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REPORT OF THE PRC SUB-COMMITTEE ON
MULTILATERAL COOPERATION
JANUARY – JUNE 2014

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INTRODUCTION

1. During the period under review, the PRC Sub-Committee on Multilateral Cooperation, chaired by Mr Ahmat Awad Sakine, Ambassador of the Republic of Chad, held several meetings devoted on the one hand, to the preparations for the 4th Africa-EU Summit and the first ministerial meeting of TICAD V; and on the other, to monitoring the implementation of the outcomes of the 3rd Africa-Arab Summit working closely with the Coordination Committee for Africa-Arab Partnership. The Sub-Committee also participated in meetings organized in the context of the various partnerships. This report provides an overview of all these activities. It also highlights the assorted challenges faced both by the Sub-Committee on Multilateral Cooperation and by the Partnerships Management and Coordination Division. In conclusion, the report puts forward recommendations, which possible validation by the higher authorities would significantly help to enhance both the visibility and clarity of the strategic partnerships developed with the partners. In terms of methodology, the report adopts a three-pronged approach, with each partnership presented from the perspectives of: activities undertaken, challenges faced and recommendations.

A. AFRICA-EUROPEAN UNION

2. The Africa-EU Partnership was marked, during the period under consideration, by the preparations for and holding of the 4th Africa-EU Summit in Brussels, Belgium, from 2 to 3 April 2014. The preparations involved, in the first instance, the Sub-Committee on Multilateral Cooperation, the African Steering Committee and the African Union Commission. Subsequently, they embraced the meeting of senior officials of the Africa-EU Joint Steering Committee held in Brussels in the week preceding the Summit.

3. With regard to the first level of the preparations, the Sub-Committee held several meetings with the African Steering Committee to agree on the key priority areas of the partnership and to examine the documents to be laid before the Summit, such as the Main Declaration, the separate declarations on migration, agriculture, climate change, the Post-2015 Development Agenda, trade and industry, evaluation/appraisal report, as well as future prospects and the Action Plan. Meetings were also held to render account to the PRC on the state of preparations for the 4th Africa-EU Summit.

4. The second level of the preparations involved the Senior Officials Meeting held within the framework of the Joint Africa-EU Steering Committee in the run up to the Summit. Prior to that meeting which took place in Brussels from 24 to 28 April 2014, the Chair of the PRC, H.E. Hamadi Meimou, Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania had, in his official capacity, chaired a consultation meeting of the African Steering Committee on 23 April 2014 for the purpose of defining a line of action, compliance with which would ensure cohesion and coherence of AU position.

5. The Senior Officials Meeting threw up numerous divergences between the AU and EU positions on a number of issues including:

(i) Institutional mechanism for implementation of the Action Plan

6. The European side called to question the existing institutional implementation mechanism. It first pointed to the procedural constraints in the use of the concept "Action Plan" in view of the 2007 Lisbon Summit resolutions which subject any Action Plan to approval by the European Parliament. For reasons of speedy action and efficiency, the concept "Action Plan" should be replaced by an alternative terminology. The EU side further proposed that the informal Common Expert Groups (CEGs) be replaced by another structure on account of the very limited results obtained by the Groups.

7. The African side came up with two observations in reaction to the aforesaid EU positions. First, in its view, challenging the concept of "Action Plan" could result in a climb down in terms of the previous achievements of the Africa-EU partnership, given the fact that the reference to the Action Plan implies a specific approach to translating into concrete action the activities agreed under the partnership. Furthermore, in the absence of a formal evaluation of the partnership during the period under review, it was risky to make a value judgment on the performance of the CEGs. The African side was rather of the view that the CEGs should exit from the informal and be given a formal status.

8. On the first point, both sides committed to inventing more innovative and more flexible mechanisms, oriented to optimizing the implementation of agreed activities. They also agreed that the concept of "Action Plan" would thenceforth be replaced by a new terminology, namely "Roadmap".

