AFRICAN UNION

الاتحاد الأفريقي

UNION AFRICAINE

UNIÃO AFRICANA

Addis Ababa, ETHIOPIA P. O. Box 3243 Telephone: 517 700 Fax: 5130 36
website: www. africa-union.org

SC9857

**ASSEMBLY OF THE UNION**
**Twenty-First Ordinary Session**
**26 – 27 May 2013**
**Addis Ababa, ETHIOPIA**

**Assembly/AU/10(XXI)**
**Original: English**

# REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON THE POST 2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA: TOWARDS AN AFRICAN COMMON POSITION AND MODALITIES FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMITTEE OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT ON THE POST 2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

# REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON THE POST 2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA: TOWARDS AN AFRICAN COMMON POSITION AND MODALITIES FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMITTEE OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT ON THE POST 2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

## Introduction

**1.** As the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) target date of 2015 approaches, it is essential to take stock of Africa's progress. This 2013 MDG report reveals a mixed pattern—successes and failures, improvements and challenges, innovations and obstacles. Africa's substantial progress toward many goals, targets and indicators is beyond doubt. But serious challenges remain, especially in translating economic growth into decent job opportunities, improving service delivery and minimizing income, gender and spatial inequalities.

**2.** Africa's slow progress on social indicators can be linked to policymakers' inability to solve the continent's food insecurity problem, the theme of this report. Africa's food insecurity predates the MDGs. Since the mid-1980s, the number of food emergencies in African countries has tripled, and emerging challenges like climate change and underdeveloped agriculture have only made the problem worse. How does this phenomenon affect other MDGs, particularly those for health? And how would a concerted effort to improve agriculture, food distribution and nutrition fast-track progress towards other MDGs?

**3.** Table 1 summarizes Africa's MDGs performance and identifies the best performing countries by indicator. The best performers are not necessarily those that have reached the target but those that have made the greatest improvements from their initial conditions.

**Table 1. Africa's Millennium Development Goal performance at a glance, 2013**

| Goal | Status | Best performing countries, selected targets and indicators |
|---|---|---|
| Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger | Off-track | Target 1A: Egypt, Gabon, Guinea, Morocco, Tunisia<br>Target 1B: Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Togo, Zimbabwe<br>Target 1C: Algeria, Benin, Egypt, Ghana, Guinea Bissau, Mali, South Africa, Tunisia |
| Goal 2: Achieve universal primary education | On-track | Indicator 2.1: Algeria, Egypt, Rwanda, São Tomé and Príncipe<br>Indicator 2.2: Ghana, Morocco, Tanzania, Zambia |
| Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women | On-track | Indicator 3.1: The Gambia, Ghana, Mauritius, Rwanda, São Tomé and Príncipe<br>Indicator 3.2: Botswana, Ethiopia, South Africa<br>Indicator 3.3: Angola, Mozambique, Rwanda, Seychelles, South Africa |

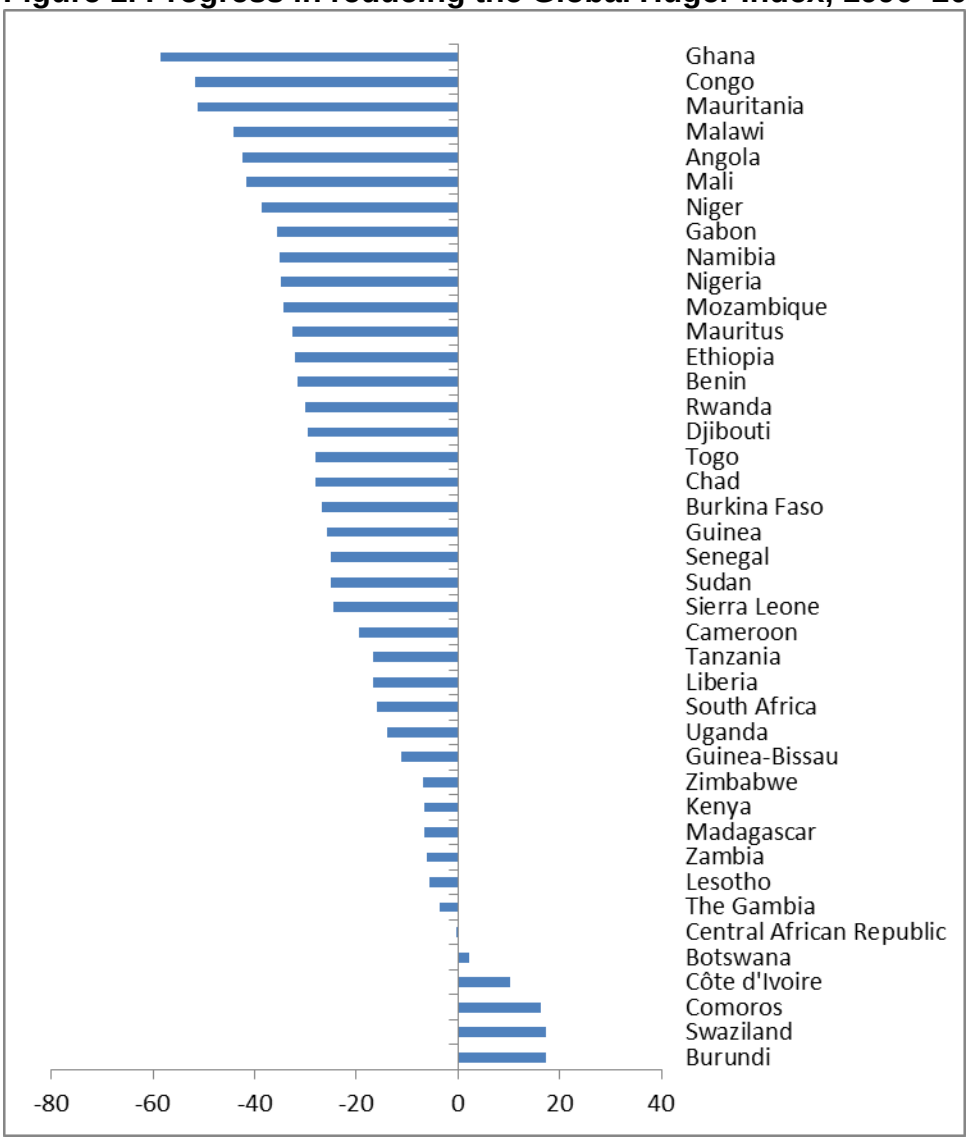
| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Goal 4: Reduce child mortality | Off-track | Indicators 4.1 and 4.2: Egypt, Liberia, Libya, Malawi, Rwanda, Seychelles, Tunisia |
| Goal 5: Improve maternal health | Off-track | Target 5A: Equatorial Guinea, Egypt, Eritrea, Libya, Mauritius, Rwanda, São Tomé and Príncipe, Tunisia<br>Target 5B: Egypt, Ghana, Guinea Bissau, Rwanda, South Africa, Swaziland |
| Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, TB, malaria and other diseases | On-track | Target 6A: Côte d'Ivoire, Namibia, South Africa, Zimbabwe<br>Target 6B: Botswana, Comoros, Namibia, Rwanda<br>Target 6C: Algeria, Cape Verde, Egypt, Libya Mauritius, São Tomé and Príncipe, Sudan, Tunisia |
| Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability | Off-track | Target 7A: Egypt, Gabon, Morocco, Nigeria<br>Target 7C: Algeria, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Comoros, Egypt, Ethiopia, Libya, Mali, Mauritius, Namibia, Swaziland |
| Goal 8: Global partnership for development | Off-track | Target 8F: Kenya, Libya, Rwanda, Seychelles, Sudan, Uganda, Zambia |

