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43RD MEETING OF THE NEPAD STEERING COMMITTEE
24-25 JANUARY 2012
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

REPORT OF THE 42ND MEETING OF THE NEPAD STEERING COMMITTEE
MALABO, EQUATORIAL GUINEA, 25 JUNE 2011



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1. The 42nd Meeting of the NEPAD Steering Committee (SC) took place at the Sipopo Conference Centre, Malabo, Equatorial Guinea on 25 June 2011 on the eve of the 19th Ordinary Session of the AU Executive Council and prior to the 25th Meeting of the NEPAD Heads of State and Government Orientation Committee (HSGOC).
2. The Steering Committee meeting was presided over by Ambassador Hadid Rabah, Algerian Representative on the Steering Committee on behalf of the Ethiopian Co-Chair, Mr. Gebreab Newai, who was unavoidably absent. Representatives of African Union (AU) Member-States on the NEPAD HSGOC and the African Union Commission (AUC) attended the 42nd Meeting, along with Regional Economic Communities (RECs). NEPAD partner institutions, namely the African Development Bank, UNECA and UNOSAA also participated in the meeting. The list of participants is attached as **Annex I**.
3. In the opening statement, Ambassador Rabah welcomed the 10th year anniversary of NEPAD as a key milestone and stressed the importance of the 42nd SC Meeting in fully discussing the issues relating to the implementation of NEPAD as the AU development strategic framework. Ambassador Ekoome Hononine of Equatorial Guinea presented welcome remarks on behalf of the host country while Dr. Ibrahim Assane Mayaki, Chief Executive Officer of NEPAD Agency and Dr. Maxwell Mkwezalamba, AU Commissioner for Economic Affairs expressed goodwill messages to the SC meeting.

Adoption of the Agenda of the 42nd Steering Committee Meeting

4. The draft agenda was adopted as presented without amendment.

Consideration and Adoption of Report of 41st Steering Committee Meeting

5. Chief Executive Officer of the NEPAD Agency, Dr. Ibrahim Assane Mayaki presented highlights of the report of the 41st meeting of the SC Committee held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from the 22-23 January 2011.
6. **Consequently, the Steering Committee noted and welcomed the report as a true reflection of the outcomes of its 41st meeting. SC Members commended the efforts of the AU Commission and the NEPAD Agency in adopting AU rules, regulations and practices for Finance, Human Resources and Administrative systems as part of the finalization of NEPAD integration into the structures and processes of the African Union.**

Presentation of the Activity Report of the NEPAD Agency for January-June 2011

7. The Steering Committee was presented with the update of the major programmatic activities undertaken by the NEPAD Agency during the review period: January-June 2011, by the NPCA Chief Executive Officer.

8. Specifically, the Agency's activities were highlighted as the following key issues:

- a. *Proposed 2012 Budget for NPCA to the tune of US\$32.9m billed for consideration by the AU Permanent Representatives Committee (PRC);*
- b. *Signing of CAADP national compacts by 3 African countries during the review period, thus bringing total to 26 countries while 19 countries signed up on the National Agriculture and Food Security Investment Plans (NAFSIPs);*
- c. *NPCA spearheading of results-oriented agricultural development through the 7th CAADP Partnership Platform held from 22-24 March 2011 in Yaoundé;*
- d. *Provision of technical backstopping by NPCA to the Government of Togo in finalizing its investment frameworks for sustainable land and water management;*
- e. *NEPAD collaboration with the Oxford University-based Natural Resource Charter (NRC) in support of the implementation of the African Mining Vision;*
- f. *Take-off of the implementation of the seven (7) regional projects endorsed by the 16th AU Assembly under the AU-NEPAD Presidential Infrastructure Champion Initiative with national focal points being engaged;*
- g. *May 2011 joint AUC/NPCA launch of the African Innovation Outlook Series and 2nd Phase of African Science and Technology Innovation Indicators Initiative (ASTII);*
- h. *In accelerating investment reform in Africa, NPCA and OECD organized the 5th Ministerial Conference of the NEPAD-OECD Africa Investment Initiative in Dakar in April 2011, which was declared opened by President Abdoulaye Wade of Senegal;*
- i. *Official launch of CDSF-driven Africa Platform for Development Effectiveness (APDev) by the AUC, NPCA and UNECA in March 2011 in Addis Ababa;*
- j. *Support for African Women Empowerment following the launch of the Second Call for Proposals under the NEPAD/Spanish Fund in Windhoek, Namibia in April 2011;*

9. On Partnerships, the Agency in collaboration with AUC produced the first AU-NEPAD Accountability Report on assessment of Africa-G8 partnership commitments from Genoa to Muskoka which was presented at the Deauville G8-Africa Partnership Summit in May 2011. Furthermore, NPCA signed MoUs with partner institutions including the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN); NEPAD Business Foundation; ACP-EU Technical Centre for Agricultural & Rural Cooperation (CTA); Pan-African Great Green Wall Agency and Cooperation Agreement with Michigan State University (MSU).

