Note to the Chef de Cabinet  
(through the Deputy Secretary-General)  

Report of the Secretary-General on New Partnership for Africa’s Development:  
Twelfth consolidated progress report on implementation and international support

1. As requested by General Assembly resolution 68/L.41/Rev.1, entitled “New Partnership for Africa’s Development: progress in implementation and international support”, Office of the Special Adviser on Africa (OSAA) has prepared a report on the implementation of the resolution to the General Assembly for the sixty-ninth session.

2. The report assesses progress achieved in implementing NEPAD projects and programmes as well as support provided by the international community over the last 12 months. While highlighting the progress African countries made in implementing NEPAD, and the increase of 5% in ODA channelled to Africa, the report underscores the continued need for African countries to strengthen domestic resource mobilisation and engage the private sector. The report calls on the international community to prioritize its support for Africa and to align its support to NEPAD’s priorities, including those encapsulated in the Common African Position on post-2015 and the forthcoming AU Agenda 2063. The report notes that Africa as a region is off track to achieve most of the MDGs and calls for strengthened international cooperation and accelerated progress.

3. Following a thorough review by DU, we recommend approval of the draft report with minor edits as attached. The report has also been reviewed by the Office of the Chef de Cabinet and there are no financial or budgetary implications. The slotting date for the report is 1 August 2014. For your kind review and clearance, please.

Deirdre Boyd  
14 July 2014
To: Ms. Susana Malcorra, Chef de Cabinet
   Under-Secretary-General,
   Executive Office of the United Nations
   Secretary-General

From: Maged Abdelaziz
      Under-Secretary-General and Special Adviser on Africa

Date: 10th July 2014

Subject: Report of the Secretary-General on the New Partnership for Africa’s Development: twelve consolidated progress report on implementation and international support

It is my pleasure to transmit to you the Report of the Secretary-General on the New Partnership for Africa’s Development:

1. The Office of the Special Adviser on Africa is charged with the annual preparation of the Report of the Secretary-General on the New Partnership for Africa’s Development: The report is part of the deliberations of the General Assembly debate on Africa (agenda item 63a).

2. As in the previous editions, the present report benefited from inputs from the African Union’s NEPAD Agency. It highlights actions undertaken by African countries and organisations in implementing their NEPAD priorities as well as the support provided by the international community.

3. I am sending the report for your kind attention and clearance at the earliest convenience, so that it can be submitted in time.

4. The report has a strict submission deadline to DGACM on 1 August 2014.

5. Thank you.
The present report, submitted in response to General Assembly Resolution 68/L.41/Rev.1, coincides with the approval of the African Union Transformative Agenda, shaping a new direction in the continent towards regional integration and achieving African renaissance. The African Union (AU) Agenda 2063 and the international commitment to support its implementation provide an additional impetus on the NEPAD’s role and highlight the need for further support. It also coincides with the convening of the Financing Summit for Africa’s Infrastructure on June 12-14, 2014 in Dakar, Senegal which adopted the Dakar Agenda for Action to prioritise financing of key regional infrastructure projects. Furthermore, the 50th Anniversary Solemn Declaration, adopted by the AU Summit in May 2013, identified key priorities for the continent’s development over the next 50 years, with particular emphasis on industrialisation. This is also an important pillar in the Common African Position on the Post-2015 Development Agenda (CAP), adopted by the AU in January 2014. As a result, the importance of the NEPAD Agency is increasing as it becomes the vehicle for the implementation of the Agenda 2063.

The present report assesses progress achieved in implementing NEPAD projects and programmes as well as support provided by the international community over the last 12 months. While highlighting the progress African countries made in implementing NEPAD, the report underscores the continued need for African countries to strengthen domestic resource mobilisation to underpin financing for NEPAD programmes and projects. Engaging the private sector will also be key to mobilising the necessary funding for NEPAD projects, particularly in infrastructure. The report calls on the international community to prioritise its support for Africa and to align its support to NEPAD’s priorities, including those encapsulated in the CAP and the forthcoming AU Agenda 2063. To strengthen international cooperation for development and facilitate the implementation of NEPAD, development partners should take urgent steps to successfully conclude the Doha Round of trade negotiations with a development dimension, deliver on aid commitments, and improve aid effectiveness. In view of the rapidly approaching deadline for the MDGs, juxtaposed with the urgent task of accelerating progress toward achieving the goals in Africa, business as usual is not an option for...
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I. Introduction

1. In its resolution A/68/L.41/Rev.1, entitled “New Partnership for Africa’s Development: progress in implementation and international support”, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report on the implementation of the resolution to the Assembly at its sixty-ninth session. The present report is submitted pursuant to that resolution.

2. The report highlights policy measures taken by African countries and organizations in the implementation of the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD), as well as the response of the international community and support provided by the UN system during the past year. The activities undertaken by the private sector and civil society in support of NEPAD are also highlighted. The report benefited from information provided by Member States, the African Development Bank (AfDB), the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NEPAD Agency), the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) Secretariat, Regional Economic Communities (RECs), the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), members of the Inter-departmental Task Force on African Affairs organizations of the UN system and other NEPAD stakeholders.

II. Action taken by African countries and organizations

3. NEPAD is both a collective vision and a strategic socio-economic development framework for Africa. Its main objective is to generate broad-based and equitable economic growth that allows Africa to reduce poverty and better integrate into the global economy. Translating this vision into action requires implementation of the key sectoral priorities of NEPAD. Each country is expected to assume responsibility for implementing the NEPAD programme at the national level and designing a national blueprint consistent with NEPAD goals. In addition, the Regional Economic Communities (RECs), which are the operational arms of the AU in driving the integration agenda, play a leading role in implementing projects at the sub-regional level. The NEPAD Agency plays an instrumental role in coordinating the implementation of sub-regional and continental programmes and projects.

