

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE END OF THE NINTH SUMMIT
OF THE HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT
IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE (HSGIC) OF THE NEW
PARTNERSHIP FOR AFRICA'S DEVELOPMENT (NEPAD)
KIGALI, RWANDA, 14 FEBRUARY 2004

1. At the invitation of H.E. Mr. Paul Kagame, President of the Republic of Rwanda, the 9th Summit of the Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee (HSGIC) of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) was held in Kigali, Rwanda on Saturday, 14 February 2004. His Excellency, Chief Olesegun Obasanjo, President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and Chairperson of the HSGIC chaired the Summit.

2. The following dignitaries attended the Summit:

- (i) His Excellency, Mr. Festus Mogae, President of the Republic of Botswana;
- (ii) His Excellency, Mr. Dennis Sassou Nguesso, President of the Republic of Congo;
- (iii) His Excellency, Mr. El-Hadj Omar Bongo, President of the Republic of Gabon;
- (iv) His Excellency, Mr. John Kufuor, President of the Republic of Ghana;
- (v) His Excellency, Mr. Joaquim Alberto Chissano, President of the Republic of Mozambique;
- (vi) His Excellency, Chief Olusegun Obasanjo, President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;
- (vii) His Excellency, Mr. Paul Kagame, President of the Republic of Rwanda;
- (viii) His Excellency, Mr. Abdoulaye Wade, President of the Republic of Senegal;
- (ix) His Excellency, Mr. Thabo Mbeki, President of the Republic of South Africa;
- (x) His Excellency, Mr. Meles Zenawi, Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia;
- (xi) His Excellency, Mr. Fernando Dos Santos, Prime Minister of the Republic of Angola;
- (xii) Honourable Peter Anyang' Nyong'o, Minister of Planning and NEPAD, Republic of Kenya;
- (xiii) H.E. Mr. Gerald Ssendaula, Minister of Finance of the Republic of Uganda;
- (xiv) H.E. Mr. Abdel Kader Messahel, Minister in Charge of Maghreb and African Affairs and Personal Representative of the President of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria;
- (xv) H.E. Ms. Fayza Aboulnaga, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Arab Republic of Egypt;
- (xvi) H.E. Mr. Mohamed Sial, Deputy Minister for Co-operation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Libya

- (xvii) Ambassador S. Servansing, Personal Representative of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Mauritius;
- (xviii) Mr. Luc Ayang, Chairperson of the Economic and Social Council of the Republic of Cameroon;
- (xix) H.E. Mr. Bruno Nongoma Zidouemba, Permanent Representative of Burkina Faso to African Union and Ambassador to Ethiopia;
- (xx) H.E. Mr. Mohamed Abdel Smaoui, Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the African Union and Ambassador to Ethiopia;
- (xxi) H.E. Patrick Mazimhaka, Deputy Chairperson, the African Union Commission;
- (xxii) H.E. Mr. Mohamed Al-Madani Al-Azhari, Secretary General of the Community of Sahelo-Saharan States [CEN-SAD];
- (xxiii) H.E. Mr. Louis Sylvain Goma, Secretary General of the Economic Community of Central African States [ECCAS]; and
- (xxiv) Professor Ibrahim Gambari, United Nations Under-Secretary General and Head of the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa [OSAA].

3. Representatives of UNDP, UNECA, ADB and other dignitaries were also in attendance at the 9th Summit of the NEPAD Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee [HSGIC]. The following Members of the APR Panel were also in attendance: Ms. M A Savane, Prof. A Adedeji, Dr. G Machel, Dr. D Njeuma, Dr. C Stals and Mr. M Medelci.

Welcome and Opening Remarks

4. The Chairperson of the HSGIC, H.E. Chief Olusegun Obasanjo, President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, extended a warm welcome to all Heads of Delegation and participants at the Summit. He noted that this Summit is the first one since the 2nd Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the African Union held in July 2003 in Maputo, Mozambique. He thanked President Kagame, the Government and people of Rwanda for hosting the Summit.