*Source:* Authors.

## Poverty reduction lags behind growth

**4.** Africa is the world's second fastest growing region, and poverty has declined at a faster rate since 2005 than in previous years (i.e., 1990-2005) but its poverty has not been falling fast enough to reach the target by 2015. Most workers are employed in vulnerable jobs with low wages and low productivity. High inequality and the enclave structure of most African economies have tempered the nexus between growth and poverty reduction. Still, the continent's growth acceleration provides it with a unique opportunity to reduce poverty and create jobs through proactive policy interventions. Creating more decent jobs faster calls for a structural transformation of African economies - with bold industrial policies that promote value addition and economic diversification.

**Figure 1. Progress in reducing the Global Huger Index, 1990–2012 (per cent)**




*Source:* Authors' calculations based on IFPRI, Concern Worldwide, and Welthunderhilfe (2012).

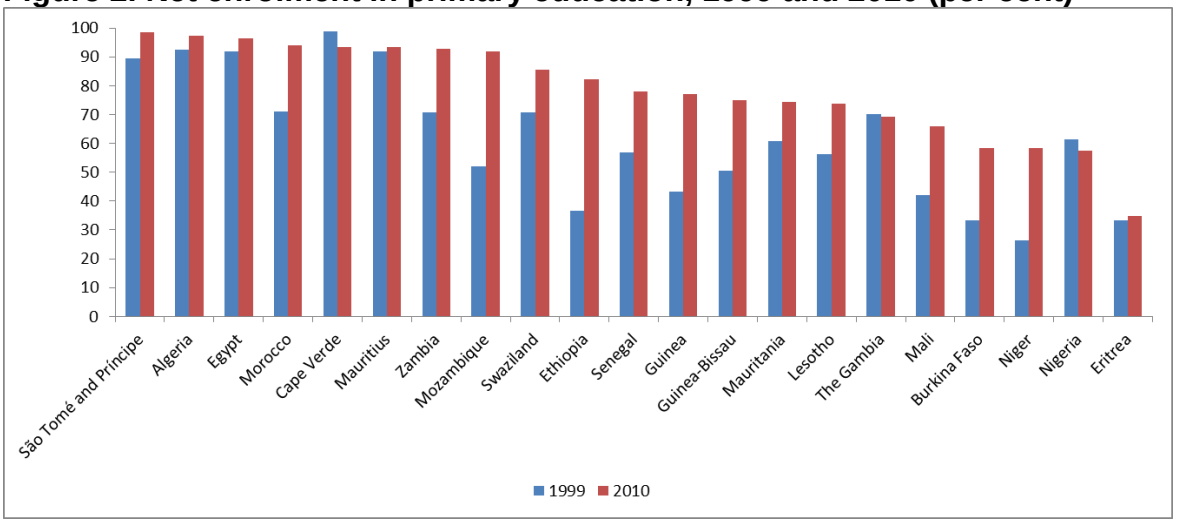
**5.** Africa's food insecurity challenge is manifested by high prevalence of hunger and malnutrition, particularly among children. African countries must build on existing initiatives, such as the African Union's Comprehensive Africa Agricultural Development Programme, and focus on the multidimensional aspects of food security to accelerate progress towards halving hunger and ensuring food security.

**Attending primary school is becoming the norm, but the quality of education remains a challenge**

**6.** Most countries have achieved universal primary enrolment, with rates above 90 per cent. As a result, the continent as a whole is expected to achieve Goal 2. Low completion and high grade repetition rate remain a challenge, however. Indeed, one in three pupils enrolled in a primary school will dropout. Reasons include late entry,

poverty, poor quality of education and a lack of awareness of the importance of schools. Some 30 per cent of students with six years of schooling cannot read a sentence, and girls are more likely to drop out than boys. Some good news —school feeding programmes and access to preschools have been instrumental in reducing dropout rates.

