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P.O. Box: 3243, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, Tel.: (251-11) 551 38 22 Fax: (251-11) 551 93 21
Email: situationroom@africa-union.org

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**REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE NEPAD HEADS OF
STATE AND GOVERNMENT ORIENTATION
COMMITTEE (HSGOC)**

**REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE NEPAD HEADS OF STATE AND
GOVERNMENT ORIENTATION COMMITTEE (HSGOC)**

1. The NEPAD Heads of State and Government Orientation Committee (HSGOC) held its 27th Meeting on 14 July 2012, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia prior to the 19th African Union (AU) Assembly. H.E. Boni Yayi, President of the Republic of Benin and African Union Chairperson and H.E. Dr. Jean Ping, Chairperson of the AU Commission, addressed the meeting, with member Heads of State and Government as well as Chief Executives of Regional Economic Communities and Partner Institutions in attendance.
2. The meeting was presided over by H.E. President Macky Sall of the Republic of Senegal in the capacity as Vice Chairperson of the NEPAD HSGOC. The meeting welcomed the participation for the first time, the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Lesotho, The Right Honourable Thomas Thabane, following his recent election.
3. Specifically, the 27th session reaffirmed NEPAD as a unique continental programme designed by Africans for Africans and serving as shared vision to advance regional political and economic integration for the economic emancipation of African peoples.
4. Primarily, the NEPAD Meeting discussed four (4) major agenda issues, namely:
 - a) Programmatic Activities of the NEPAD Agency: January - June 2012;
 - b) Adoption of the Draft Rules of Procedure for NEPAD Governance Structures;
 - c) Status of the Presidential Infrastructure Champion Initiative (PICI); and
 - d) Africa's Strategic Partnership Engagements.
5. The meeting welcomed the outcomes of the High Level NEPAD Colloquium and Congress of Stakeholders held in March 2012 in Addis Ababa to round up the commemoration of the 10th Anniversary of NEPAD, which re-affirmed the imperative for Africa to accelerate the implementation of NEPAD through effective mobilization and utilization of domestic resources.

A. PROGRAMMATIC ACTIVITIES OF THE NEPAD AGENCY: JANUARY - JUNE 2012

6. The NPCA Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Ibrahim Mayaki presented the highlights of the progress recorded for the period: January-June 2012 towards implementing NEPAD with key focus on collaboration with the Regional Economic Communities in specific thematic areas, thereby deepening regional and continental integration. Accordingly, the NEPAD Meeting endorsed the measures and activities contained in the Activity Report.

7. The continued harmonization efforts between the Commission and NPCA towards strengthening coordination and coherence in programme implementation in line with the integration of NEPAD into AU structures and processes were lauded. The Meeting urged the Agency to focus on planning based on clearly defined targets, knowledge inputs, effective monitoring and evaluation mechanisms for the Continent's growth and development.

8. Furthermore, the 27th NEPAD meeting reiterated the critical need for approving a more suitable and practical organizational structure for the NPCA. This should fully reflect the Continent-wide mandate of the Agency to enable it function effectively and move on the path of results-based delivery for the benefit of AU Member States.

9. Particularly, the Orientation Committee welcomed the conclusions of the Regional Dialogue for Enhanced Coordination for NEPAD Structures and Focal Points at national and regional levels held in Durban, South Africa in June 2012. It endorsed the Action Plan developed in partnership with UNECA to guide the harmonization and coordination of NEPAD programmes and projects at all levels whilst calling for regular peer learning exchanges and knowledge sharing updates on NEPAD implementation.

10. Members on the NEPAD Orientation Committee considered the post-MDG

B. ADOPTION OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR NEPAD GOVERNANCE STRUCTURES

11. In recalling the Decision of the 16th Assembly, the NEPAD Meeting reviewed and subsequently adopted the final draft Rules of Procedure for NEPAD governance structures. This will serve as a means to facilitate the functioning of the NEPAD HSGOC as a sub-Committee of the Assembly and the Steering Committee based on the African Union established rules, regulations and practices. The NPCA was requested to certify and publish the adopted Rules in consultation with the Office of Legal Counsel of the Commission for circulation to HSGOC Members.

C. STATUS OF THE PRESIDENTIAL INFRASTRUCTURE CHAMPION INITIATIVE (PICI)

12. Members of the NEPAD Orientation Committee further recalled the Declaration of the 18th AU Assembly on the adoption of the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA) relating to Member States' commitment to support the NEPAD Infrastructure Project Preparation Facility (NEPAD-IPFF) Special Fund. The meeting re-stated that NEPAD continues to inspire the implementation of PIDA based on the role assigned to NPCA as the executing agency for the Institutional Architecture for Infrastructure Development in Africa (IAIDA).

13. The NEPAD Orientation Committee meeting welcomed with appreciation the progress report presented by H.E. Jacob Zuma, President of the Republic of South Africa as Chair of the HSGOC High Level Sub-Committee on the Presidential Infrastructure Champion Initiative (PICI). The presentation focused on the North-South

Corridor project and the meeting welcomed the proposal to undertake a road show to garner support for implementing the project and acknowledged the support of the Commission, NPCA, RECs, UNECA, African Development Bank and the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA) for PICI. In addition, the meeting received updates on the status of implementation regarding of the other champion projects through the presentation by the NPCA Chief Executive Officer.