A. Infrastructure

4. In recognition of the importance of infrastructure development, African countries committed to make it a top priority through the implementation of the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA), which serves as the overarching framework for infrastructure development in Africa. In line with their commitments, African countries continued to make efforts over the last 12 months to accelerate infrastructure development through the implementation of PIDA, with the aim of transforming Africa through the development of infrastructure in transport, energy, internet and communications technology (ICTs), as well as trans-boundary waterways.

5. The NEPAD Agency continued to coordinate development of infrastructure across the continent through the implementation of the PIDA Priority Action Plan (PAP), which comprises 51 continental and regional projects, including seven projects.
that are spearheaded by seven African Heads of State and Government and implemented under the Presidential Infrastructure Champion Initiative (PICI).

6. Over the last 12 months, efforts were focused on project preparation and financing for the PIDA PAP projects and programmes. Of the 51 projects and programmes, 16 national and regional priority infrastructure projects were identified as quick wins for financing and implementation. These projects were showcased at the Financing Summit for Africa’s Infrastructure, convened on 14-15 June 2014 in Dakar, Senegal with a view to securing financing through innovative synergies between the public and private sector. The Summit adopted the Dakar Agenda for Action in order to prioritise the financing of the 16 priority infrastructure pilot projects and to start feasibility studies and project preparation in order to accelerate PIDA implementation.

7. With respect to the implementation of PICI projects, the “Missing Link of the Trans-Saharan Highway” project covering a distance of over 4,500 kilometers, linking Algeria and Nigeria, has seen considerable progress, with financing of $40 million having been secured. The implementation process has already commenced and the project is expected to be completed in 2016. The optic fibre component of the project, linking Algeria, Nigeria and Niger through a submarine cable, has also seen substantial progress with completion of 60 per cent of the project. Egypt formally launched the “Navigational Route between Lake Victoria and Mediterranean Sea” project in June 2013.

8. Despite progress made by African countries in mobilising funding, lack of finance remains the major obstacle to the implementation of PIDA. In this context, the AfDB, at its annual meeting held in Kigali, Rwanda in May 2014, launched the “Africa50 Initiative” to mobilise over $100 billion from public and private sources to finance priority regional infrastructure projects on the continent over the next 50 years. The initiative will target high-impact national and regional projects in energy, transport, ICTs and water.

9. Furthermore, following the launch of the Sustainable Energy for All African Coordination Hub in July 2013, the NEPAD Agency, in collaboration with UNDP, AUC and AfDB, organised expert meetings that led to preparation and adoption of the SE4ALL African Action Plans Guidelines, Africa’s Strategy for Decentralised Energy Solutions and the African Sustainable Charcoal Policy Framework. All of these initiatives were approved by the Conference of Energy Ministers in Africa.

B. Agriculture and Food Security

10. African countries have continued to make progress on several important commitments promoting agricultural development and food security. Within the context of the Maputo Declaration on Agriculture and Food Security in Africa, African countries committed themselves to allocating at least 10 per cent of national budgetary resources to agriculture and, through the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP), to achieving a 6 per cent growth rate in agricultural productivity per annum. To mark the tenth anniversary of the adoption of CAADP last year and to focus national attention on Africa’s agriculture, African leaders declared 2014 to be the year of Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition.
11. During the review period, African countries continued to implement CAADP commitments. With regard to the Maputo Declaration target of allocating at least 10 per cent of national budgetary resources to agriculture, progress continued with 12 countries reaching or surpassing the target, while 13 others were in the 5 - 10 per cent range. As at December 2013, 45 African countries engaged in the CAADP process, of which 39 signed CAADP compacts and 29 finalized their national agriculture investment plans (NAIPs). Some countries, including Botswana, Namibia and South Africa used NAIPS to increase financing for social safety net programmes such as school feeding programmes.

12. The NEPAD Agency spearheaded the formulation of the “Sustaining CAADP Momentum – Results Framework”, to enable the continent to draw lessons from the last ten years of CAADP implementation. This provided the basis for defining a plan of action for the next ten years and beyond – underpinned by a resolve to ensure sustainable transformation in the continent’s agricultural systems. The CAADP Results Framework has been designed as an integral part of the forthcoming African Union Agenda 2063 – elaborating the desired level and rate of agricultural performance in contribution to attaining its goals.

13. To improve food security across the continent, the Africa Solidarity Trust Fund, an Africa-led fund, was launched in June 2013 with a seed capital of $30 million from Equatorial Guinea. It is managed by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). Additional funding from Angola ($10 million) and a group of civil society organizations in the Republic of Congo has brought the total amount to $40 million.

14. Furthermore, in September 2013, as part of the third call for Public Sector Window proposals the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP) approved a total funding of approximately $250 million for eight countries. Four of these are African countries, namely Burkina Faso, Zambia, Uganda and Mali. This has brought the total number of African countries that have received funding under the GAFSP to 15, with a cumulative total receipt of approximately US$ 870 million.

15. At the global level, the United Nations General Assembly launched the International Year of Family Farming in 2014 to focus its support on small holder farmers, especially women in Africa by facilitating access to better seeds, fertilizers, markets, finance, and extension support; and promoting effective national research systems and better rural infrastructure.

C. Health

16. Health remains a key priority for African countries. The NEPAD Agency has been at the forefront of mobilizing funds from bilateral partners to support the training of nurses and midwives across the continent and strengthen African health care research. Moreover, the AU has increased its commitment to improving health
outcomes by underscoring the importance of increased investment in health technology and innovation as specified in the forthcoming AU Agenda 2063.