**Figure 2. Net enrolment in primary education, 1999 and 2010 (per cent)**

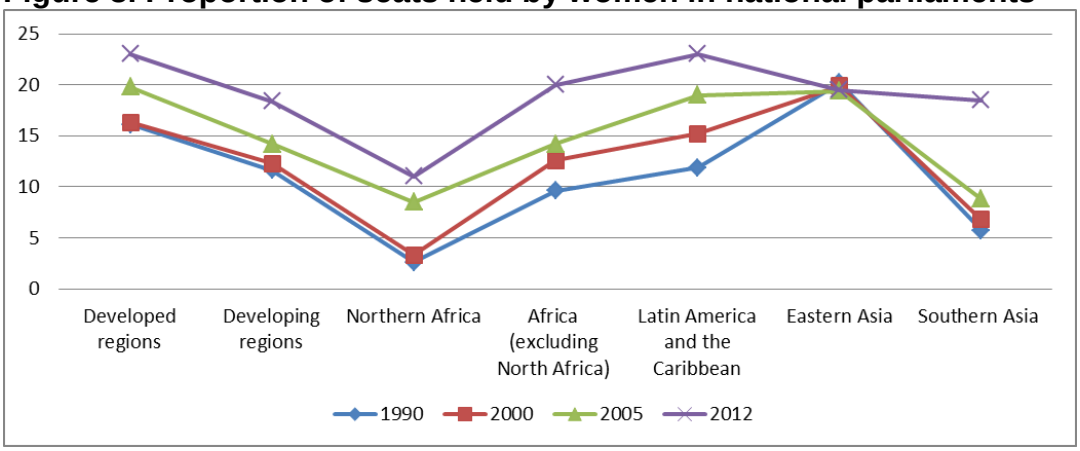



*Source:* Authors' calculations based on UNSD as updated in 2012.

## Encouraging progress toward gender parity

**7.** Women across Africa are becoming more empowered, with more girls attending both primary a nd secondary school and more women in positions of political power. Nearly half the countries in Africa have achieved gender parity in primary school, and while parity at the secondary and tertiary levels has improved, limited data makes measuring progress difficult. With nearly 20 percent of seats held by women in 2012, the proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments in Africa is surpassed only in Latin America and the Caribbean. While Africa is making great strides towards Goal 3, early marriage, household power dynamics and low economic opportunities for women, are slowing progress. These challenges must be addressed for Africa to reach all the targets and indicators by 2015.

**Figure 3. Proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments**



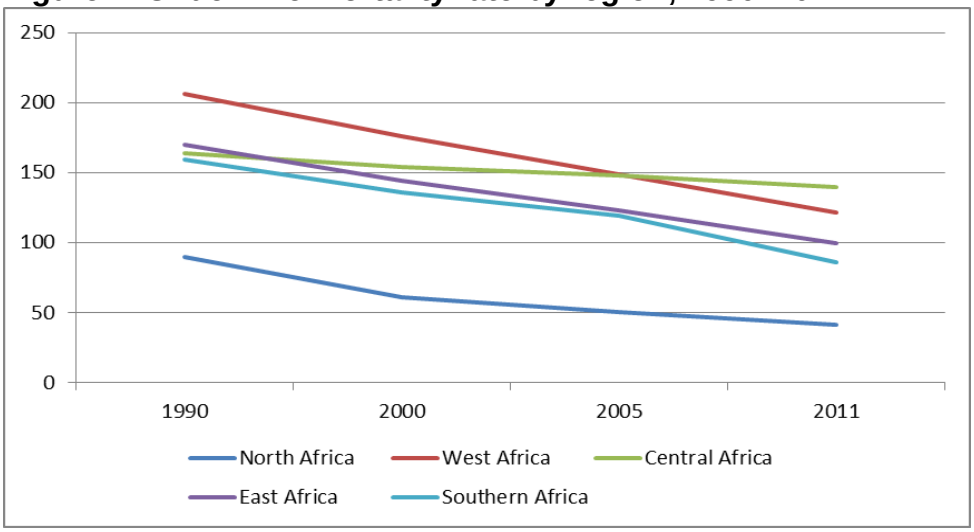

*Source:* Authors' calculations based on UN (2012).

**Despite good progress, Africa still has the greatest burden of child and maternal deaths**

**8.** In recent years, both Africa's under-five mortality rate and its maternal mortality rate have declined significantly. Over 1990–2011, the continent reduced its under-five mortality rate 47 per cent. But an inexcusable amount of children and pregnant women still die every year from preventable causes.

**9.** Africa continues to steadily reduce its under-five mortality rate, from 146 deaths per 1,000 live births to 91 deaths between 1990 and 2011, or 2.2 per cent a year. But it is not enough. Some of the factors contributing to Africa's inadequate achievement of the child health MDGs include weak health systems (physical and financial barriers to essential health services, shortage of medicine, poor human resources) and poor conditions as determinants of health (household education, income, insufficient and inappropriate nutritional practices, poor sanitation facilities).

**Figure 4. Under-five mortality rate by region, 1990–2011**



*Source:* Authors' calculations based on UNSD
*Note:* Data are weighted by share of population ages 0–4.

**10.** Maternal mortality is still disproportionately high in Africa, with an estimated 164,800 deaths occurring in 2010. The causes of maternal mortality and morbidity are well known and mainly result from the inability of a health system to deal effectively with complications, especially during or shortly after childbirth. The availability of skilled health providers is critical in ensuring high-quality antenatal, delivery, emergency obstetric and post-natal services. With fiercer efforts in the fight against the major causes of maternal mortality and greater access to quality reproductive health care, African countries can accelerate their progress in reducing maternal mortality. To do this, they must improve the accuracy of their civil registration systems that monitor maternal mortality, allowing better targeted interventions.

