



Economic Commission for Africa

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# NEPAD TODAY

Every Wednesday

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## Experts meeting on eHealth and telemedicine harmonization in Africa

The Experts Meeting on Health and Telemedicine Harmonization in Africa opened on Monday 28th February, 2011 at the Headquarter of the African Union in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, to present its outcome to the 5th session of the Conference of the African Union Health Ministers scheduled for April 2011, in Namibia.

Speaking at the opening ceremony of the experts meeting, AU Commissioner for Social Affairs, her Excellency Bience Gawanas said a number of strategies, plan of action and initiatives directly or indirectly related with ICT for health have been developed and supported by the AU and its NEPAD Agency in collaboration with AU Partners. The commissioner stressed that the AU will not succeed without the concerted effort of all member states, RECs, the Development Partners, and especially the private sector that play an important role at national level.

The commissioner added that the AU will continue to provide leadership in playing its role of Advocacy, Harmonization and coordination as well as resource mobilization to ensure that ICT for health is placed high on Africa's agenda and also to ensure that the necessary policies are in place for the progress and sustainability of relevant initiatives.

According to Prof. Derege Kebede, WHO, Regional Office for Africa said on behalf of the regional director Dr. Luis Gomes Sambo in his opening remarks, eHealth can contribute to health system strengthening in several ways by improving the availability, quality and use of information and evidence through strengthened health information system and public health surveillance system; developing the health workforce and improving performance by eliminating distance and time barriers (reducing cost) through continuing medical or public health education.

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## NEPAD is celebrating its 10th anniversary this year

In an anniversary message, Dr Ibrahim Assene Mayaki, CEO of NEPAD said "In collaboration with African citizens, the African leadership and our partners are using this year to reflect on Africa and its achievements, on the role of NEPAD and indeed the NEPAD Agency in Africa's development.

"Over the course of this year we are going to undertake a series of activities and processes that can help us all to focus on our work and our future efforts.

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## Experts Meeting...

He added "Unfortunately", the availability of these technologies in the region is far from adequate, and eHealth project continue to exist on a small scale and are fragmented.

Prof. Kbede noted that WHO has for many years now given an important priority to eHealth and has worked with AUC and many partners to leverage eHealth in strengthening national health system.

*Source: <http://allafrica.com/stories/201102281207.html>*

## Farmers are vital link in CAADP process, says IFSN coordinator

The important role that farmers play in the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) cannot be denigrated into the background. Speaking on the role of farmer's organization in the CAADP process, Ms Marie Adam Njie, coordinator of the International Food Security Network in West Africa said farmer organizations play increasingly important role in articulating the interests of farmers by acting as their voice as it campaigns for favorable agricultural policies, support for technological improvements and access to resources needed the development of farming activities.

According to Ms Njie, who is also the coordinator of the National Farmer's Platform, the voice of sector stakeholders such as the farmers and agribusinesses should

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## NEPAD is celebrating its 10th anniversary this year

"This of course involves maintaining NEPAD's focus on the empowerment of the African people as a genuine demonstration that Africans can solve their own problems and do not need to be dependent and rely on anyone to create innovative and successful models of development and growth."

Dr Mayaki said that in celebrating the 10th Anniversary, NEPAD would also aim to reach all strata of African society so that they are aware of the essence and vision of NEPAD and know how they can live it; demonstrate to key stakeholders the achievements and successes of NEPAD over the last decade; and clearly highlight the future of the NEPAD programme and the work of the NEPAD Agency.

*Source: CAADP News, Issue 07, 28 February 2011*

## Farmers are vital...

enhance the quality of decision-making in the policy dialogue and planning, adding that the representatives of farmer organizations are expected to be members of the CAADP country team, participate in the roundtable, sign the concept, and make inputs to the development and technical review of the investment plan.

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

### Upcoming Event

- 23-25 March 2011-The 7th CAADP Partnership Platform (PP) meeting, Yaoundé, Cameroon, focusing on the theme "Mutual accountability in the formulation and implementation of country CAADP investment plans".

**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: [mareg2@uneca.org](mailto:mareg2@uneca.org)**