17. The 2013 Special Summit of the Abuja Declaration on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria reaffirmed the commitment of African governments to accelerate the implementation of existing frameworks such as the Abuja Declaration and Plan of Action on Roll Back Malaria and the Abuja Call for Accelerated Action Towards Universal Access to HIV and AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria Services in Africa by 2010. The Summit also underscored the importance of ongoing efforts to promote Africa’s health concerns and priorities in the post-2015 development agenda.

18. The African Medicines Regulatory Harmonization (AMRH) Programme has made noteworthy progress during the period under review. The AMRH Programme aims to improve public health by increasing access to sustainable supplies of safe and effective medicines in Africa, based on the principles in the AU Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Plan of Action (PMPA) and the Roadmap for Shared Responsibility and Global Solidarity for the AIDS, TB and Malaria response in Africa.

19. Noteworthy progress has also been made in identifying the impacts of child under-nutrition in Africa. The results from the first-phase of the Cost of Hunger in Africa (COHA) study as published during the period under review. The preliminary results from the study were generated from research conducted in the four first-phase countries: Egypt, Ethiopia, Swaziland, and Uganda. The report shows that child mortality related to under nutrition accounts for nearly 1 - 8 per cent of workforce losses in the analysed countries, which has serious implications for labour productivity. ¹

20. Health systems research continues to develop in Africa. The Africa Health Systems Initiative—Support to African Research Partnerships programme supported ten research teams that examined numerous health-related challenges including quality of care, availability of health personnel, access to mental health services and health information technology. The programme has reached its final year but since its launch in 2008, it has provided substantial support to researchers in African countries.

21. Efforts to combat the HIV/AIDS epidemic have intensified through the collaboration of multiple stakeholders. Significant gains have been made in scaling up HIV/AIDS treatment, which has resulted in a reduction in the number of AIDS-related deaths in Africa. However, significant challenges remain. On the continent, only 54% of those eligible for Antiretroviral (ARV) treatment have access, with increasingly fewer children who need HIV treatment accessing it.

D. Education and Training

22. African countries are making every effort to accelerate achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) of universal primary education and gender equality in education, including through the Dakar Framework for Action on Education for All. Achievements have been made possible through sustainable public

¹ See documents.wfp.org/stellent/groups/public/documents/resources/wfp260859.pdf
investment to increase participation while implementing retention actions (school feeding programmes, cash transfers, etc.).

23. Against this background, the NEPAD Agency continued to promote training and educational interventions that strengthen primary health care, including through the establishment of a centre for training and development for teachers in science, mathematics and technology, and a programme on Nursing and Midwifery Education in Africa. The programme is currently being implemented in Cameroon, Gabon and the Republic of the Congo with the aim of upgrading the skills of nurses and midwives.

24. Continuing progress has been evident in efforts to strengthen clinical human resource development in Africa. During the period under review, NEPAD’s Nursing and Midwifery Education in Africa programme and the Government of Cameroon developed a new Masters-level programme for nurses and midwives. The one-year programme established an academic partnership between Stellenbosch University in South Africa and the University of Yaoundé in Cameroon.

25. Progress was also made in the implementation of the Global Education First Initiative (GEFI), launched by the UN Secretary-General with the aim of accelerating progress toward education goals by encouraging governments to bolster financial and political support for education initiatives. During the period under review, two additional African countries—Benin and Ethiopia—joined the GEFI as Champion Countries, bringing the number of African countries participating in the GEFI to five out of the total of 14 champion countries.

26. Champion Countries collaborate with the GEFI Secretariat on an annual basis to develop a list of planned activities. The 11th Education for All Global Monitoring Report, highlighted progress made towards reaching the global education framework by 2015 and identified ongoing challenges. According to the report, progress has been slow for many African countries with regard to adult literacy, gender parity, school enrolment, and teachers’ wages.

27. The continent continues to face challenges, including many children and youth out of school, especially girls and young women, disadvantaged and marginalized rural and nomadic populations, significant regional disparities in higher education, and low transition rates to tertiary education.

E. Environment and Tourism

28. The NEPAD Agency’s activities in the thematic area of Environment focused on strengthening the effectiveness and efficiency of regional coordination mechanisms such as the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) to facilitate cooperation among countries, enhance synergies, and promote coordinated responses to existing and emerging challenges, capacity needs and specific issues.

29. The NEPAD Agency, through the AMCEN, assisted in promoting a coordinated and regional approach to environmental management, particularly
through strengthening the participation of African countries in international policy processes. It also supported AMCEN in the development of African common positions in international negotiations, which resulted in Africa increasing its participation and voice in international environmental governance.

30. As a means to ensure the effective implementation of the Rio+20 outcome, AMCEN and the AU have developed concept notes for five Regional Flagship Programmes (RFPs) to enable African countries to promote sustainable development and adapt to and mitigate the impacts of climate change. The concept notes, which were reviewed during the AMCEN Expert Meeting, convened in April 2013 in Tanzania, will serve as an overall regional framework for the further development and implementation of the RFPs.

31. In September 2013, the NEPAD Agency facilitated Africa’s participation and engagement at the UNCCD COP 11, held in Namibia, by hosting the Africa Pavilion in conjunction with the AU Commission. This enabled African countries and institutions to showcase their efforts at addressing desertification and land degradation on the continent.

32. In partnership with the AMCEN Secretariat, the NEPAD Agency facilitated meetings between AMCEN with their counterparts during the high-level segment of the UNFCCC COP 19 in Warsaw, Poland, which enabled the African Group to consolidate Africa’s common position on the outcomes of the 5th Special AMCEN Session that was held in October 2013 in Gaborone, Botswana. The ministerial meeting also assisted in strengthening the African consensus on the road to post-Kyoto agreements, and subsequently led to agreement on and development of Africa’s common position on climate change adaptation.