(ii) Consideration of the separate declarations

9. In addition to the main declaration which should round up the entirety of the Summit deliberations, the European side had submitted for consideration and possible adoption by the African side, separate declarations, respectively on (a) the Post-2015 Development Agenda; (b) climate change; (c) agriculture; (d) migration, mobility and employment; and (e) trade and industry. The African side rejected the draft declarations, except the one in respect of migration and mobility, for two main reasons: development of a common position on the issue, subject of the declaration, was yet to be completed, and lack of coherence between the draft declaration and Africa's fundamental interests.

(iii) Invitations to participate in the Summit

10. On the issue of invitations, the EU representative was keen to highlight the efforts deployed by EU to respond to AU's request in this regard. The EU thus accepted in principle to invite the President of The Sudan, while insisting that the invitation should be addressed to him by the President of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania in his capacity as current Chairperson of the African Union. An invitation card had been forwarded to the President of the Republic of Zimbabwe. However, an entry visa would not be issued to his spouse. Following these explanations, a member of AU read out a communiqué adopted by the PRC at its 26 March 2014 meeting proposing a postponement of the 4th EU-Africa Summit. This led the Chair of the PRC, H.E Hamadi Meimou to recall the statutory mandate of the PRC, the

cardinal function of which is to implement decisions taken by Heads of State and Government.

(iv) Representation at the ministerial meeting

11. Going by past experience, the African side inquired about the number of European ministers that have confirmed their participation in the ministerial meeting, warning that in the event of EU representation by officials, AU ministers would not attend the meeting for reasons of protocol balance. In addition, the African side complained that the room for hosting the ministerial meeting was configured according to the formula 1+1.

(v) The ministerial meeting in the end limited its agenda to consideration of issues of peace and security at the expense of the agenda initially proposed

12. The major challenges encountered at the meeting of senior officials were the following:

- (a) During negotiations with the European side, the African side was not assisted by technical experts on issues under discussion, whereas European expert teams took turns to be present depending on the issues to be discussed.
- (b) (b) The African steering committee had considerable difficulty holding closed door meetings for the purpose of consultations due to the lack of interpreters.

13. The outcomes of the 4th EU-Africa Summit visibly bore the imprint of the preparatory meetings. Thus, after the rejection of separate declarations, the original provisions of the Main Declaration and of the Roadmap were reorganized to include the consensual elements contained in the separate declarations.

14. The Summit was essentially characterized by three sessions that focused, respectively, on (a) peace and security; (b) prosperity; and (c) people. It underscored the commitment of both parties to pursue the objectives enshrined in Africa-EU Joint Strategy 2007. It acknowledged that peace and security, good governance and respect for human rights constitute the essential components of the partnership that is growing exponentially and goes beyond mere financial considerations to integrate the concerns of the people in terms of employment, living conditions, etc. The two sides agreed to improve the modalities for implementing the Joint Strategy and to deploy a more results-oriented cooperation. The adoption of the Declaration, the Roadmap and the separate declaration on migration and mobility marked the conclusion of the meeting.

15. The Declaration reaffirmed the determination of both sides to infuse a new impetus into their partnership and agreed to mobilize appropriate resources in that direction. They also reaffirmed their belief in the fact that trade and investment, and stronger economic integration of each continent would help accelerate growth. They underscored the central place that the people should occupy within the partnership and, on this score, committed to providing them the opportunities they need.

16. In the Roadmap 2014-2017, the two sides agreed that implementation of the Joint Strategy should be further enhanced in light of the experiences and developments in Africa, Europe and the world at large, and to focus on priority areas for joint actions at inter-regional, continental and global levels in areas in which Africa and the European Union have common interests. The areas are:

- Peace and Security;
- Democracy, Good Governance and Human Rights;
- Human Development;
- Inclusive and Sustainable Development, Growth and Regional Integration;
- Global and Emerging issues.

17. Implementation of the actions set forth in the Roadmap will be evaluated in the joint annual forums which will replace the current Joint Task Force, with the participation of all stakeholders in the partnership.