14. In effectively rolling out the North-South Corridor project, the NEPAD meeting welcomed in particular, the efforts by South Africa to provide an efficient operational framework with desired outcomes aimed at removing bottlenecks and developing a project preparation fund. Further, the meeting called on the PICI champion countries in the NEPAD Orientation Committee to promptly nominate relevant Ministers to support the work of each presidential champion in view of the planned convening of the PICI Ministerial and Technical Task Teams by the Government of South Africa.

D. AFRICA'S STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP ENGAGEMENTS IN THE CONTEXT OF G8 AND G20

15. The NEPAD Orientation Committee acknowledged Africa's recent partnership engagements at the G8 and G20 Summits held in Camp David, United States and Los Cabos, Mexico in May and June 2012 respectively. It welcomed the New Alliance for Food and Nutrition Security in Africa as a notable outcome of the G8 Summit and stressed the overriding importance to align the Initiative with identified African priorities and systems as reflected in CAADP. The HSGOC also re-iterated the need for G8 countries to fulfill their outstanding commitments to Africa especially those made at Gleneagles and L'Aquila.

16. Additionally, the NEPAD HSGOC called for deeper engagement and increased level of interaction between African and G8 leaders at upcoming G8/Africa Outreach Sessions. It emphasized the need for adequate consultations amongst invited African leaders prior to these Sessions with appropriate preparations made through the Africa Partnership Forum (APF) to assure its value addition as platform for dialoguing on the Continent's priorities for the G8 partnership process.

17. Consequently, the NEPAD Orientation Committee therefore, mandated the HSGOC Chairperson to lead a multi-pronged lobby campaign to reinvigorate this high level partnership with the G8 and for the NEPAD Agency to provide technical support in this regard. The meeting requested NPCA in collaboration with the Commission to engage the Government of United Kingdom as the country to assume G8 Presidency in 2013 to ensure that African priorities and interests are fully reflected in the agenda of the G8 in 2013.

18. Likewise, the increasing importance of the G20 as a main platform for Africa to strengthen collaboration towards promoting global economic cooperation was re-affirmed. The meeting acknowledged the relevant outcomes arising from the 2012 G20 Summit as they relate to Africa, especially the 'AgResults' Initiative to improve food security by encouraging private sector innovation of new agricultural products and

systems and encouraging the implementation of the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) programme. It further welcomed the Los Cabos Growth and Jobs Action Plan to stimulate global employment and growth. The continuing work of the G20 High Level Panel on Infrastructure was appreciated but the meeting restated the need for the Panel to consider leveraging public funds in form of surpluses available in emerging economies for higher investment returns in developing Africa's infrastructure.

19. The Orientation Committee noted progress by the Commission and NPCA under the auspices of the Africa Platform for Development Effectiveness (APDev) in actively advancing Africa's quest for adequate voice in the Global Partnership (GP) for Effective Development Cooperation. It commended the contributions of the Governments of South Africa, Rwanda and Mali as Sherpa countries to the Post-Busan Interim Group (PBIG) which made proposals on the governance structures and monitoring framework for Busan commitment.

20. Furthermore, the HSGOC noted the allocation of two (2) seats to Africa in the new Global Partnership namely Co-Chair, representing the AU and other recipients of development cooperation, and member of the Steering Committee in the category of recipient of development cooperation. The NEPAD Orientation Committee expressed deep concern that such an arrangement falls short of the basic minimum required in ensuring gains to Africa as a major constituency for development cooperation. The meeting therefore called for the allocation of a third seat for the African Union through the Commission and NPCA. Further, the HSGOC reiterated the Union's position on the absolute necessity to meaningfully partner through broad-based and adequate representation for impact.

21. Accordingly, the meeting requested the AU Commission and NPCA, in addition to occupying a seat on the Global Partnership Steering Committee, to serve as the secretariat for the AU representatives and coordinating focal point with OECD/UNDP Joint Support Team in fully formalizing African representation and guiding the Continent's effective participation in the Global Partnership through Ministerial and Technical Reference Groups. This is to be effected under the auspices of the AUC-ECA Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development. The meeting also endorsed the proposal that AU official delegation to the GP shall comprise the nominated Member States and representatives of the Commission, NPCA and RECs.

22. Overall, the NEPAD meeting welcomed the "Roadmap for Shared Responsibility and Global Solidarity for AIDS, TB and Malaria in Africa developed in collaboration between the Commission, NPCA and UNAIDS. Heads of state and Government of the NEPAD Orientation Committee reiterated the critical need to intensify African efforts for more diversified, balanced and sustainable financing for health, with support of traditional and emerging partners. They called on the Commission, NPCA and UNAIDS to contribute to the successful implementation of the Roadmap.

23. In addition, the NEPAD Orientation Committee noted with appreciation the update on the 2012 Report of Mutual Review of Development Effectiveness (MRDE) by UNECA

and the Empower Women in Agriculture (EWAG) Initiative in support of CAADP implementation. EWAG is aimed at building the capacity of women farmers and promoting fair access of women to land inputs and agricultural technology by the African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF). In this respect, the meeting urged the NPCA to continue its institutional collaboration with UNECA and ACBF.

24. The next 28th NEPAD Orientation Committee Meeting will be held on the eve of the 20th African Union Assembly.

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