**Table 1. Progress of countries in reaching the goal of reducing maternal mortality**

| On track | Progress | | Insufficient progress | No progress |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Egypt | Algeria | Malawi | Central African Republic | Botswana |
| Eritrea | Angola | Mali | Djibouti | Cameroon |
| | Benin | Mauritania | Gabon | Chad |
| | Burkina Faso | Morocco | Guinea-Bissau | Congo |
| | Cape Verde | Mozambique | Kenya | Lesotho |
| | Comoros | Niger | Sierra Leone | Namibia |
| | Côte d'Ivoire | Nigeria | Sudan | Somalia |
| | Democratic Republic of the Congo | Rwanda | Zambia | South Africa |
| | Ethiopia | São Tomé and Príncipe | | Swaziland |
| | The Gambia | Senegal | | Zimbabwe |
| | Ghana | Togo | | |
| | Guinea | Tunisia | | |
| | Liberia | Uganda | | |
| | Madagascar | Tanzania | | |

*Source:* WHO et al., 2012.

**11.** To fast-track progress in the continent, integrated maternal and child health interventions focusing on infant mortality, as well as holistic policies to address the underlying causes of maternal and child deaths, will be important.

**Africa has halted the spread of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria**

**12.** Africa has halted and reversed the spread of HIV/AIDS, with a drop in prevalence rates from 5.9 per cent in 2001 to 4.9 per cent in 2011, due to strong political will, focused interventions and the antiretroviral therapy available for the majority of the population. While tuberculosis and malaria remain serious health threats, Africa as a

whole has halted the spread of both. Tuberculosis infections and deaths have fallen sharply in recent years, as have malaria cases and deaths. Improved prevention and treatment played a large role in the declines.

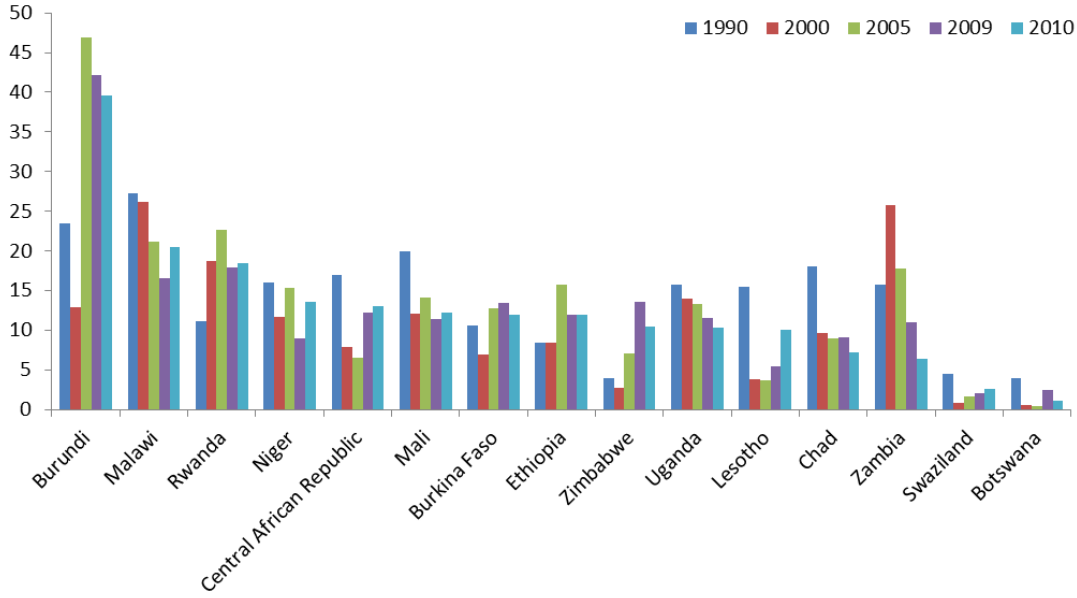
### Ensuring environmental sustainability—mixed progress

**13.** Achieving and sustaining environmental sustainability is a challenge, especially with the emerging threat of climate change. And Africa is doing well in limiting $CO_2$ emissions and ozone-depleting substances, yet forest cover is shrinking, and most countries struggle to meet targets on water and sanitation. To improve access to water and sanitation, countries must concentrate efforts in rural areas and low-income groups, as urban–rural income disparities in access are holding back progress.

### Medium-term prospects for official development assistance flows are dim

**14.** Donors, still well short of their official development assistance (ODA) commitments to developing countries and least developed countries, are unlikely to substantially increase funding in the short to medium term. As a percentage of their combined gross national incomes, ODA to developing countries and least developed countries in general declined 4 per cent in real terms in 2012 following a 3 per cent decline in 2011. In real terms, bilateral ODA to Africa also declined in 2012. Total ODA to all African landlocked developing countries increased an average of only 2 per cent in nominal terms over 2009–2010. These trends can be attributed in part to the sovereign debt crisis and are likely to continue into 2016. Cutbacks in ODA were evident in highly affected Eurozone crisis countries such as Spain and Portugal.

**Figure 5. Official development assistance received in landlocked developing countries as share of their gross national incomes, various years (per cent)**




*Source:* Authors' calculations based on UNSD

### Mobile communication, an incipient revolution in Africa

**15.** The number of mobile cellular subscribers in African countries continues to grow steadily, increasing an average of 17 per cent between 2010 and 2011. Africa is the world's fastest growing mobile market. The increasing use of smartphones and falling Internet costs have contributed much to Africa's rising number of Internet users. Further, through innovations in money transfer systems, mobile phones have revolutionized the continent's financial transactions.