5. The Chairperson reported on the progress made in the implementation of NEPAD programmes and called for additional support for priority sector programmes. He noted that lack of capacity at all levels, particularly at the RECs, remains one of the major constraints to the implementation of NEPAD. The Chairperson reported on the meeting with Executive Secretaries of the RECs and the release of the First Report of the United Nations Secretary General on the implementation of NEPAD to the UN General Assembly.

6. The Chairperson also noted that funding remains one of the critical challenges for NEPAD. He highlighted the importance of ensuring that the Secretariats, as well as the RECs, are given the necessary means to fulfill their roles. He emphasized the importance of enhanced mobilization, and popularisation of the NEPAD programmes and the African Union through an effective communication outreach.

7. The Chairperson reported on the Africa Partnership Forum (APF), which consists of representatives of Africa and representatives of Africa's development partners. He noted the failure of the Fifth Ministerial WTO Conference in Cancun, Mexico, last year, and stressed the need to strengthen Africa's participation and leadership in the continued discussion of issues around the WTO. He also reported on progress on the implementation of the Maputo Decision on the integration of NEPAD into the structures and processes of the African Union.

8. In conclusion, the Chairperson expressed his sincere gratitude to all Members of the HSGIC for their determination in leading the African continent towards an accelerated economic growth and development path. He also thanked the AU Commission, the NEPAD Steering Committee and Secretariat. The Chairperson concluded by wishing the Summit successful deliberations.

Adoption of Agenda

9. The Agenda was unanimously adopted. The Chairperson invited Prof. Wiseman Nkuhlu, Chairperson of NEPAD Steering Committee to present his report to the Summit.

Progress Report by the Chairperson of the NEPAD Steering Committee for the period May - July 2003

10. The HSGIC noted the Progress Report for the period July 2003 - February 2004 presented by Professor Wiseman Nkuhlu, Chairperson of the NEPAD Steering Committee.

11. Prof. Nkuhlu indicated that the NEPAD Secretariat has concentrated on promoting NEPAD, both in Africa and internationally, facilitating and supporting preparation and implementation of approved programmes, encouraging African Governments and the RECs towards integration of NEPAD priorities and programmes in their respective national and regional economic development plans. The Progress Report addressed issues for consideration including:

- (i) Advocacy and Promotion;
- (ii) Facilitating and supporting preparation and implementation of programmes;
- (iii) Establishment of a special fund for investing in NEPAD projects;
- (iv) Major NEPAD successes;
- (v) Expanded G8 /NEPAD Dialogue - Africa Partnership Forum;
- (vi) Offer of development finance by the Indian Government;
- (vii) Co-operation agreement with the African Capacity Building Foundation [ACBF];
- (viii) Integration of NEPAD into AU structures and processes;
- (ix) Strategic issues for consideration by the HSGIC;
- (x) Proposal to host a continental conference on NEPAD in October/ November 2004;
- (xi) Voluntary contributions to the budget of the NEPAD process.

Achievement of the NEPAD process

12. The HSGIC noted the following achievements of the NEPAD process:

- Increase in development assistance from just US\$16 billion in 2000 to over US\$ 18.82 billion in 2002;
- Support by FAO to Africa for the preparation of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme [CAADP] and its subsequent projects;
- The commitment of the World Bank to provide US\$ 500 million for the financing of the first phase of the Multi-country Agricultural Productivity Programmes [MAPP];
- Recent approval by the World Bank of US\$ 452 million for the financing of important components of the Southern African Power Pool [SAPP];
- Funding of over US\$ 300 million by the ADB of priority NEPAD infrastructure projects for the last two years.