33. On tourism, during the reviewed period under review, the NEPAD Agency undertook to promote and advocate for the NEPAD Tourism Action Plan (TAP) at various national and international fora, including with the South Africa Government, at the 19th edition of the Tunisian tourism fair "MIT" (International Tourism Market) held from 24 to 27 April 2013 in Tunis, Tunisia; at the TICAD V Summit in Yokohama, Japan in June 2013; and at the UNWTO conference jointly hosted by Zambia and Zimbabwe in August 2013.

F. Information and communications technology

34. The NEPAD Agency continued to support African countries in the development of information and communications technology on the continent. During the period under review, actions focused on achieving progress in all four pillars of the NEPAD e-Africa Programme, namely: ICT infrastructure, capacity development, e-applications and services, and enabling environment and governance.

35. During the review period, the design phase of the Impact Evaluation for the NEPAD e-Schools Initiative was conducted with grant from the International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie). The e-Africa Programme signed an agreement with First Space Fiber (FSF) to develop a model framework for e-schools using Senegal as a test case. Under the agreement, FSF has started providing a complete solution (hardware,
training, content and maintenance) to all 6 e-Schools in Senegal. The piloting in the e-Schools will inform wider rollout to other schools in Senegal and will also feed into the wider continental strategy.

36. Progress was also made with regards to the e-Africa Programme. The Programme successfully concluded a study entitled “Strengthening Grassroots Participation in Agricultural and Rural Development Policy Processes through ICTs”, funded by the Technical Center for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation. Findings from the study were disseminated at the ICT for Agriculture Conference in Kigali in November 2013 and the study’s recommendations will inform further work to integrate ICTs in the CAADP processes.

37. In the second half of 2013, the e-Africa Programme, in collaboration with the ISD and the dotAfrica Steering Committee, finalized the dotAfrica Reserved Names List (RNL) Policy. As a result, African countries will be able to protect website names of their national heritages (geographic, cultural, historic, etc) by reserving them via the dotAfrica RNL Portal. Excess funds generated by the dotAfrica registry will go to the dotAfrica Foundation, which will support the development of the Internet and ICT on the African continent.

G. Science, Technology and Innovation

38. In the review period, the NEPAD Agency continued its work in science and technology through the implementation of its Science and Technology Consolidated Plan of Action, which centres on three interrelated pillars: capacity building, knowledge production, and technological innovation.

39. The Southern Africa Network for Bioscience (SANBio) was reconfigured to align it more closely with the NEPAD Agency/ABI Strategy 2016 vision of demonstrating research results and development impacts. In addition, the African Biosafety Network of Expertise (ABNE) developed biosafety administration guidelines for use and adaptation by AU Member States. In order to create an enabling environment, technical support was provided to five countries, including Ghana, Kenya, Mozambique, Nigeria, and Togo in the drafting and reviewing of various regulations and guidelines related to biosafety.

40. With respect to capacity building efforts, the NEPAD Agency organized trainings to strengthen regulatory capacity for on-going field and multi-location trial inspections, monitoring, and compliance for regulators in Ghana, Malawi and Nigeria. This resulted in the adoption of best practices for inspectorate functions, strengthened competencies and increased confidence in the regulatory systems of these countries. Technical support was also provided to national systems in Ghana, Kenya, Malawi and Nigeria for the development and implementation of biosafety communications strategies.

41. The African Science, Technology and Innovation Indicators Initiative (ASTII) of the NEPAD Agency works to improve the quality of science, technology and innovation policies at national, regional and continental levels. Over 150 experts were trained in research, development and innovation, including in methodologies for measurement, data collection and analysis, and linkages between STI indicators,
science policies and development. The training strengthened countries’ abilities to apply internationally acceptable standards to the collection of their national STI statistics.

H. Gender mainstreaming, empowerment of women and civil society participation

42. In the last 12 months, African Governments continued to work towards implementation of important commitments related to gender equality and women’s empowerment, including those made in the African Union Gender Policy, the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa and the Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa, as well as the priorities of the African Women’s Decade (2010-2020). These instruments, which comprehensively address the economic, social and political rights of women, have galvanised significant action on the part of the NEPAD Agency in the areas of health, human rights, education, economic development, governance and peace and security.

43. During the reporting period, activities undertaken by the Gender Programme focussed on continental gender mainstreaming and implementation of the projects approved during the second Call for Proposals of the NEPAD/Spanish Fund for African Women’s Empowerment, the flagship project of the NEPAD gender programme. In addition, the NEPAD Gender Programme engaged in the validation of the scope and methodology for the design of the new conceptual framework for gender mainstreaming of continental AU/NEPAD programmes and its 4 year action plan.

44. Of the 10 million Euros disbursed to the NEPAD-Spanish Fund, 8.4 million Euros were earmarked to fund 32 projects for a period of two years. The thematic sectors covered during the second call for proposals were streamlined to include: (i) economic empowerment; (ii) civil society strengthening; and (iii) institutional strengthening.

45. During the period under review, several NEPAD gender projects and programmes recorded notable success. The Sudan Peace and Education Programme improved food security and sustained livelihoods of women farmers in Morobo and Magwi counties through seed provision, economic support and capacity building in modern techniques for subsistence farming and water harvesting, resulting in a 38 per cent increase in agricultural yields in targeted regions.

46. While much success was achieved during the reporting period, much more efforts are needed to address challenges which include lack of capacity of beneficiaries, unforeseen political instabilities in certain countries, and difficulties in operationalizing a results-based approach. Overall, there is also need for a Fund dedicated solely to gender mainstreaming in Africa in order to reduce fragmentation of efforts and address the gap in financing for gender equality.
I. African Peer Review Mechanism

47. In 2002, in recognition of the negative impact of poor governance on development, African countries adopted the NEPAD Declaration on Democracy, Political, Economic and Corporate Governance, in which they committed themselves to improving institutions of governance and promoting the rule of law. As a result, in March 2003 the NEPAD Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee (HSGIC) established the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM).