18. The two sides also agreed to pursue and deepen political dialogue and cooperation. Summits, ministerial meetings, institution to institution meetings of the two Commissions and meetings between the Peace and Security Council and the Political and Security Committee would continue to be held within the framework agreed at the Cairo Summit. The Africa-EU dialogue would be accompanied by regular high-level contacts between African and European leaders on shared challenges and on crisis situations.

19. The 5th Africa-EU Summit will be held in Africa in 2017.

Recommendations

20. In view of the aforementioned challenges, the following are recommended:

- i) At upcoming negotiations, the Commission's experts should be systematically involved to ensure greater mainstreaming of Africa's interests in the treatment of the issues under discussion;
- ii) The African steering committee should as far as possible move with a team of interpreters to facilitate the conduct of its closed door meetings;
- iii) The PRC should submit for the approval of higher authorities the validation of the final documents of the 4th EU-Africa Summit, namely: the Main Declaration, the Roadmap and the separate declaration on migration and mobility;
- iv) Requests the Commission, working closely with the Sub-Committee on Multilateral Cooperation and the Steering Committee, to take all

appropriate measures towards the smooth and effective monitoring of the implementation of the Roadmap;

- v) Requests the PRC to embark on consultations to identify the Member State to host the 5th Africa-EU Summit and also to submit a proposed date.

B. TICAD V

21. The Sub-Committee further devoted itself to the preparations for the first ministerial meeting. Pursuant to the PRC decision nominating Cameroon as the hosting country, all the co-organizers met in Tokyo, Japan, on 14 March 2014 under the auspices of the Joint Secretariat. The purpose of the meeting was to agree on the draft implementation Matrix so as to translate into concrete action the Yokohama Action Plan 2013-2017 adopted at TICAD V held in Japan in June 2013. The Sub-Committee, through its representatives, took part in the meeting which was also attended by the Commission and the African diplomatic corps in Tokyo.

22. The Sub-Committee subsequently held a meeting at which it discussed the draft Yokohama Action Plan 2013-2017 implementation matrix and proposed amendments to the draft agenda of the meeting of senior officials and of the ministerial meeting scheduled to be held in Yaoundé, Cameroon, from 3 to 5 May 2014.

23. Ahead of the ministerial meeting, the senior officials meeting was held on 3 May 2014. Its main objective was to examine the documents to be presented for deliberation at the ministerial session, that is: the Yokohama Action Plan 2013-2017 implementation matrix, a summary of the matrix and guidelines for TICAD V annual progress report. The co-organizers' meeting convened prior to the senior officials meeting discussed the Japanese Government invitation of a Member State under sanction, namely, Egypt. The Commission recalled the provisions of the Note Verbale it had addressed to the Japanese Embassy in application of the directive of the Sub-Committee on Multilateral Cooperation reiterating AU position that all AU Member States, without exception, should be invited to participate in the ministerial meeting, excluding those under sanction. The other co-organizers put forward an argument anchored on the special nature of TICAD which cannot be confined to a partnership between AU and Japan, given the diversity of players involved. In that case, AU would not be justified to subject TICAD operation to compliance with its internal procedures, more so as not all African TICAD players are members of AU. Going by this argument, it was noted that some TICAD ministerial meetings have been held in an African country that was not a member of AU, but that did not prevent AU from being represented at a high level.

24. Two main issues were raised at the senior officials meeting. The first was in respect of the co-chair of the meeting. Who was entitled to co-chair with Japan? Should it be the Chair of the PRC or host country's representative? The representative of Mauritania indicated that on account of the inability of the Mauritanian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Chair of the Executive Council, to co-chair, host country's representative could co-chair the meeting of senior officials and also the ministerial meeting. The second concern was the question of the principle of rotation of TICAD Summit under the relevant decision of the Executive Council. The

representative of the Japanese Government reaffirmed his country's will to respect this principle. A proposal to shorten the cycle of the Summit from 5 to 3 years was unanimously approved. A resolution was passed to deepen reflection on the matter and to define practical modalities to implement the proposal. The senior officials meeting then deliberated on its agenda, namely, consideration of the preparatory documents of the ministerial meeting.