### Africa's share of global trade remains marginal

**16.** Efforts to increase Africa's marginal share of global trade through Aid for Trade and preferential market access initiatives have yielded mixed results. Aid for Trade commitments and disbursements to Africa have been increasing in the past few years, but disbursements have always fallen short of commitments. Further, the proportion of developed country imports from Africa (admitted duty free) has generally stagnated but increased more than 50 per cent for 14 African countries. Overall, Africa's contribution to global trade remains largely unchanged since 2000, at around 3 per cent.

### Food insecurity—a recurring challenge

**17.** Africa has yet to face its food insecurity, despite the huge impact on the population's productive capacities. In 2012, Africa countries, particularly those in the Southern, East, Central and West regions had the world's second highest Global Hunger Index, and most of the region was identified as having serious to alarming levels of hunger. Increasing climate variability, natural disasters, widespread political instabilities, surging populations, an increasing number of refugees in various regions and the inability to access humanitarian assistance have undermined recovery efforts. Regional and national programmes to tackle Africa's food security challenge have shown that food security is an intersectoral problem that calls for an integrated approach. However, the responses have been undermined by weak political ownership, the limited scope of programmes and weak private sector and civil society involvement.

### Moving forward

**18.** Africa has, without a doubt, come a long way since 2000, making substantial progress toward several of the MDGs. Benin, Egypt, Ethiopia, The Gambia, Malawi and Rwanda are making especially impressive progress. While not all the interventions that have worked in these countries can be applied everywhere, best practices and successful policy interventions can indeed inform interventions elsewhere. It is thus imperative that countries continue learning from each other so that they can emulate successes and avoid failures. In short, countries with sustained, equitable growth,

political stability and human development–oriented policies are doing well in most of the goals.

## Beyond the MDGs

**19.** With less than 1,000 days until 2015, the discourse is shifting from an exclusive focus on achieving the MDGs to reflections and debate on the defining elements of the successor framework—the post-2015 development agenda. Africa's performance on the MDGs provides useful pointers for the agenda. Indeed, Africa regional consultations led by the African Union Commission, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, the African Development Bank and the United Nations Development Programme confirm that health, education, water and sanitation and the environment remain high priorities for African countries. In addition, stakeholders would like to see inclusive growth that creates employment and livelihood opportunities, especially for the continent's young. Stakeholders have identified structural economic transformation, human development, financing and partnerships, and technology and innovation as the priority areas for responding to these challenges in the post-2015 development agenda.

**20.** As countries everywhere assess their priorities for the post-2015 agenda, they should look at how the MDGs have brought about positive developments—and at where they have fallen short. Countries must reflect on their successes and shortcomings of the past 15 years, both to prepare for a new development agenda and to speed progress towards the MDGs. With less than three years to go, and with more eyes on the post-2015 agenda, Africa must not lose focus on attaining the MDGs.

SC9848

Assembly/AU/10(XXI)
Annex I

# DRAFT
# AFRICAN COMMON POSITION ON THE POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

# DRAFT
# AFRICAN COMMON POSITION ON THE POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

**March 2013**

## I. Background

In September 2000, the UN Millennium Summit endorsed the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in the Millennium Declaration, which was signed by more than 180 countries. The main objective of the summit was to set quantifiable and time-bound goals to end human suffering from hunger, destitution and diseases. With less than three years remaining until the 2015 deadline for reaching the Millennium Development Goals, Africa's progress toward the various targets of the MDGs continues to be uneven. Remarkable advances have been made in some indicators such as net primary enrollment, gender parity in primary education, representation of women in decision making, immunization coverage and stemming the spread of HIV/AIDS.

Notwithstanding the progress made more needs to be done. Indeed, despite rising enrolment rates in primary schools, the quality of education remains a concern and progress on health-related MDGs such as child and maternal mortality and access to sanitation is insufficient to achieve the targets by 2015. Reducing inequity in access to basic social services also remains a critical challenge for Africa and these inequities explain in large measure the continent's slow progress in attaining the health MDGs.

The limited involvement of developing countries, in general, and Africa in particular, in the formulation of the MDGs has contributed to weak ownership and slow progress. In addition, to the extent that the MDGs were not aligned with both continental and national programmes in Africa this has created an additional burden for countries both in terms of data production and monitoring.

In recognition of this shortcoming, we, the Heads of State and Government of the African Union requested that consultations involving all stakeholders be undertaken to identify African priorities on what the post 2015 development agenda should constitute. This common position is the outcome of the various sectoral regional and continental consultations that were conducted over the past two years. We present our common position to the 68$^{th}$ Session of the United Nations General Assembly and appeal that it be taken into consideration in framing the post 2015 development agenda considering that Africa is the continent that is most affected by poverty. It is therefore appropriate that we have a say in how our future should evolve post MDGs.

## II. Statement of our Position on the Post-2015 Development Agenda

**We, African countries:**

**CONCERNED** about the slow pace of progress toward attainment of the MDGs and the slow decline in poverty and hunger due to insufficient levels and consistency of growth,

inability to sustain economic growth and factors such as high rates of population growth, political instability and conflicts;

**ALSO CONCERNED** about the uneven and discouraging performance on the health MDGs, in particular the unrelenting high rates of maternal and child mortality;

**RECOGNIZING** that few African countries are on course to reach some MDG targets by 2015 but Africa as a whole will not attain the MDGs given current trends;

**ACKNOWLEDGING** progress made in various areas of the MDGs, including in net primary enrolment, adult literacy, stemming the spread of HIV/AIDS and TB, gender parity in primary school enrolment, participation of women in decision making and their representation in national parliaments, as well as child immunization;

**ALSO ACKNOWLEDGING** the contributions that the MDGs have made to the social and economic development of countries across the globe, particularly in African countries;

**APPRECIATING** the various commitments at continental and international levels to accelerate progress toward attainment of the MDGs in Africa;