48. During the period under review, the APRM continued to strengthen and institutionalize good political, economic and corporate governance throughout the continent. In January 2014, Equatorial Guinea joined the APRM, bringing its membership to the following 34 countries: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Tanzania and Zambia.

49. In spite of a steady increase in membership, there is slow progress in the conduct of national review exercises, partly due to financial constraints. South Africa and Mozambique submitted their respective progress reports on the implementation of their national programmes of action for review by the APR Forum during the 20th Summit, held in January 2014. As at June 2014, the following 17 countries have been peer-reviewed: Algeria, Benin, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Mali, Mauritius, Mozambique, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Uganda, Tanzania and Zambia.

50. In the context of the commemoration of APRM’s tenth anniversary in 2013, the Mechanism’s governing bodies and its strategic partners, namely UNDP, UNECA, OSAA and the AfDB, organized a series of events to raise awareness of the importance of its work among African citizens and the international community, while reflecting on progress and ongoing challenges. At the global level, the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa, in collaboration with DPI, AU, NEPAD Agency and the APRM Secretariat, organized the Africa-NEPAD week: Celebrating APRM @10 on the margins of the General Assembly Debate on Africa in October 2013. This contributed to raising awareness at the international community and the African diaspora of Africa’s progress in the area of governance through the APRM.

51. Ten years on, the APRM has established itself as a unique and innovative framework for promoting good governance as well as durable peace and sustainable development in Africa (A/69/XXX). It has created a platform for African peer learning and sharing of experiences and best practices, in addition to engendering a more open polity and strengthening government-civic engagement. The involvement of civil society and other stakeholders in the process has contributed to enriching the content of the national programmes of action.

III. Response of the international community: Building on the momentum of the international support for Africa’s development
A. Introduction

52. The response of the international community has been mixed. According to the International Monetary Fund (IMF), although global economic activities picked up considerably in the second half of 2013, GDP growth remained relatively unchanged averaging 3 per cent in 2013, compared to 3.2 per cent in 2012. The US economy strengthened considerably in 2013. The euro area economies returned to positive growth, albeit small.

53. In this international context, Africa continued to show strong resilience with GDP growth averaging 4 per cent in 2013, 1 per cent faster than the global average. Though the recovery in commodity prices has been important for Africa’s recovery from the global economic slowdown, efforts undertaken by African countries to reform their economies, tackle conflicts and strengthen governance have also played an important role in supporting growth. According to the African Economic Outlook 2014, the continent’s future outlook is promising, with growth expected to return to the pre-crisis level of 6.5 per cent.

54. Despite improved performance, growth in Africa remains inadequate to make significant progress in poverty reduction. More remains to be done to raise growth to the 7 per cent target considered critical for sustained poverty reduction as well as for progress towards other MDG targets. Subdued growth performance in advanced economies, especially the anaemic growth in Africa’s largest trading partners coupled with likely slowdown in the emerging economies may undermine progress toward internationally agreed development goals.

55. Against this backdrop and in light of the rapidly approaching deadline for the MDGs, a strengthened and sustained global partnership will be important for sustaining recent development gains and accelerating progress towards internationally agreed development goals, including the MDGs. Over the years, development partners have made several commitments toward Africa’s development, including implementation of NEPAD priorities. The implementation of these commitments will be critical in supporting African countries to overcome their development challenges and meet the MDGs.

56. In recognition of the importance of implementing commitments, the General Assembly, by its resolution 66/293 of 15 October 2012, established the UN Monitoring Mechanism (UNMM) to review implementation of commitments made toward Africa’s development needs and subsequently by its resolution 68/247 of 27 December 2013, to strengthen the Office of Special Adviser on Africa to enable it to effectively implement its increasing mandates. The UNMM will provide much-needed impetus to the implementation of commitments made towards Africa, thus enhancing the developmental impact of international cooperation in favour of Africa. The first interim report of the Secretary-General on “The Review of the Implementation of Commitments made towards Africa’s Development needs”, will be submitted to the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly in September 2014.

2 See A/69/XXX.
pending a full review report to be submitted to the 71st session of the General Assembly.

57. The report assesses progress in the implementation of commitments by African countries, traditional development partners and the new and emerging development partners in the four selected themes of agriculture and food security, financing for development, environment and climate change, and governance. The interim report shows that while progress has been made in the implementation of commitments by African countries and their development partners, progress remains uneven both across themes and country groupings. The report also shows that major gaps exist in the implementation of commitments, which undermine the attainment of Africa’s sustainable development objectives.

58. The First follow-up ministerial meeting of the fifth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD V) took place in Yaoundé, Cameroon in May 2014, co-organized by the Government of Japan, the African Union Commission (AUC), the United Nations, represented by the Office of Special Adviser on Africa (OSAA), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the World Bank. The meeting assessed progress made in the implementation of the Yokohama Action Plan 2013-2017 and endorsed the Implementation Matrix of the Action Plan that contains 617 concrete development initiatives that were collectively submitted by African Member States, African regional institutions and development partners.

59. At the recently concluded G-7 Summit held in Brussels, Belgium on 4-5 June 2014, the Group of Seven industrialised countries committed to work towards improving transparency of the extractive industry through developing common global standards to ensure disclosure of payments that companies make to governments. They reaffirmed their commitment to the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition under strong African leadership. They also reaffirmed their commitment to end financial secrecy and tax evasion through the rapid implementation of the new single global standard for automatic exchange of tax information. These measures, if fully implemented, could help African countries to recover lost resources vital for financing the NEPAD agenda.