25. The ministerial meeting validated the documents earlier adopted by the senior officials meeting as final documents of the meeting. It was structured around three plenary sessions focusing on (i) Status of implementation of the Yokohama Action Plan; (ii) Agriculture, food and nutrition security; and (iii) Post-2015 Development Agenda. A special session was devoted to women and youth empowerment.

26. In terms of challenges, the fact must be noted that no budget was appropriated in respect of most activities under the purview of the Partnerships Management and Coordination Division for the year 2014. Achieving the objectives assigned to the Division therefore remains problematic. On account of this budgetary constraint, the delegation tasked to participate in the first ministerial meeting in Yaoundé was reduced to the barest minimum; and this no doubt impacted on the Action Plan Matrix implementation monitoring in terms of the activities listed by the Commission, particularly continent-wide programs such as PIDA, CAADP, etc.

27. A forum on " Innovative Approaches for Accelerating Connectivity in Africa: Generalization of the One Stop Border Posts" as held on the sidelines of the ministerial meeting. The objective of the forum was to brainstorm on what already exists in matters of single border posts in Africa and to consider the modalities of generalizing such posts across the continent to facilitate intra-African trade and mobility of persons. The forum held under the auspices of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) in close collaboration with NEPAD, was attended by the Regional Economic Communities (RECs), international organizations and the private sector.

Recommendations

- i) The competent authorities should provide the Partnerships Management and Coordination Division with appropriate budget allocation to enable it to discharge the duties assigned to it;
- ii) The PRC needs to take a decision on the precedent set by the fact of an invitation to a country under sanctions to a meeting characterized by the majority presence of AU Member States and clarify TICAD's status as concerns its power to not subject itself in the organization of its meetings, to AU's internal procedures;
- iii) Similarly, the PRC should establish clear rules governing the co-chairing of meetings with partners and come up with modalities for its involvement as well as the involvement of the host country;
- iv) The proposal to reduce the cycle of TICAD Summits from five to three years should be thoroughly examined as quickly as possible in furtherance of implementation of the principle of rotation.

- v) The Commission, working closely with the Sub-Committee on Multilateral Cooperation and NEPAD, should ensure effective implementation of the activities in the Yokohama Action Plan 2013-2017 Implementation Matrix. To this end, it should contact the Japanese Government for a clear idea on the annual activities programming and financing modalities.

C. AFRICA-ARAB WORLD

- Monitoring the implementation of the Kuwait resolutions

28. During the period under review, the Sub-Committee, represented by its Chair, followed up on the implementation of the resolutions adopted by the 3rd Africa-Arab Summit held in Kuwait from 19 to 20 November 2013. In this regard, the Commission, working with the League of Arab States, prepared a draft work plan for the period 2014-2016 with a view to facilitating implementation of the resolutions adopted. The document incorporates the collective and/or individual actions to be undertaken by AUC and/or the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States.

29. The work plan was presented at the 5th meeting of the Coordination Committee of the Africa-Arab Partnership held in Kuwait on 18 February 2014. The Chair of the Sub-Committee was one of the members that represented the African side. After consideration of the document, the Coordination Committee recommended that the two secretariats enrich it further, for subsequent resubmission to the Coordination Committee.

30. Pursuant to this directive, the work plan was revised, incorporating all the contributions of the various technical departments of the Commission and of the League of Arab States. The revised version was resubmitted to the Coordination Committee for Africa-Arab Partnership at its extraordinary session held in Cairo, Egypt, on 22 April 2014. The Committee, having considered and approved the plan, underscored the need on the part of the Commission and the League of Arab States to allocate the funds required for implementation of the activities.

31. The Coordination Committee will hold its next meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in August 2014 at senior officials' level, to be followed by a ministerial meeting to be convened in September 2014 on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly in New York.

- Implementation of the three initiatives of His Highness the Emir of Kuwait

32. At the 5th meeting of the Coordination Committee of the Africa-Arab Partnership held in Kuwait on 18 February 2014, the representative of the State of Kuwait presented a report on the status of implementation of the initiatives undertaken by His Highness the Amir of Kuwait at the 3rd Africa-Arab Summit, namely: (i) grant of a concessional loan of one billion U.S. dollars to African countries through the Kuwaiti Fund for Arab Economic Development over a period of five years, (ii) provision of one billion U.S. dollars towards investments support and guarantee as well as infrastructure development, in coordination with the World Bank and other international institutions and (iii) institution of an annual prize of one million U.S. dollars towards research and development in Africa.

