



Economic Commission for Africa

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NEPAD TODAY

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African Heads of State begin meeting ahead of COP 17

The Commission of the African Union is hosting the Meeting of the Committee of African Heads of State and Government on Climate Change (CAHOSCC) today, at the African Union Headquarters, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

As mandated by the AU Assembly of Heads of State and Government held in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea in July 2011, the CAHOSCC meeting will consider the key messages reviewed and refined by the Special Session of the African Ministerial Council on Environment (AMCEN) held in Bamako, Mali in September 2011. The meeting will also deliberate on the state of play of the

global climate change negotiations and chart strategies for Africa's effective participation at CoP17/CMP7. This is in preparation for the 17th Conference of Parties (COP17) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the 7th Meeting of Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP7) due to take place from 28 November to 09 December 2011 in Durban, Republic of South Africa.

CAHOSCC will also appraise and provide guidance on the ongoing preparatory work that the Commission, together with the Republic of South Africa (host of COP17/

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Africa, OECD agree on key messages to Busan

Delegates attending the 17th Africa Partnership Forum which ends today in Addis Ababa have agreed on the key messages which will be taken to COP 17 in Durban and the 4th High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in Busan, South Korea, later this month and in December 2011.

The meeting, on the theme "Promoting Economic Growth", was attended by personal representatives of Heads of State and Government of Africa and the continent's principal development partners, Heads of

regional and international organizations and representatives of the private sector. It was co-chaired by Ethiopia, Finland and France.

The messages speak to Africa's achievement and potential; the key role of domestic and foreign private sector; the central importance of infrastructure; Africa on the international development agenda and the need to address the impact of climate change.

APF is composed of the NEPAD Agency, African Union Commission and OECD countries.

Source: *Special to ECA*

Africa is pushing for more say in aid spending

Delegates from all over the world will converge on Busan, South Korea, at the end of this month for the 4th High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness. The process began in 2005, when thousands of finance ministers, top international officials, MPs and nongovernmental organisations launched the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, and these meetings have continued sporadically ever since.

However, Africa recently turned the tables by insisting that & aid effectiveness& should become & development effectiveness& and it looks like it has won the debate. This is not a matter of semantics. Africa insists Africa should lead in decisions about where, how and when aid should be applied. It also insists that & no country in the world has developed by targeting poverty& which has been the predominant tendency in foreign aid.

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African Heads...

CMP7), AfDB, UNECA and other partners, has been engaged in towards having an African Pavilion at CoP17/CMP7 in Durban. The African Pavilion, organised around “Development First” theme, will be featuring during the entire course of CoP17/CMP7 a series of events, hosted by a number of stakeholders, to showcase Africa’s best practices and successes in dealing with climate change and climate variability. The events in the African Pavilion will culminate on the 8th of December 2011 in an “Africa Day” featuring High Level Fora on Africa’s Future in the Context of Climate Change and on Financing Africa’s response to Climate Change.

For full story: www.nepad.org

The change in direction came in Tunis last year, when AfDB, AUC and NEPAD, supported by UNECA, called a conference to launch the African Platform for Development Effectiveness.

The foundation for this new stance lies in the new leadership of NEPAD by the impressive Ibrahim Mayaki, a former prime minister of Niger, but also in the widely held view that there was something amiss in previous aid mechanisms. Aid often did not reach the poor; much aid was tied to donor supplies; a great deal was spent in the donor countries and never reached recipient countries, and there was considerable rivalry between donors based on political agendas. Hence the Paris declaration and the aftermath.

But Africa's new confidence in the international arena also comes from new developments on the continent. First, there has been a substantial improvement in financial governance. Second, most commodity prices have risen a great deal on international markets, accounting for impressive growth.

For full story: Business Day (South Africa), November 14, 2011 Monday

Upcoming Event

- 17th Meeting of Africa Partnership Forum, 15-17 Nov 2011, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
- International training program on “Linking Farmers to Markets in Africa”, 21-25 Nov 2011, Ghana
- UN-RCM, 21 - 22 Nov 2011 Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
- Africa Trade Forum, 22-24 Nov 2011, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

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