60. At the fourth EU-Africa Summit convened in Belgium in 2014, African and European countries committed to further strengthen trade and investment ties between the two continents as well as cooperation on peace and security. The EU also committed to support Africa in preparing climate resilient and low emission development strategies.

61. Following his first visit to Africa in July 2013 where he unveiled the “Power Africa” and “Trade Africa” initiatives, President Obama will convene the first US-Africa Leaders’ Summit on 5-6 August, 2014 in Washington DC. The Summit will look at strengthening US-Africa relations, especially in the areas of trade and investment. It will seek to strengthen cooperation on security and governance.

B. Official Development Assistance

62. According to preliminary data from the Organisation of Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), total net official development assistance from
DAC countries totalled $134.8 billion in 2013, up from $125.9 billion in 2012, representing an increase of nearly 6.1 per cent. ODA flows to Africa increased from some $51.5 billion in 2012 to $54.1 billion in 2013, representing an increase of 5 per cent (See figure 1).

**Figure 1: Total Official Development Assistance from all donors**

![Graph showing Official Development Assistance to all countries and ODA to Africa](image)

Source: Based on the OECD/Development Assistance Committee online database, 2014

63. Though Africa as a region receives a larger share of DAC's ODA, its share has remained relatively constant averaging around 38 per cent in 2013. This is at variance with the stated commitment to prioritise Africa in aid allocation. Furthermore, in recent years there has been a noticeable shift in aid allocation towards middle-income developing countries.

64. In 2005, at the Group of Eight Summit held at Gleneagles, United Kingdom, leaders made the ambitious goal to add nearly $25 billion per year to aid for Africa, doubling the levels of ODA by 2010 relative to 2004 levels. They have consistently fallen short of this goal. Preliminary data show that aid volume to Africa averaged about $47 billion in the past three years, approximately $15 billion below the 2010 level implied by the 2005 G8 commitments made at Gleneagles (See A/69/XXX).

65. In light of the inadequate aid levels to Africa relative to what is required to close the huge financing gap, the implementation of the aid effectiveness agenda assumes greater importance. The first report of the Global Monitoring Framework was released in May 2014, measuring progress on the implementation of commitments agreed upon at Busan. The report shows sustained progress in aid untangling, more open and transparent information about aid flows, efforts by development partners to track how particular groups – such as women and girls are faring in resource allocation. According to the report, the percentage of aid budgets subject to parliamentary scrutiny increased from 57 per cent in 2010 to 64 in 2013. Some African countries such as Cape Verde, Kenya, Lesotho and Mozambique made

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substantial progress, all reaching the minimum target of 85 per cent of their scheduled development co-operation within their national budgets.

C. Debt relief:

66. While the international community has committed itself to helping to address the debt problems of developing countries in Africa, very little progress has been made during this reporting period. Through the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative and the Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative, the status of African countries has remained unchanged in the post-completion phase, the interim phase and the pre-decision phase.

Current and potential beneficiaries of the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative and the Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative (as at June 2014)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Countries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>29 post-completion point countries</td>
<td>Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Niger, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 interim country (between decision and completion point)</td>
<td>Chad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 pre-decision-point countries</td>
<td>Eritrea, Somalia, Sudan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: International Monetary Fund.

67. Based on the table above, 29 African countries are still in the post-completion point as of June 2014, and continue to receive full debt relief. Chad still remains the only country in the interim phase of the HIPC Initiative and no additional debt relief has been granted during the reporting period. The World Bank, however, reported that Chad had made some progress against the HIPC completion-point triggers and on the achievement of several social-indicator targets. Three countries, namely Eritrea, Somalia and Sudan, have remained at the pre-decision phase. The World Bank, however, reported that Eritrea has made limited progress and there has been no discussion of an IMF supported program since the last Article IV consultation in 2009. Somalia has however been re-initiated as an active member of the IMF and the World Bank, although it remains ineligible for financial assistance due to protracted arrears. Sudan, also in the pre-decision point, will embark on a new debt reconciliation
exercise to ensure data is fully available once the country gets closer to meeting decision-point requirements.

68. With respect to debt sustainability, an analysis carried out by the IMF and the World Bank shows that most African countries are at low risk of debt distress, while around 40% are at moderate risk and about a fifth are at high risk. However, some African countries such as Ghana and Zambia have undertaken excessive fiscal expansions in recent years financed by external borrowing and, as a result have seen their debt ratios increased.

D. Foreign direct investment and other private flows

69. During the review period, foreign direct investment (FDI) to Africa was resilient and steadily increased to the levels of ODA. According to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, flows of FDI to Africa increased from $50 billion in 2012 to an estimated $56.3 billion in 2013. As in the previous year, FDI flows to Africa continued to be concentrated in the extractive sectors, although services and manufacturing, including the automotive sector, leather and pharmaceuticals, represented an increased share in total FDI.

70. The increase in FDI inflows was driven by the strong performance of Southern African countries such as South Africa and Mozambique, which registered record FDI inflows of $10 billion and $7 billion respectively. The other sub-regions experienced a decrease in their inflows. For instance, persistent political and social tensions continued to subdue flows to North Africa, where only Morocco registered solid growth of 24 per cent, to $3.5 billion.

71. FDI is increasingly contributing to Africa’s development finance landscape and can be instrumental in developing productive capacities and removing infrastructure bottlenecks. In this regard, African countries have continued their efforts towards attracting FDI through the implementation of reforms to enhance Africa’s attractiveness to foreign investors. African countries have steadily improved their positions on the World Bank’s annual Ease of Doing Business rankings, with four African countries featuring among the world’s top 10 reformers in 2013. Recognising the important role of investment in Africa’s development and in response to General Assembly resolution 68/294, the President of the Sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly is convening on 17 July 2014 a high level thematic debate of the General Assembly on the promotion of investment in Africa and its catalytic role in achieving Africa’s development objectives.