33. To this end, the Coordination Committee was informed of the establishment by the Kuwaiti Government of a national committee for coordination and monitoring of implementation of the afore-stated initiatives. The Committee was also told that the Kuwaiti Foreign Minister had, by correspondence, contacted his African counterparts to remind them of the initiatives and had invited them to benefit therefrom by submitting projects. The Minister had also requested the Arab and African parties to encourage their financial institutions to co-finance the major projects that could be submitted to the Committee for consideration, in furtherance of implementation of the initiatives of His Highness. The request of the African Union Commission and the League of Arab States General Secretariat to participate in the work of the national committee in charge of the initiatives did not receive a favorable response from the Kuwaiti side. However, the national committee committed to providing periodic reports on implementation of the initiatives.

34. At the extraordinary session of the Coordination Committee, it was reported that a loan of US\$175 million had already been approved for infrastructure projects financing in 10 African countries. The Kuwaiti side agreed to provide details on this subject to African Union Commission and the League of Arab States.

- Implementation of the Decision on Afro-Arab Cultural Institute

35. In accordance with the recommendations of the joint AU/League of Arab States team in charge of appraisal of the performance of the Afro-Arab Cultural Institute, approved by the 3rd Africa-Arab Summit, AU's partial contribution to the budget of the Institute for the year 2013 in the amount of US\$150,000 has already been transferred to the Institute. However, no steps have been taken for approval of the outstanding US\$ 100,000.

36. The Director General of the Institute, appointed by the League of Arab States, recently informed the Commission and the League of Arab States of his resignation, expressing concern over the financial and administrative difficulties faced by the Institute. Furthermore, the 5th meeting of the Coordination Committee for the Africa-Arab Partnership has asked the Commission and the League of Arab States to find a sustainable solution to the challenges facing the Institute as a matter of urgency.

Recommendations

- i) The Commission, working with the League of Arab States, should urgently embark on implementation of the work plan approved as part of implementation of the Resolutions of the 3rd Africa-World Summit;
- ii) Member States are invited to make effective use of the initiatives of His Highness the Emir of Kuwait, particularly with regard to the US\$ 1 billion concessional loan granted to African countries by submitting projects which would contribute to the advancement of AU continent-wide programs;
- iii) The Commission and the League of Arab States should take urgent measures to overcome the persistent challenges faced by the Afro-Arab

Cultural Institute, especially filling the gap in the Institute's management created, sequel to the resignation of the Director General.

D. AFRICA-KOREA FORUM

37. The Africa- Korea partnership received fresh impetus with the grant by the Government in Seoul of the sum of five hundred thousand US dollars in December 2013 towards implementation of some of the activities set forth in the Action Plan. Given that the funds arrived in the coffers of the Commission after the 2014 program budget had been adopted and validated, it was needful to find a way to spend this money within the time line prescribed by the donor, that is, before the end of 2014.

38. Accordingly, this money was allocated to certain departments for their respective activities without budget appropriation and for the most part towards the pivotal elements of the Action Plan. Thus, the Office of the Chairperson, and the Departments of Agriculture and Rural Economy; Human Resources, Science and Technology; and Trade and Industry received allocation.

39. Ahead of the 4th Africa-Korea Forum scheduled in principle to be held in the course of 2014, the Embassy of Faso, by Note Verbale dated 8 May 2014, apprised the Commission of its offer to host the Forum. Moreover, the Korean Embassy in Addis Ababa strongly expressed the desire of its government to see the Forum held at the end of 2014. Besides, the draft 2013-2015 Action Plan implementation matrix had been forwarded to the Korean side whose comments are still being awaited.

40. As regards the challenges, the fact that the funds allocated by Korea were received after the validation of the 2014 program budget caused a delay in the initiation of the activities implementation process.