Advocacy and Promotion

13. The HSGIC noted that the NEPAD Secretariat participated at the launch of the first report of the United Nations Secretary General on the implementation of NEPAD which was discussed at a Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly on 14th and 15th October 2003. The Secretariat also participated in a seminar on a Ten-year Strategy for increasing Capital Flows to Africa from the United States of America and other OECD countries hosted by the Corporate Council on Africa, the Council on Foreign Relations and the Joint Center for Political Studies. The HSGIC noted the recommendations of the Commission on Capital Flows.

Facilitating and supporting preparation and implementation of programmes

14. The HSGIC noted the progress made in the implementation of the NEPAD programmes and reiterated its resolve towards the facilitation and implementation of the priority NEPAD programmes. The major challenge now is the designing and preparation of detailed national and regional projects by the relevant RECs and national governments.

15. The HSGIC noted that President Obasanjo hosted a meeting of Executive Secretaries of the RECs on 29 October 2003 in Abuja, Nigeria. It was noted also that the East African Community also held a very successful Summit on 28 October 2003 in Nairobi, Kenya to discuss implementation of NEPAD in the east African region. The HSGIC further took note that a Pan-African Implementation and Partnership Conference on Water was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 8 to 13 December 2003.

Agriculture

16. The HSGIC was encouraged by the ongoing discussions with the RECs and partner institutions on the implementation of the Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP). The African Ministers of Agriculture reviewed progress of implementation of CAADP at a meeting held in Rome, Italy on 5 December 2003. The HSGIC also noted that work on the preparation of a CAADP companion document that covers Livestock, Fisheries and Forestry is progressing and that the integration of CAADP into National development plans is being promoted through consultations with Permanent Secretaries of Agriculture in all the African regions.

The HSGIC emphasized the need for national governments to meet the target of 10% of budget for agriculture in the next five years. The HSGIC also noted that the African Ministers of Agriculture will be reviewing progress during their conference scheduled for early March 2004 in South Africa.

Inter-Academy Report

17. The HSGIC was informed that the United Nations Secretary General appointed a team of leading scientists in 2002 to produce a strategic plan for harnessing science and technology towards providing substantial increases in agricultural productivity in Africa. The team has produced a report, which can have far-reaching implications for agriculture in Africa. The HSGIC endorsed the view that the leader of the research team be invited to address the next HSGIC in May 2004.

Establishment of a Special Fund for Investing in NEPAD Projects

18. The HSGIC was informed that ADB has established a NEPAD Infrastructure Facility for project preparation with the Can \$10 million contributed by the Canadian Government. Guidelines for accessing this fund for project preparation are being drawn up in consultation with the Canadian Government. Another development partner has expressed an interest in contributing an amount to the Fund. The HSGIC noted that development partners normally prefer to contribute into special funds if these cater for specific projects or programmes. The HSGIC approved the establishment of a Special Fund for project preparation at the ADB for speeding up of preparation of NEPAD projects and directed the NEPAD Secretariat to work with the relevant UN agency on the governance arrangements for the Fund.

Environment

19. The HSGIC welcomed the hosting of the partners conference for the implementation of the NEPAD Environment Action Plan by Algeria on 15 and 16 December 2003. The HSGIC noted the progress made with the Africa Stockpile Programme which aims at speeding up the destruction of obsolete stockpiles of pesticides.

International Engagement and Support

20. It was reported to the HSGIC that the G8/NEPAD Dialogue has been expanded and is now called the Africa Partnership Forum [APF] which comprises all the twenty countries in the structures of NEPAD, the African Union Commission, NEPAD Secretariat and RECs from the African side and G8 members as well as the eleven OECD countries that contribute more than US\$ 100 million per annum to development assistance to Africa, the World Bank, International Monetary Fund and the UN etc. from the partners side. The next APF meeting to be held in Maputo in April 2004 will focus on four areas namely peace and security; the fight against HIV/AIDS; education; economic growth and wealth creation. The first APF meeting which was held on 10 November 2003 in Paris, France also decided that there would be two meetings annually. The HSGIC agreed that the second meeting should take place on 16-17 April 2004 in Maputo, Mozambique.