E. Trade:

72. The international community has also pledged to promote trade initiatives, including Aid for Trade, in order to address supply-side constraints that limit Africa’s trade capacity. African Governments have also made commitments to strengthen regional integration and intra-African trade.

73. During the Ninth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization (WTO), held in Bali, Indonesia, in December 2013, Ministers adopted the “Bali Package”, the first multilateral trade agreement approved by the WTO. The package,
which consists of ten separate decisions,\textsuperscript{4} covers the areas of trade facilitation, development and LDC issues, agriculture, and cotton.

74. Specifically, the Trade Facilitation agreement contains commitments aimed at reducing trade transaction costs, increasing transparency and better harmonizing customs formalities. This could provide greater incentive to increase trade and reduce tariffs. This could benefit Africa given the high cost of trading. For example, an analysis of comprehensive trade costs reveals that disproportionately high transaction costs do not only hamper Africa's trade with the rest of the world, but also viable regional integration, particularly across Regional Economic Communities.

75. Following the Fourth Global Review of the Aid for Trade initiative, held in Geneva, Switzerland in July 2013, aid for trade flows have rebounded with Africa as the largest beneficiary. Aid for Trade resources committed to Africa increased from $13.1 billion in 2011 to $21.3 billion in 2012, representing an increase of 55 per cent over 2011. Africa's share of aid for trade was 30 per cent during 2002-05 but rose to 40 per cent in 2012.

F. South-South Cooperation

76. South-South cooperation, under the principle of solidarity and mutual benefits, continued to provide support to Africa's growth and sustainable development as a complement to North-South cooperation. During the review period, African strategic partnerships with key emerging economies continued to make progress, particularly through meetings, trade, ODA and FDI, as well as institution building.

77. At the international level, the organization of the Global South-South Development Expo in Nairobi, Kenya, in November 2013 provided a platform for showcasing successful Southern-grown development solutions for achieving the MDGs. As a result, $450 million was pledged between investors, green businesses, governments and other stakeholders covering projects ranging from building organic fertilizer factories and clean energy projects in Kenya to solar power plants in Uganda and green businesses for women in Egypt. Also in June 2014, the Group of 77 and China convened a summit in Santa Cruz, Bolivia, to commemorate the 50\textsuperscript{th} anniversary of the formation of the Group in June 1964. The commemorative declaration stressed the importance of cooperation and partnerships to reduce inequality, end poverty and fight climate change, all with the aim to create a new sustainable development framework.

78. Following the adoption of the eThekwini Declaration and Action Plan, the cooperation among the BRICS group of countries was given a major impetus with the establishment of two financial institutions, a Development Bank with $50 billion and currency reserve pool of $100 billion. The Fund will enable countries to address any developments on the foreign exchange market.

79. Over the past year, Africa has enhanced its cooperation with China in key areas such as trade, FDI and aid. In 2013, Chinese-African trade surpassed the $200 billion mark for the first time. In May 2014, China reaffirmed its commitment to

\textsuperscript{4} Ninth WTO Meeting, Ministerial declarations and decisions, 6 December 2013.
Africa’s development including construction of the China-Africa Development Bank, headquartered in Nairobi, Kenya with capital allocation of $2.5 billion.

80. Africa also deepened its cooperation with other key partners of the global South such as Brazil. In March 2014, Brazil in collaboration with the World Bank, organized the 5th South-South Learning Forum to promote knowledge exchange among practitioners from low- and middle-income countries on ways to improve the design of social protection and labour (SPL) systems at the policy, programme and service delivery levels.

81. Africa’s cooperation with India also continued to grow. Indian investment in Africa has surged, with major investments in the ICT, energy, engineering, chemicals, pharmaceuticals and automobiles sectors. Similarly, cooperation with the countries of the Gulf also strengthened. The third Africa-Arab Summit, held in Kuwait City in November 2013, enhanced cooperation between African and Arab states. At this summit, Kuwait committed to grant $1 billion in concessionary loans to African countries over the next five years, including funding for investment and insurance guarantee.

G. Millennium Village Project

82. The Millennium Village Project (MVP) continued to help ten countries to reduce extreme poverty and hunger, improve education, health and gender equality. During the reviewed period, progress was made in reducing child hunger, promoting gender equality, reducing child mortality, and providing access to safe drinking water. For example, the MVP’s Community Health Worker (CHW) program has been strengthened by newer and better eHealth systems. The MVPs contributed to the adoption of strategies for improving the system to ensure quality care, delivery of life-saving health interventions and provision of a critical link between health centres and families in rural areas.

83. Building on progress to date, the MVP’s strategic priorities moving forward are to focus on areas where progress is lagging while starting the transition of project interventions to the local level ahead of a complete handover in one year. In an effort to consolidate lessons learned from the implementation of the MDGs, the MVPs impact evaluation exercise that is envisaged and its findings will be a good input for Member States as they finalize the post-2015 development framework.

IV. Support provided by the United Nations system

A. General

82. The UN system is one of the main pillars of international support for the implementation of NEPAD. Support by its entities at the regional, subregional and national levels takes various forms, ranging from technical assistance, capacity-building and funding to advocacy and normative work. The most recent report by the
Secretary-General on UN system support for NEPAD (E/AC.51/2014/3) contains detailed information on the nature and scope of the support provided during the past year.