Recommendations

- i) The PRC should take decision regarding the option of holding the 4th Africa-Korea Forum in 2014;
- ii) It should examine the offer by Burkina Faso to host the Forum and take a decision of which Burkina would be notified through the Commission;
- iii) The Commission will monitor in the technical departments beneficiaries of the Korean funds the rhythm of implementation of the activities and take all appropriate steps to submit a narrative report as well as a financial report, first on an interim basis, and then on conclusive basis upon exhaustion of the funds.

E. AFRICA-INDIA PARTNERSHIP

41. For reasons of the electoral process just ended, the Indian side had proposed that the activities of Africa-India partnership be temporarily suspended to resume after the swearing-in of the new Government. The preparations for the 3rd Africa-India Forum will thus resume in due course.

42. The key concern at the moment is the operationalization of the six (6) Pan-African Institutes offered by the Indian Government at the 2nd Africa-India Summit held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 25 May 2011. It was for this reason that the Commission sent a Note Verbale dated 22 May 2014 to all Member States that have offered to host the aforementioned institutes to report on the status of implementation of the institutes.

Recommendations

- i) The Commission, working with the Sub-Committee on Multilateral Cooperation, should follow up with the Member States concerned, on the establishment of Institutes;
- ii) The Commission, working with the Sub-Committee on Multilateral Cooperation, should resume the 3rd Africa-India Summit preparatory process with the new Indian Government.

F. AFRICA-CHINA PARTNERSHIP

43. The Sub-Committee on Multilateral Cooperation followed South Africa's oral presentation on the state of preparations for the Africa-China Forum (FOCAC). It emerged therefrom that preparations are underway for the ministerial meeting in 2015.

44. At the end of FOCAC 5th ministerial meeting held in July 2012, South Africa was appointed co-chair of FOCAC. Following the appointment, it was decided that the 6th ministerial meeting would be held in South Africa in the last quarter of 2015. It is planned to hold two meetings of senior officials ahead of the ministerial meeting. As part of the preparations for the first meeting of senior officials, a meeting will be held in South Africa from 4 to 7 June, with the participation of the Secretariat of the Chinese Follow Up Committee. The agenda will cover the following points: (i) date of the meeting of senior officials; (ii) modalities for issuance of invitations; (iii) the agenda and work program of the meeting of senior officials and (iv) parallel events.

Recommendations

- i) The Commission, working closely with the Sub-Committee on Multilateral Cooperation should take all appropriate steps to ensure the full success of the preparations towards the next FOCAC ministerial meeting to be held in South Africa in 2015;
- ii) South Africa should report to the Sub-Committee on the conclusions of the preparatory meeting to be held in South Africa from 4 to 7 June 2014;
- iii) On the basis of such report, the Commission working closely with the Sub-Committee on Multilateral Cooperation should take all the measures required to ensure the unalloyed success of the meeting of senior officials.

G. AFRICA-SOUTH AMERICA PARTNERSHIP

45. A key recommendation of the 3rd Africa-South America (ASA) Summit held in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, from 20 to 22 February 2013 invited both parties to establish a joint *ad hoc* working group with the mandate to finalize the agreement on the projects funding mechanism and on implementation of specific projects using existing national and regional resources.

46. The joint *ad hoc* working group is faced with enormous difficulties with regard to its establishment. Despite the efforts deployed by Nigeria, coordinator for the African side, vis-à-vis Brazil, Coordinator for South America as well as by Venezuela, the implementation momentum is yet to be set in motion.

Recommendations

- i) The Sub-Committee working closely with the Commission and the coordinator for the African side, should think about ways and means to breathe life into this vital partnership in view of the potential represented by South America;
- ii) In the event of failure to break the stalemate that seems to characterize this partnership since the end of the Malabo Summit in February 2013, the PRC should indicate the way forward.

H. AFRICA-TURKEY PARTNERSHIP

47. The Sub-Committee discussed the preparations for the 2nd Africa-Turkey Forum scheduled to be held in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, in the course of November 2014.