**ALSO APPRECIATING** the various AU Development Frameworks such as the NEPAD Initiative, the Minimum Integration Programme, the Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme, and the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa, Campaign on the Accelerated Reduction of Maternal Mortality in Africa (CARMMA), among others, as instruments that advance progress towards attainment of the MDGs and Africa's development goals;

**CONSCIOUS** of the challenges that are prohibiting effective implementation of the MDGs, including lack of data for consistent monitoring; lack of equity in access to social services; focus on quantity rather than quality; disproportionate focus on social indicators and de-emphasis of the productive sectors; and lack of clear ownership and leadership at national and international levels;

**COGNIZANT** of the limited role that was played by African stakeholders in shaping the Millennium Declaration and the MDGs;

**MINDFUL** of the capacity deficits and disabling initial conditions prevailing in a number of African countries;

**CONCERNED** about the decline of our African cultures and its impact on identity loss;

**COGNIZANT** of the pivotal role of water resources management and development for the realization of an inclusive green economy in Africa;

**RECOGNIZE** that the primary responsibility for the attainment of the MDGs is ours, but international partners also have a key responsibility to honour their commitments and support country-led-strategies;

**HAVE AGREED TO ACT ON THE FOLLOWING:**

**RESOLVE** to act together to restore Africa's dignity and identity by eradicating poverty and creating endogenous conditions for economic transformation, peace, prosperity and sustainable development.

**PRIORITIZE** implementation of national and continental development agendas including Agenda 2063 as a means for attaining sustainable development;

**RESOLVE** to accelerate delivery on the various commitments we have made regarding Africa's socio-economic integration, poverty reduction, agricultural development, employment generation, human and social development;

**ACCELERATE** the implementation of AU initiatives, including the 2004 Ouagadougou Declaration and Plan of Action on employment and poverty reduction, the Malabo Decision on Accelerating Youth Empowerment for Sustainable Development, Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA), the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP), the Continental Gender Policy, the Maputo Plan of Action on Sexual and Reproductive Health and its CARMMA, Accelerated Industrial Development of Africa (**AIDA**), African Union's Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA), the Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Plan for Africa; the Abuja Call for Accelerated Action towards Universal Access to HIV/AIDS, TB, Malaria services, the African Charter on Statistics, the Africa Water Vision 2025, etc.;

**AND IMPLEMENTATION** of our commitments as outlined in the 2000 Dakar Framework for Action: Education for All, the 2001 Abuja Declaration on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Other Related Infectious Diseases, the 2003 Maputo Declaration on Agriculture and Food Security, and the 2008 Sirte Declaration on Agriculture and Water, and to explore other innovative options of financing development in Africa;

**COMMIT** to re-orient the development paradigm away from externally-driven initiatives toward domestically- inspired and funded initiatives that are grounded in national ownership;

**EMPHASIZE** creation of decent employment opportunities, particularly for young people, women and specific vulnerable groups;

**PRIORITISE** equity and social inclusion and measure progress in terms of both the availability and quality of service delivery;

**ENSURE** access to adequate shelter, water, sanitation, transport, communication and infrastructure for all;

**ALIGN** the Rio+20 outcomes and the outcomes of other UN fora such as ICPD +20 and sustainable energy for all initiatives with our development programmes;

**COMMIT** to promote mobilisation of domestic resources with the support of the private sector to ensure accountability and economic sustainability, with emphasis on effective use of resources through targeted investment;

**ENSURE** a credible participatory process that is mindful of cultural differences and sensitivities and encourages input from all stakeholders to help raise awareness among the groups concerned and consequently ensure success in policy implementation;

**STRENGTHEN** partnerships for development, including multi-stakeholder partnerships and South-South cooperation;

**CALL ON** the G8 and other development partners to honour their 2005 commitment to deliver 0.7% of their Gross National Income (GNI) as predictable aid and institute specific measures to combat illicit capital flight from Africa.

**HAVE AGREED TO ACT COLLECTIVELY ON THE FOLLOWING KEY PRIORITIES:**

## 1. STRUCTURAL ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH

**CONCERNED** about Africa's continued dependence on primary commodities and the need to create decent jobs and strengthen resilience to external shocks we commit to:

### *A. INCLUSIVE SUSTAINABLE GROWTH*

**ENSURE** sustainable and inclusive growth by: accelerating the rate of growth and diversifying its sources; prioritizing people-centered development; reducing inequality; creating decent jobs; promoting rural development; and investing in fiscally sustainable social protection programmes.

### *B. AGRICULTURE FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION*

**PROMOTE** agriculture, food security and nutrition through: improved food production, availability, accessibility, utilization, safety and quality; agricultural modernization; agri-business development; agro-industry linkages; integration of small farm holders, including women, into agri-business value chains; and establishment of national and regional information exchange mechanisms on agriculture and food security;

### *C. INCLUSIVE GREEN GROWTH*

**PRIORITIZE** inclusive green growth initiatives that : create jobs; facilitate investments in climate change adaptation; reduce deforestation, desertification and pollution; improve land management; facilitate development and implementation of national and

continental frameworks for governing large-scale land acquisition; promote renewable energies; and promote efficiency of energy production, consumption and re-use;

*D. INDUSTRIALIZATION AND VALUE ADDITION*

**CREATE** conditions conducive to industrialization and value addition, by: emphasizing private sector development; transforming the informal sector; improving the distribution and reinvestment of wealth generated from extractive industries; developing value chains across sectors and promoting and implementing local content policies in the extractive sector;

*E. INFRASTRUCTURE AND DEVELOPMENT*

**DEVELOP** and sustain reliable and affordable infrastructure in both rural and urban areas, with a focus on water, energy, ICTs and different means of transport and IMPLEMENT regional infrastructure projects that promote intra-African trade and regional and continental integration.