B. Strengthening of the Regional Coordination Mechanism of United Nations agencies and organizations working in Africa in support of the African Union, its New Partnership for Africa’s Development and the cluster system

83. During the reporting period, the UN system strengthened the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa (RCM) in support of the implementation of NEPAD and the Ten-Year Capacity-Building Programme of the AU. All nine thematic clusters of the RCM developed demand-driven business plans and work programmes based on the key priorities of the African Union and its NEPAD programme. The RCM has proved useful in coordinating UN system inputs at the regional level as well as support for Africa’s development in important regional and global processes.

84. The cluster system enhanced the level and quality of its cooperation through improved information-sharing, increased intra-cluster activities and frequent cluster meetings. The mainstreaming of cross-cutting issues within the clusters, particularly gender and youth issues was also enhanced significantly.

85. The fourteenth session of the RCM, held in November 2013, it was decided to hold future sessions of the RCM back-to-back with the Joint Annual Meetings of the ECA Conference of Ministers of Finance, Planning and Development and the AU Conference of Ministers of Economy and Finance in order to provide a platform for UN leadership to engage directly and with African Ministers, gain broader perspectives on Africa’s development aspirations and generate momentum for the RCM’s activities by raising the level of participation.

86. The fifteenth session of the RCM, held in March 2014 in Abuja, Nigeria, highlighted the need for all clusters of the RCM to be aligned with the strategic vision of the AU and NEPAD Strategic Plans for 2014-2017 and the forthcoming Agenda 2063. In view of the 2016 expiration of the Ten-Year Capacity Building Programme, the AU Commission, the NEPAD Agency, RECs and AfDB and the UN were called upon to establish a technical working group to formulate a comprehensive and long-term successor programme of UN support to the AU.

Conclusion and Recommendation

87. African countries continued to make progress in the implementation of the NEPAD agenda. In the decade since its establishment, CAADP has served as an important framework for agriculture development and has helped to place the sector at the centre of development. African countries have also intensified efforts to accelerate infrastructure development. Important national and regional infrastructure projects in transport, water, energy and ICTs are being rolled out across the continent, primarily funded through domestic resource mobilization. Progress has also been evident in the implementation of other NEPAD priority sectors, including health, education and gender mainstreaming.
An increasing number of countries are attaching great importance to good governance, as evidenced by the implementation of the APRM.

88. On the international front, ODA to Africa increased, reversing the downward trend of the last two years. FDI flows continued their upward trend despite global economic uncertainty. With respect to trade, despite progress made at the last WTO Ministerial Summit on trade facilitation and LDC issues, progress on the long simmering issue of agricultural subsidies remains elusive. Furthermore, the conclusion of the Doha Round of Trade negotiations remains stalled, seems a long shot. All of these factors risk derailing recent development gains, including progress towards the MDGs. The consideration of the following recommendations will be important in this regard:

89. Agriculture holds the key to Africa’s transformation. In view of the decision by the AU Summit to declare 2014 the year of agriculture and food security, African countries should further prioritize agriculture in their national budgets, in line with the Maputo Declaration. In support of these efforts, Africa’s development partners should make every effort to increase financing for Africa’s agriculture in line with relevant commitments, including those contained in the L’Aquila Food Security Initiative.

90. Development of infrastructure will be key to unleashing Africa’s growth potential. While progress has been made in the implementation of PIDA, lack of financing remains a serious challenge. There is need to leverage private sector participation in infrastructure through innovative public-private partnerships as underscored by the Dakar Agenda for Action. Africa’s development partners should support Africa’s infrastructure development by honouring their commitments and encouraging their private sectors to participate in infrastructure projects in Africa.

91. Gender equality and women’s empowerment can accelerate development outcomes by increasing women’s access and control over resources, and generate broader productivity gains, improve women and girls’ status and many other development outcomes. Therefore, gender and women’s empowerment issues must be mainstreamed into national development policy frameworks in order to undergird efforts toward gender equality.

92. While encouraging progress was made at the Ninth WTO Ministerial meeting in Bali on important issues such as trade facilitation, agriculture and LDC development, superior trade benefits can be realised only through the conclusion of the Doha Round. In this regard, Member States should seize the momentum created at Bali and forge ahead to conclude the round while simultaneously focusing on the implementation of the Bali agreement. In particular, increased Aid for Trade will be needed to support Africa implement the trade facilitation agreement.

93. International support will be indispensable in supporting Africa achieve sustainable development. In this regard, Africa’s development partners should
make efforts to deliver on their pledges to Africa, especially through increased ODA, technology transfer and FDI, including investment into infrastructure and other NEPAD priority sectors. On the part, African countries should leverage ODA so as to attract private investment necessary to implement the continent’s priorities that have been articulated in its transformative agenda.

94. Translating Africa’s impressive growth into sustained social development and poverty reduction requires bold and targeted public policy measures to diversify the economy and encourage value addition, which will be important for employment creation. Given that industrialisation constitutes a core pillar of Africa’s transformative agenda, there is need for the international community to align its support to Africa’s emerging priorities and reorient aid allocation accordingly.

95. With 2015 rapidly approaching, efforts must be intensified to accelerate progress towards attaining the MDGs in Africa, the only region that is off track to meeting most of the goals. In view of the ongoing intergovernmental negotiations on the formulation of the post-2015 development agenda, particular consideration should be given to Africa’s development priorities as articulated in the Common African Position on the Post-2015 Development Agenda, the outcome document of the Africa Regional Consultation on the SDGs, the Solemn Declaration of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the AU/OAU and the forthcoming Agenda 2063. Africa’s special needs must also be given due consideration with regard to means of implementation, including financing, capacity development, trade, South-South cooperation and technology transfer.
Dear Sir/Madam,

I am attaching below for your clearance the Secretary-General's report on NEPAD along with a signed memo from Mr. Maged Abdelaziz, Under-Secretary-General and Special Adviser on Africa.

Best,
Kava

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