48. The Sub-Committee has embarked on the consideration of the zero draft documents of the Summit, namely: the Declaration (prepared by the Commission) and the Joint Implementation Plan of the Africa-Turkey Partnership 2014-2018 (prepared by Turkey); and has introduced amendments thereto. One of the major amendments was that the partnership approach should abide by the principle of specialization so as to limit the areas of cooperation to those involving exclusively the comparative advantages of our partners.

49. It may be recalled that the Summit was to be held in October 2013, but given the state of preparations deemed to be too inadequate to justify holding a Summit, it had to be postponed especially because none of the six projects submitted by the African side and accepted by Turkey had seen any iota of implementation. On 10 April 2014, Turkey transferred funds to the Commission in the amount of one million dollars for implementation of the priority projects that are already underway in the technical departments of the Commission. It will therefore be possible to produce an activities report in the coming months.

50. Moreover, a meeting of senior officials is scheduled to be held in Ankara on 6 June 2014 to examine the zero draft working documents of the Summit and other matters relating to the smooth running of the Summit due to take place in November 2014. Bureau members of the Sub-Committee on Multilateral Cooperation - Chad,

The Comoros, Togo and South Africa - will take part in this meeting, in addition to officials of the Commission. The Sub-Committee has proposed that Mauritania replace Egypt, Vice-Chair of the Sub-Committee which is under sanctions, in its capacity as Chair of the PRC.

Recommendations

- i) The Commission working closely with the Sub-Committee on Multilateral Cooperation should monitor the implementation of the priority projects and report accordingly to the PRC;
- ii) The Islamic Republic of Mauritania should be part of the Sub-Committee Bureau members' delegation to the senior officials meeting holding in Ankara, Turkey on 6 June 2014, in place of Egypt which is under sanctions;
- iii) The Commission working closely with the Sub-Committee on Multilateral Cooperation, should take all appropriate measures to implement the range of activities and tasks pertaining to the preparations for the 2nd Africa-Turkey Summit to be held in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, in the course of November 2014;
- iv) The PRC should expeditiously set the exact date on which the Summit will be held in November 2014.

I. GLOBAL ASSESSMENT OF THE PARTNERSHIPS

51. Pursuant to Executive Council Decision EX.CL/Dec.770 (XXIII) taken at its 23rd Ordinary Session held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 19 to 23 May 2013, an appraisal study of all the partnerships to assess their relevance to the interests of the Continent was conducted. The first draft thereof has recently been made available. Before submission to PRC, the report will be analyzed jointly by the Sub-Committee on Multilateral Cooperation and the Commission.

Recommendations

- i) The partnerships appraisal report should be submitted for consideration by the Sub - Committee on Multilateral Cooperation which will enrich it with observations and comments;
- ii) The Commission should take all appropriate measures to ensure that the Sub-Committee considers the report expeditiously;
- iii) The Sub-Committee on Multilateral Cooperation should, after considering the report, submit it for consideration by the PRC

Conclusion in the form of General Recommendations

52. This report has highlighted the range of challenges facing both the Sub-Committee on Multilateral Cooperation and the Partnerships Management and Coordination Division. Although these difficulties have been mitigated by the

excellent cooperation between the Commission and the Sub-Committee on Multilateral Cooperation, they do require urgent remedial measures if the Division, under the oversight of the Sub-Committee on Multilateral Cooperation, is to be able to discharge its statutory obligations. Among such measures, the following need to be cited:

- i) Provide the Partnerships Management and Coordination Division with budgetary allocation in proportion to the activities under its portfolio;
- ii) Strengthen the negotiation capacity of both members of the Sub-Committee and officials of the Partnerships Management and Coordination Division;
- iii) Develop a partnership approach based on specialization so as to limit the areas of cooperation to those deriving exclusively from the comparative advantages of our partners;
- iv) As partnerships in the strategic domain are based on the win-win principle, and the financing of the activities of the various adopted action plans falls within the exclusive purview of the partners, an arrangement needs to be put in place to correct this asymmetry which may create new forms of dependence.
- v) The Sub-Committee should examine the partnerships appraisal report as expeditiously as possible.

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