## 2. INNOVATION, TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AND RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

**COGNIZANT** of the low levels of technology development in Africa and the continent's capacity deficits with respect to technology, we commit to:

*A. ENHANCED TECHNOLOGICAL CAPACITIES*

**DEVELOP** technological capacities by: promoting technology transfer and adaptation in line with each country's development needs; establishing an African technological fund to support innovation systems within the context of sustainable development; increasing funding for research and development; strengthening the science component of education curricula and; enhancing utilization of ICT.

## 3. HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

**CONSCIOUS** of the importance of human development to Africa's development process and its critical role in economic transformation we undertake to:

*A. ERADICATION OF POVERTY*

**ENSURE** the eradication of poverty in all its forms and the empowerment of vulnerable groups through: improved access to social protection for women, children, the elderly, people with disabilities, rural populations, displaced persons and migrants; and measures that ensure that no family or individual remains below the poverty line.

*B. EDUCATION AND HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT*

**ACHIEVE** excellence in education and human capacity development by: improving the quality of teaching; enhancing access to quality primary, secondary and technical and vocational education; strengthening curricula for primary and secondary education to include life skills, civic, sexuality and reproductive health education; ensuring higher completion rates at all levels of education; strengthening linkages between educational system and labour market demands; and promoting pre-schooling, tertiary education, and non-formal education;

*C. UNIVERSAL AND EQUITABLE ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTHCARE*

**ENSURE** universal and equitable access to quality healthcare by: improving maternal, new born and child health; enhancing access to sexual and reproductive health and rights, including family planning; targeting vulnerable groups including children, the youth, the unemployed, the elderly and people with disabilities; reducing the incidence of communicable diseases (HIV/AIDS, Malaria and TB), non-communicable diseases (including mental health) and emerging diseases; strengthening health systems, including health financing; improving hygiene and sanitation; and strengthening monitoring and evaluation, and quality assurance systems in the health sector.

D. *GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT*

**PROMOTE** equality and women's empowerment by: improving and sustaining progress on gender parity at all levels of education, with special emphasis on secondary and tertiary education; creating a positive environment for girls at school, including increased representation of female teachers; enhancing women's occupational mobility and eliminating gender-based wage inequality; increasing women's access to and control over land and other productive assets; eradicating violence against women and children and harmful practices such as FGM and early marriage and eliminating gender-based discrimination in political and decision-making processes;

*E. POPULATION DYNAMICS: REALIZING AFRICA'S DEMOGRAPHIC DIVIDEND*

**ENSURE** that Africa's youth bulge translates into a demographic dividend by: strengthening entrepreneurial capacity; supporting decent and well-paid jobs for young people; increasing access to finance by the youth; promoting youth participation in political processes; eradicating human trafficking; and eliminating child labour;

*F. WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT*

**IMPROVE** water resource management capacities and systems through: enhanced access to safe drinking water in urban and rural areas; ensured a water secure world for all; assure and safeguard water quality for all uses; improved sanitation and hygiene services in rural and urban areas; and improved wastewater and water quality management systems;

*G. DISASTER RISK REDUCTION*

**STRENGTHEN** Africa's resilience to disasters by: investing in climate change adaptation initiatives; strengthening capacity to anticipate and respond to natural disasters and; implementing the African Solidarity Initiative.

*H. ACCESS TO SHELTER*

**ENSURE** access to decent and affordable housing in both urban and rural areas.

## 4. FINANCING AND PARTNERSHIPS

**NOTING** the importance of adequate financing and a conducive global environment for implementation of the post 2015 development agenda.

**AND COGNIZANT** of the importance of ownership and accountability to domestic stakeholders.

**IMPROVE** domestic resource mobilization by: **s**trengthening financial intermediation; broadening the tax net and strengthening the capacities of revenue generating institutions; developing long-term financing mechanisms; curtailing illicit financial flows; ensuring efficient use of resources; improving management of insurance and pension schemes and; promoting innovative financing mechanisms.

**ENHANCE** the quality and predictability of external financing by: encouraging reinvestment of the proceeds from foreign direct investment; reducing remittance transfer costs and enhancing its effective management; mobilizing external non-traditional sources of financing including from philanthropists, emerging partners and external innovative sources; facilitating access to various existing global financing mechanisms such as Education For All-Fast Track Initiative (EFA-FTI) and Climate Finance.

**PROMOTE** mutually beneficial partnerships by: ensuring ownership, coherence and alignment of international support with national and regional priorities; working with partners to develop a global framework that takes into account Africa's peculiarities and priorities; promoting public-private partnerships; strengthening South-South cooperation and partnership with emerging economies; boosting intra-African trade; promoting Africa's access to global markets and ensuring fair trade; and ensuring that the global governance architecture promotes, ownership, leadership and accountability.

## 5. DEVELOPMENT ENABLERS

**RECOGNIZING** that the achievement of the priority outcomes enumerated will require an enabling domestic, continental and global environment. **AND MINDFUL** of the need to prioritize enablers in line with each country's development needs, we commit to:

**PROMOTE** peace and security to prevent the outbreak of violent conflict and support efforts to resolve conflict through measures that promote and sustain peace and security;

**IMPLEMENT** measures to fight corruption, promote good political and economic governance, transparency and accountability, and strengthen local governance for sustained development gains;

**STRENGTHEN** institutional capacity to create positive norms and standards that are vital not only for ensuring continuity in policy design and execution but also for sustaining development outcomes

**PROMOTE** equality and access to justice and information for all, as well as the protection of the rights of minorities and vulnerable groups, as a precondition for social sustainability;

