

**AFRICAN UNION**

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**ASSEMBLY OF THE AFRICAN UNION**

**Third Ordinary Session**

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**Addis Ababa, ETHIOPIA**

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**DECISIONS AND DECLARATIONS**

**DECISION ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW PARTNERSHIP FOR AFRICA'S DEVELOPMENT (NEPAD)**

1. **WE**, the Heads of State and Government of Member States of the African Union, meeting at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ordinary Session of our Assembly in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 6 to 8 July 2004;
2. **RECALLING** our decision regarding the then New African Initiative, now the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), taken at the 37<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity in July 2001 in Lusaka, Zambia (AHG/Decl.1(XXXVII));
3. **RECALLING FURTHER** our decisions on the Implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) taken at the Inaugural Session of the African Union Assembly in Durban, South Africa from 8 to 10 July 2002 (Assembly/AU/Decl.1(1), and at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ordinary Session of the African Union Assembly in Maputo, Mozambique from 10 to 12 July 2003 (Assembly/AU/Decl.8(II));
4. **NOTING WITH APPRECIATION** the Progress Report presented to us by the Chairperson of the NEPAD Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee (HSGIC), H.E. President O. Obasanjo of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, describing the developments in the NEPAD programmes and activities since our last meeting in July 2003 in Maputo, Mozambique;

***Progress Report***

5. **ENDORSE** the Progress Report and **COMMEND** the HSGIC and its supporting structures for their coordination and catalytic role in facilitating the implementation of NEPAD priority programmes and projects across the African regions and more specifically through cooperation and collaboration with the Regional Economic Communities (RECs);
6. **MANDATE** the Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee of NEPAD, supported by the NEPAD Steering Committee and the NEPAD Secretariat, to continue their vital work of ensuring the implementation of NEPAD programmes;
7. **URGE** that the programmes identified in each priority area be urgently implemented and that each region and Member State, through the RECs, provide assistance and financial support in the further development and implementation of these programmes and

further development and implementation of these programmes and in the continued popularization of NEPAD amongst all sectors of society on the African continent;

### ***Programme Implementation***

8. **NOTE** the progress made in the implementation of the Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP), in particular:

- The Multi-country Agricultural Productivity Programme (MAPP), for which the World Bank has committed to supporting by providing US\$500 million,
- The development of a tracking mechanism to monitor the commitment by African governments to allocate 10% of national budgets to agriculture.
- The FAO is providing funding to 49 countries for medium-term investment programmes to fast-track the implementation of CAADP,
- A CAADP companion on forestry, fisheries and livestock is being developed, as well as a nutrition programme,
- The review on the Food Reserve System has commenced.

9. **FURTHER NOTED** the progress made in the implementation of the short term action plan for infrastructure (STAP), particularly the fact that:

- The African Development Bank (ADB) has approved financing for 9 investment projects amounting to US\$580 million;
- The World Bank has approved financing for STAP projects amounting to US\$570 million;
- The fibre-optic submarine cable on the East Coast of Africa, and the e-Schools projects have reached advanced levels of implementation.

### ***African Peer Review Mechanism***

10. **NOTE** the significant progress that has been achieved in implementing the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM),

to the APRM and another three have expressed interest in joining, and the fact that the country review process has started in Ghana and will shortly commence in Rwanda, Mauritius and Kenya;

11. **CALL** on all member states that have not yet done so to acceded to the APRM;

***Development of Priority Sector Strategies***

12. **NOTE WITH APPRECIATION** the work done to develop the Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy and **MANDATE** AU Commission and the NEPAD Secretariat to work closely with partners, in particular the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction, the World Bank, the UNDP, and UNEP and other international organizations to develop a programme of work in this regard that will enable member states to use the strategy as a framework for integrating disaster risk reduction into national development processes;
13. **ENDORSE** the Tourism Action Plan developed by the NEPAD Secretariat and adopted by the African Ministers of Tourism and the Executive Council;
14. **CALL** on African Ministers of Tourism to form a Steering Committee of Ministers of Tourism to guide the AU Commission and the NEPAD Secretariat, as well as RECs and Member States in the implementation of the Tourism Action Plan;
15. **WELCOME** the African Productive Capacity Initiative (APCI) and the African Productive Capacity Facility (APCF) adopted by the 16<sup>th</sup> Conference of African Ministers of Industry and **CALL ON** the AU Commission and the NEPAD Secretariat, with the support of development partners, particularly UNIDO, to assist member states in the implementation of the strategy;
16. **FURTHER WELCOME** the development of a NEPAD Science and Technology strategy by the African Ministers of Science and Technology;
17. **CONGRATULATE** UNESCO for the work that has been done in support of the Human Resource Development aspects of the NEPAD programme;

***Millennium Development Goals***

18. **NOTE** that, at current rates of development, many African countries are unlikely to meet the Millennium Development Goals due to lack of resource flows and, therefore, **RESOLVE** to undertake the necessary measures to enhance the development of expanded and integrated national development plans and related policies, as well as fast-track the adoption of NEPAD programmes, including reforms and increased investments in key areas such as agriculture, infrastructure, health, human resource development and education, as a means towards achieving the MDGs;
19. **NOTING** the centrality of Agriculture in Africa's Development and the multiple constraints associated with this sector, **REAFFIRM** our commitment and determination to raise food production, reduce hunger and transform rural Africa by way of developing and launching Africa's Green Revolution;
20. **WELCOME** the support provided by international partners and **CALL UPON** the international community to significantly scale up support and resources to member states and RECs in efforts aimed at achieving the MDGs within the framework of national development programmes;
21. **FURTHERMORE CALL ON** all international partners to honour their expressed commitments to supporting African development by significantly increasing their contributions under the IDA-14 replenishment process, providing grants as opposed to loans and granting accelerated and scaled-up debt relief;

***Integration of NEPAD into AU Structures and processes***

22. **FINALLY, WELCOME** the Report presented by the Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union and **MANDATE** the Chairperson to continue, in consultation with the Chairperson of the HSGIC, to operationalise the Decision taken at our last Summit in Maputo relating to the integration of NEPAD into AU structures and processes.