10. **The 42nd Meeting commended NPCA for presenting a very elaborate report on NEPAD implementation status relating to the NEPAD Agenda and thematic priorities of the Agency. It noted the excellent working relations, new collaboration spirit and institutional interface between the AUC and NEPAD Agency. In this regard, it commended the direct efforts of AUC Chairperson and NPCA CEO. The Committee further noted the proposed NPCA 2012 budget of US\$32.9m for operational and programmatic activities to be presented to the 17th AU Assembly through PRC and Executive Council for approval. However, SC members expressed concern about inadequate funding of the NPCA and urged AU Member States to provide adequate financial resources for ownership and sustainability of NEPAD implementation, given that most of the funds for the Agency's programs are provided by development partners. In all, the SC meeting appreciated the progress recorded towards implementing AU-NEPAD Presidential Infrastructure Champion Initiative through the work of HSGOC High Level Sub-Committee.**

NEPAD Implementation at Regional level – ECOWAS and ECCAS

11. Representatives of Regional Economic Communities (RECs), namely; ECOWAS and ECCAS, shared the status of progress and experiences on implementation of NEPAD related programmes and projects in their sub-regions with the SC. The key areas of collaboration including agriculture and food security (CAADP), regional infrastructure (PIDA), capacity development support for RECs (CDSF) education and training were highlighted during the presentations.
12. **Accordingly, the Steering Committee welcomed the briefing by ECCAS and ECOWAS while emphasizing the utmost importance of the participation of all the eight (8) AU-recognized RECs in NEPAD governance processes including SC meetings. It was also observed that NEPAD programmes and projects will be successfully implemented through the full and active participation of RECs as building blocks for regional integration. Thus, the Steering Committee requested NPCA to actively re-engage all the RECs towards a much stronger role in NEPAD implementation.**

Key Activities to mark the 10th Anniversary of the NEPAD Programme in 2011

13. The NEPAD Agency briefed the SC on key activities and events planned to mark the 10th Anniversary of the adoption of NEPAD in the course of 2011. In line with the conclusion of the 24th NEPAD HSGOC, the NPCA disclosed that the activities will be low-key and focused on forward looking approaches to re-energize the implementation of the NEPAD agenda in the next decade, Particularly, the Agency noted that the NEPAD Programme had been given a new lease of life following its integration into the African Union within the context of Continent's development agenda.
14. **In response to the 10th NEPAD anniversary, the SC meeting welcomed and endorsed the planned anniversary activities, namely the special commemorative session at the 25th HSGOC; the NEPAD Colloquium and Congress in Addis Ababa; the NEPAD Week at the 66th UN General Assembly in New York and the publication on NEPAD Review covering 2001 to 2010. SC members recommended the scale up of the anniversary to the possible highest political level for buy-in, ownership and greater awareness and the delegation of South Africa called for an extension of the anniversary period to 2012. Overall, the SC meeting called for the continued support of AU Member States to consolidate NEPAD implementation and the desired impact.**

Overview and Preparations for 25th Meeting of the NEPAD Orientation Committee

15. **The 42nd Steering Committee discussed the draft agenda prepared by the NPCA for the upcoming 25th session of the NEPAD Heads of State and Government Orientation Committee (HSGOC). With few amendments, the SC endorsed the draft agenda and directed that the final draft agenda be presented to the HSGOC and AUC Chairpersons for approval and circulation to HSGOC members.**