**PROTECT** the human rights of all citizens and ensure their effective and functional participation in society;

**ENCOURAGE** citizens to meet their responsibilities to the state and to society;

**PROMOTE** intra-African trade including through the African Union Continental Free Trade Area;

**STRENGTHEN** national statistical capacities to measure and evaluate performance for assessing policy effectiveness, **PROMOTE** a culture of evidence based decision making and effective monitoring and evaluation system and **ENSURE** accountability;
**PROMOTE** prudent macro-economic policies that create an enabling environment for inclusive economic growth underpinned by job creation;

**NURTURE** developmental states that ensure that the short-term imperatives of growth are anchored by long-term development priorities such as equality, sustainability and social inclusion;

**ADVOCATE** for an enabling governance architecture that reinforces the principles of fair trade, deters illicit financial flows and is framed by genuine cooperation and partnerships for development;

**ENSURE** that the outcomes of research and knowledge creation are effectively integrated in development programmes.

## III. Conclusion

In conclusion, **WE AGREE** that the post-2015 development agenda that is: convergent with Rio +20; informed by other regional and global initiatives; grounded in quality data;

takes into account both development outcomes and development enablers; underpinned by economic transformation, human development and innovation technology transfer and research and development; sustained by credible national ownership, leadership and accountability; and assessed by indicators that reflect access to quality services.

SC9489

Assembly/AU/10(XXI)
Annex II

# MODALITIES FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMITTEE OF THE HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT ON THE POST 2015 MDGS DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

# DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE

# MODALITIES FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMITTEE OF THE HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT ON THE POST 2015 MDGS DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

## I. BACKGROUND

**1.** The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) have focused global advocacy and collective action around a core set of goals, indicators and targets to reduce poverty and human suffering. However, the goals that were set in the Millennium Declaration have largely been unmet, particularly in Africa, and are likely to remain so if current trends continue. With the target year of 2015 fast approaching a series of initiatives have commenced at global, regional and national levels to deliberate on measures to accelerate progress toward the MDGs and to define the contours of the post-2015 development agenda. In Africa, the slow progress towards the current set of targets has made this an even more urgent agenda.

**2.** Cognizant of the limited role that African stakeholders played in shaping the Millennium Development Goals, the Africa Union Commission (AUC) in collaboration with the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the United Nations Development Programme's Regional Bureau for Africa (UNDP/RBA) initiated a series of processes to consult African countries in an effort to articulate an African common position on the post-2015 development agenda.

**3.** At its 19th Ordinary Session, held in July 2012 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union adopted a Decision (Assembly/AU/DEC.423 (XIX)) to reinforce the process by requesting the Commission, in close consultation with Member States and Regional Economic Communities to identify Africa's priorities for the post 2015 development agenda with the support of the African Development Bank (AfDB), the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), the United Nations Development Programme -Regional Bureau for Africa (UNDP-RBA) and all other stake holders.

**4.** Following the Decision, the Commission, in collaboration with partners designed a consultation strategy and conducted two regional and one continental consultations involving all stakeholders representing governments, Regional Economic Communities (RECs), Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), with representation from youth and women organizations, among others, parliamentarians, academicians and private sector. The Commission also used the opportunity of other fora such as the private sector forum, the sixth meeting of the Committee of Directors Generals of National Statistics Offices (NSOs) and the Regional Coordination Mechanism (RCM) of the United Nations to consult with different stakeholders.

**5.** The outcome of these consultations cumulated to an African common position will be considered and adopted during the Assembly of Heads of State and Government Summit.

**6.** To enable Africa to speak with one voice on the global discussion to chart the post 2015 development agenda the Chairperson of the Commission in her closing statement during the January 2013 Summit suggested that a Committee of Heads of State and Government be established under the leadership of the President of Liberia. This was meant to take advantage of Her Excellency's position as a co-chair of the High Level Panel on the post 2015 development agenda set up by the United Nations Secretary General.

## II. COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE

**7.** The Committee shall comprise of Heads of State and Government representing five of the African regions: East, Southern, West, North and Central.

## III. TERMS OF REFERENCE

**8.** The Committee shall the perform the following duties:

- Reach out and synthesize African leaders on principles, elements and priorities of the African common position on the post 2015 development agenda;
- Reach out to African High Level Panel (HLP) Members to serve as advocates for the African common position;
- Reach out to African members of the Open Working Groups on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);
- Reach out to sectoral umbrella organizations representing Africa, including Non-Governmental Organisations, Civil Society Organisations, Private Sector etc.;
- Forge consensus among African stakeholders;
- Create regional alliance on African common positions;
- Reach out to co-chairs and other members of the HLP;
- Reach out to non-African members of the Open Working Group on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);
- Create inter-continental alliances on African common position;

- Organize side-events on African common position during the UN General Assembly and other global fora;

- Ensure that the African common position is reflected in the SDGs;

- Provide leadership in translating African priorities into targets.

## IV. MODUS OPERANDI

i) The Committee shall meet once a month up to September 2013, and meet quarterly thereafter until September 2015;

ii) The Committee of Heads of State and Government will be serviced by the African Union Commission with the support of the African Development Bank (AfDB), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)-Regional Bureau for Africa, and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA);

iii) All expenses related to the organization of meetings of the Committee shall be borne by the AUC and its partners such and AfDB, UNDP and ECA;

iv) Based on current practice, expenses incidental to the participation of the Chairperson and members of the Committee (air travel, DSA etc.) shall be met by the Member States to which they belong;

v) The travel expenses and daily subsistence allowance of the Secretariat shall be borne by their respective institutions.

**AFRICAN UNION UNION AFRICAINE**

**African Union Common Repository** **http://archives.au.int**

Organs Assembly Collection

2013-01-26

# Report of the commission on the post 2015 development agenda: towards an African common position and modalities for establishment of a committee of heads of state and government on the post 2015 development agenda

Africa union

Africa union

http://archives.au.int/handle/123456789/5004

*Downloaded from African Union Common Repository*