Ms. Dwabayo emphasized.

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## Government to invest around USD 153 Million in capacity building

Efforts to develop and retain capacity among Rwanda's public institutions and human resource will cost the government around USD 153 Million over the next five years.

This was revealed during the launch and review by stakeholders for the validation of the country's capacity profile last week. Through NEPAD, the African Union wants to establish a Capacity Development Stra-

tegic Framework (CDSF) as a common reference approach to capacity development on the Continent.

"Under this framework, several African states will submit their country capacity profiles detailing their key capacity bottlenecks and sharing through the forum the various approaches they are undertaking to address the issues," explained Geoffrey Ndashimye, a capacity development expert at the

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## **AU-NEPAD hosts...**

Speaking on behalf of the CEO of NEPAD, Dr. Ibrahim Mayaki, the Special Assistant to the NEPAD CEO, Mr. Ibrahim Gourouza, emphasized the need for participants to be precise and concrete in their proposals.

Mr. Gourouza reiterated the need for a paradigm shift in Africa's development philosophy, adding that Africa has everything it needs to pull itself out of poverty: "The ASI is not about charity. It is an initiative grounded in the African social value of solidarity: neighbours helping neighbours." As the development vehicle of the African Union, he added, NEPAD will work closely with all relevant AUC departments to achieve this goal.

The AU Commissioner for Peace and Security, Amb. Ramtane Lamamra, in his remarks presented on his behalf by the Head of the Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development Unit in the Department of Peace and Security, Mr. Takwa Suifon, stated that though the ASI is an African Union initiative, its development and implementation requires the collaboration of relevant AU Partners, Regional Economic Communities (RECs), AU Liaison Offices, NEPAD, the African Development Bank (AfDB), UNDP and the entire United Nations family,

NGOs, Civil Society Organizations, as well as other regional and sub-regional organizations. He urged participants to come up with a clear, practical, and realistic roadmap.

The Principal Facilitator for the ASI process, Mr. Samuel Nyambi, expressed the gratitude of the Organizing Team to the more than 50 participants for responding favourably to their invitations.

Participants at the workshop include senior

government officials from various African countries, representatives of African and non-African cooperation and development agencies, representatives of various AUC departments, AU Liaison Offices, RECs, bilateral and multilateral Partners, and experts on several African countries emerging from conflict including Sierra Leone, Liberia, Cote d'Ivoire, Central African Republic, DRC, Sudan and South Sudan.

*For full story: [www.nepad.org](http://www.nepad.org)*

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## **Government to...**

Rwanda Public Sector Capacity Building Secretariat (PSCBS).

The PSCBS, which was established in 2009 to coordinate capacity building activities across the public sector as well as manage a capacity building fund, has prepared a national capacity profile explaining Rwanda's major capacity bottle necks per sector and sharing some of its unprecedented home grown approaches that have been/are being used to address them.

Rwanda's capacity profile will be shared with the rest of the continent a move that will enable them adopt some of the best practices that have helped Rwanda address some of her critical issues in the past. But Rwanda will also benefit as it will also be able to share reports and approaches of other countries on the continent to further boost its own local methods.

*For full story: [Africa News, October 29, 2012 Monday](#)*

### **Upcoming Event**

- International Conference on: Youth and Democratization in Africa, 1-3 Nov 2012, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
- RCM-Africa, November 14-15, 2012, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, UNCC

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