



Economic Commission for Africa

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

NEPAD TODAY

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Janneh calls for more youth mobilization initiatives on climate change, development

The UN Under-Secretary General and Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Mr. Abdou Jannet on Sunday called for sustained youth mobilization “to get out the message of sustainable development, as they have the greatest stake in the future sustainability of our planet”.

Addressing the opening session of the Conference of Foreign Ministers of the AU, on the eve of the 17th AU Summit, he said that “all hands must be on deck to ensure that the outcomes of the on-going climate change negotiations which continue in Durban later on this year and the Rio +20 Summit taking place in Brazil next year take account of Africa's interests and concerns”,

according to the Information and Communications Service of ECA.

“As they have the greatest stake in the future sustainability of our planet, Africa's youth should be mobilized to get out the message of sustainable development. Indeed, they also have to contribute by bringing their dynamism to bear through ideas, taking business risks and contributing to educating and mobilizing the rest of society behind agreed goals”, he explained.

He announced that in the case of Rio +20, “ECA is working closely with the AUC, AfDB and UNEP to prepare the background documents that will guide Africa's negotiating position”.

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NEPAD Steering Committee takes note of progress in agriculture, infrastructure and capacity building

The 42nd session of the NEPAD Steering Committee (SC) took place in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea on Saturday, 25 June 2011, with members welcoming the progress being made in the implementation of programmes and the 10th Anniversary of NEPAD.

In his presentation to the 42nd SC session, Dr. Ibrahim Assane Mayaki, CEO of

NEPAD Agency, said that capacity building, infrastructure and agriculture as in the shape of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) accounted for some of the critical areas in which the Agency was making progress in the roll-out of continental projects and programmes.

The NEPAD Agency CEO also briefed the

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“We are also organizing the African Regional Preparatory Conference for Rio +20 in October 2011, where a common African position on the negotiations will be adopted”, he promised, calling on “member States to continue to pay very close attention to this process whose outcomes will affect the future growth trajectory of our continent.”

Citing recent studies, he recalled that youth unemployment in Africa is over 20% in many countries “but even this figure underestimates the gravity of the problem”, proposing a new “strategy that combines public works programmes and enhanced investment in infrastructure and production ... to tap into the nexus between job creation, sustainable development and social stability.”

Accordingly, “we must now pay greater attention to green growth, which could leapfrog old and environmentally unsustainable technologies and enable African countries to take advantage of their current potential in agriculture, tourism, forestry, and eco-industries”, Mr. Janneh insisted

He assured that the United Nations system in Africa will continue to strengthen its partnerships in support of continental development initiatives, and “with the conclusion of the review of the Ten Year Capacity Building Plan, the UN Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa is poised to build on previous achievements by developing concrete capacity building programmes for the African Union, its NEPAD programme and the Regional Economic Communities”, he also announced.

RCM-Africa resolved at its 11th session which was co-chaired by the AU Commis-

sion that an annual report on its activities should henceforth be submitted to the AU Summit through appropriate organs, it would be recalled.

For full story: <http://www.starafrika.com/en/news/detail-news/view/eca-press-release-janneh-calls-for-mor-174324.html>

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NEPAD Steering...

SC on the progress that has been made with regard to the integration of the NEPAD Agency into the AU structures and processes, with specific reference being given to the Agency’s strategic direction and its’ adoption of AU rules, regulations and practices for human resources and finance.

In his remarks, Dr Mayaki revealed that in commemorating the 10th Anniversary of NEPAD, the Agency would give a strong signal on how Africa can harness its development challenges under the umbrella of the AU.

Crucially, the 41st SC was also briefed on the upcoming United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP17) in Durban, South Africa, where the NEPAD Agency in partnership with the African Union will participate in firming up the African common position on climate change.

Source: www.nepad.org

Upcoming Event

- Expert Group Meeting on “Coordinating Development”

6-7 July 2011, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

- Brown Bag seminar on “The role of the right to food in guiding agricultural development” series

12 July 2011, Pretoria, South Africa

- Africa Trade and Investment Expo

27 July 2011 Midrand, South Africa

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