Update on Africa's partnership engagements

16. The 42nd Steering Committee meeting was briefed on the outcomes of Africa's major engagements with development partners in the context of the African Union and its NEPAD Programme. This briefing focused on the 16th Africa Partnership Forum (APF) held in Paris, France in April 2011 and the G8/Africa Partnership Summit of May 2011 in Deauville, France. The outlook for the G20 Summit billed for Cannes in November 2011 was also considered by the meeting. Further, the NEPAD Agency CEO presented the summary of the AUC-NPCA Assessment Report on G8/Africa partnership to the SC.
17. **The progress being recorded in advancing partnership for NEPAD implementation was acknowledged by the SC meeting. Specifically, the Steering Committee noted the key conclusions of the Paris 16th APF relating to economic growth, private investment and job creation and the major steps towards consolidating the continent's good progress in peace and security, economic growth and mutual accountability. The SC, in addition, welcomed the newly established practice of negotiating the G8 joint declaration on Africa issued at the end of the G8/Africa Summit, and commended the French Presidency for the initiative and urged its continuation at subsequent G8/Africa Outreach Summits.**
18. **Additionally, the Steering Committee welcomed NPCA participation at the G20 Food Security Session in Paris and underlined the necessity for Africa to continuously engage G20 countries on food security and reserves, price volatility as well as infrastructure. AUC and NPCA were specially commended for working closely to produce the first ever Accountability Report on Africa-G8 partnership commitments, which was circulated to SC members. The Steering Committee expressed deep appreciation to partner institutions especially UNDP, UNECA and Oxfam for the technical support provided for the review report.**

Any Other Business

19. South African delegation briefed the 42nd Steering Committee Meeting on preparations for the 17th Conference of Parties (COP17) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the 7th Session of Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties (CMP7) in Durban from 28 November - 9 December 2011.
20. **The Steering Committee noted with appreciation the conscientious efforts of the Government of South Africa to organize COP 17/CMP7 in Durban and make Africa proud. The SC stressed that the ultimate goal of COP17 was to make commendable progress towards a post-Kyoto regime as a follow up to Cancun while striving to overcome the persistent challenge of concluding a legally binding agreement on Climate Change. In this regard, SC members welcomed the G77 and China support for the Bali Roadmap as indicated by the delegation of South Africa and commended developing countries for initiating post Kyoto agreements as well as the planned convening of a 'Leaders Dialogue' by South Africa and Mexico.**

21. **Importantly, the Steering Committee highly commended the coordination of an African common position under the AU Committee of African Heads of State and Government on Climate Change currently chaired by H.E. Prime Minister Meles Zenawi of Ethiopia. It also underscored the significance for Africa to transmit strong message to the international development community on Climate Change at the Durban COP17.**

22. **Secondly, the NPCA provided an update on the continent's preparations for the Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness (HLF-4) in Busan, South Korea within the auspices of the AUC/NPCA jointly coordinated Africa Platform for Development Effectiveness (APDev). The focal and inter-connected issues of South-South / Triangular Cooperation and Aid Effectiveness with Capacity Development as the core driving force towards achieving Development Effectiveness (DE) were elaborated by the NEPAD Agency. Consequently, the Agency briefed on the official launch of APDev as the coordinating mechanism to advance Development Effectiveness and its planned activities including the Third Africa Regional Meeting due for Addis Ababa in September 2011 prior to the Busan HLF-4. The lead role of the NPCA in collaboration with the AUC in mobilizing African countries, institutions, policy-makers, stakeholders and development partners, was underlined. NPCA and AUC are working towards building a formidable continental coalition to showcase the African Consensus and Position through evidence-based knowledge on the good practices on Development Effectiveness.**

23. **The 42nd Steering Committee meeting welcomed the joint coordination of Africa's preparations by AUC and NPCA under the Africa Platform for Development Effectiveness (APDev) launched in March 2011 and emphasized that the African voice and consensus on the beyond aid approach focusing on Development Effectiveness should be clearly articulated in Busan. In this respect, the SC commended the support provided to the AUC and NPCA from African stakeholders and regional bodies including UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), African Development Bank (AfDB), UNDP and the African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF).**

Date and Venue of the 43rd Meeting of the NEPAD Steering Committee

24. **The Steering Committee directed the NEPAD Agency CEO to further consult with the leadership and members of the Steering Committee on convening the 43rd SC meeting at a period and venue to be agreed upon in the near future. It was then agreed that the date and venue of 43rd SC meeting will be communicated by the NEPAD Agency after consultations with the Co-Chairs.**

25. **Finally, Steering Committee members expressed, through the Chair, sincere appreciation to the Government and people of Equatorial Guinea for hosting the 42nd meeting and the excellent facilities provided. They also thanked the AU Commission for facilitating the logistics and registration for SC members to participate in the forthcoming 17th AU Summit processes.**