21. The HSGIC urged that the Chairperson of the HSGIC and other leaders, with the support of the NEPAD structures, should actively engage the United States and the British government to ensure that focus on African socio-economic development issues at the G8 is maintained. The HSGIC agreed that continued efforts should be made by NEPAD structures and leaders to ensure that the focus on Africa does not diminish.

22. It was further reported that the Chairperson of the Steering Committee and Members of the NEPAD Secretariat met with the Indian authorities to discuss support for the implementation of NEPAD India-Africa Fund capitalized at \$200 million. The terms and conditions of the support had not been elaborated by the Indian side at the time of the visit. However, the Indian authorities have approached the NEPAD Secretariat and proposed further discussions on the modalities of the proposal.

23. The HSGIC mandated the NEPAD Secretariat and the NEPAD Steering Committee to continue discussions with the Indian authorities and report to the HSGIC on progress. The HSGIC noted that, in future, such missions could be led by one of the leaders of NEPAD to provide appropriate political leverage.

24. The HSGIC also endorsed the co-operation between NEPAD and African institutions and namely the African Capacity Building Foundation [ACBF] on capacity building for RECs and policy and programme development by the NEPAD Secretariat.

RECs and the implementation of NEPAD

25. The HSGIC requested that the Chairperson of the HSGIC and the Chairperson of the AU, supported by the NEPAD Steering Committee to urgently investigate and determine what interventions are necessary to overcome the capacity constraints that impede the effectiveness of RECs as promoters of sub-regional NEPAD projects. The AU and NEPAD structures, at all levels, should be closely involved in the regions in fast-tracking the implementation of NEPAD programmes and projects.

Multilateral Trade Negotiations

26. The HSGIC again highlighted that access to markets of developed countries is very important to Africa's development and, therefore, there is need for urgent action. It was, then, resolved that the next HSGIC meeting focuses on multilateral trade issues and that the NEPAD Secretariat should prepare and distribute the necessary documents ahead of the meeting.

Strategic Issues

27. The HSGIC noted two very important challenges which should be followed with the RECs as a matter of urgency namely:

- Integration of NEPAD priorities and programmes into national development plans and regional development strategies; and
- Need to identify the high priority transport corridors in each region to be the focus of implementation for the next 2 years.

Funding of NEPAD and its Structures

28. The HSGIC highlighted the need to maintain a meaningful African ownership of the NEPAD initiative. In this respect, the HSGIC resolved that each African country be invited to contribute at least US\$ 100, 000 towards the costs of the NEPAD process for the immediate operational requirements. The HSGIC approved that proposals on the long-term funding requirements of NEPAD should be worked out together with the UNDP and made at the next HSGIC meeting by the NEPAD Secretariat.

Digital Solidarity Fund

29. The HSGIC was briefed by President Wade on the Digital Solidarity Fund. The Fund, designed for the African continent and initiated by many African experts, is Geneva based. President Wade informed the meeting that Senegal has already contributed US\$ 500,000 towards the Fund. The HSGIC took note of the forthcoming meeting of African Ministers of Information and Communication Technologies in April 2004 in Dakar, Senegal.

African Peer Review Mechanism [APRM]

30. H.E. Mr. Fernando Dos Santos, Prime Minister of the Republic of Angola announced at the meeting that Angola was ready to accede to the APRM.

Appreciation

31. The HSGIC expressed its profound appreciation to President Kagame and the Government and people of Rwanda for the hospitality and excellent arrangements, which facilitated the success of the 9th NEPAD HSGIC Meeting.

Date and Venue of the Next HSGIC Summit

32. The HSGIC meeting closed at 14h 00. The next meeting will be held on 16 May 2004 in Maputo, Mozambique.

Done at Kigali, Rwanda, this 14th Day of February 2004