

## **Communiqué of the 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Africa Partnership Forum, Maputo, Mozambique, 4-5 May 2006**

The 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Africa Partnership Forum was held from 4 – 5 May 2006, in Maputo Mozambique. It was declared open by the Foreign Minister of Mozambique Madame Alcinda Abreu. The Forum was Co-Chaired by H.E. Mr. Jean Delphin Mavinga-Bata of the Republic of Congo, the Chairman of the NEPAD Steering Committee; Mr. Alexei Vasiliev, representing the G8 Presidency, and Mr. Jon Lomoy, representing the Chair of the OECD. The forum was well attended by the designated representatives of the Heads of State of participating countries and institutions.

### **Issues arising since the last APF Meeting:**

The meeting welcomed the inauguration of the African Infrastructure Consortium on 6<sup>th</sup> October 2005, as well as the subsequent establishment of its Secretariat at the African Development Bank. The meeting also welcomed the creation of the African Investment Climate Facility and commended the development partners that have responded to raise its US\$500 Million fund. The meeting further noted the establishment of the APF Support Unit at the OECD Secretariat.

### **Issues before the 6th Africa Partnership Forum**

The Forum focused on Agriculture and Food Security, Infrastructure and HIV/AIDS and set out to identify a collaborative agenda for moving joint commitments in those sectors towards outcomes that address African priorities.

Presentations on Agriculture and Food Security were made by Dr Baba Dioum, Director General, and Conference of the Ministers for the Agriculture of Central and West Africa (CEMAOC), for the African side and Mr. Michael Wales, Senior Adviser to the Director of FAO Investment Centre, speaking for the development partners. The Forum discussions emphasized commitments to the AU/NEPAD Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP). National leadership and implementation was widely and particularly stressed. The forum agreed that national programs must aim at triggering and scaling up farming and agribusiness sector investment by farmers and the private sector. The participants also acknowledged the need to increase support to agriculture. The meeting thereafter identified the following priority areas:

- a) enhanced capacity for Africa countries and RECs to respond to emergency food crisis, including the development of early warning systems;
- b) enhanced programs that address the HIV/AIDS crisis by paying attention to nutrition, food access and production support programs
- c) Implementation of early actions identified under the CAADP, including the Pan Africa NERICA Initiative, by national governments and RECs
- d) Increase in the share of domestic funding to agriculture in line with the Maputo decision and increase in donor funding for the sector.
- e) Support for a tracking system to monitor African countries' commitments and development partners' delivery on increased support to agriculture
- f) Continued efforts to increase access to international markets for African agricultural commodities

- g) The early establishment of CAADP Partners Forums as a means of improving coordination and coherence.

The presenters on Infrastructure were Mr. Mandla Gantsho, Vice President, African Development Bank, for the African side and Dr. Nemat Shafik, Director, Infrastructure Consortium for Africa for development partners' side. Participants noted the importance of infrastructure to development. They further noted that investment in infrastructure had been neglected in the past and expressed hope that the Infrastructure Consortium for Africa would play an important role in addressing this need. They agreed that:

- a) Further efforts should be made to accelerate implementation of existing projects and programs. The APF agreed to support the NEPAD-IPPF fund and called for partners to contribute to the fund. The APF also agreed to support the building of technical capacity for project design and development.
- b) There needs to be greater clarity on the division of responsibilities between donors and between AU-NEPAD, RECs and Countries.
- c) Lessons should be learnt from previous failures, particularly the importance of capacity and finance for operations and maintenance.
- d) There is need to attract more private sector investment
- e) There is need for regulatory reform as well as increased investment
- f) There is need to support innovative approaches to sustainable development of energy, including access to energy for Africa's poor.

Presentations on HIV/AIDS were made by Mr. El-Hadj Sy, Director, HIV/AIDS Group, Bureau for Development Policy, UNDP; Dr Pascoal Mocumbi, High Representative of the European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership and Amb. Sigrun Mogedal, AIDS Ambassador of Norway.

Participants underlined:

- a) The need to incorporate and align the AIDS response with the development response, tackling poverty and optimising use of available funds;
- b) Implementing and linking the Paris Declaration on Harmonisation of Development Aid to the AIDS specific "Three Ones" approach and the Global Task Team (GTT) recommendations on improving AIDS Coordination among Multilateral Institutions and International Donors. Best practices in this regard should be shared and programmes taken to scale.
- c) The need for rapid acceleration of efforts to address factors that make women and girls more vulnerable to HIV infection, including ensuring that gender policies are AIDS sensitive and AIDS policies are gender sensitive.
- d) The exceptional political and leadership challenges that the AIDS epidemic poses and the extraordinary opportunity that the APF provides for AU/NEPAD and OECD/G8 to pull together and give leadership through reflection, mutual accountability and peer review in overcoming barriers in the AIDS response

Participants aligned themselves with the calls that:

- a. Efforts should be directed to fund credible, costed, evidence-informed, inclusive and sustainable national AIDS plan
- b. The response to AIDS should be multi-sectoral

- c. The goal of universal access to affordable drugs cannot be achieved unless priority is accorded to enabling and strengthening national health systems and their human resource capacity for scaled-up, comprehensive HIV and AIDS response.
- d. Capacity to manage and regulate quality and supply of medicines should be strengthened
- e. Global efforts should be accelerated to strengthen regional capacity for the development of a vaccine and urgently-needed new drugs and microbicides

### **Joint Plan of Action**

The APF was updated on the efforts by a Task Team including APF Co-Chairs from 2005 and 2006 to develop a Joint Action Plan following the October APF meeting. Participants agreed that the primary objectives were to provide a means to track progress and hold members to account for previous commitments, and to accelerate implementation on joint initiatives. Broader issues such as mutual accountability and cross-sectoral issues must be part of monitoring and reporting, and the Africa Action Plan should be used as a reference for monitoring implementation. Participants agreed that, to achieve these objectives, the APF Support Unit, working with the AU/NEPAD Secretariat, APF Co-Chairs and others as relevant, should produce a monitoring report based on sectoral deliverables and cross-cutting commitments. The first such report, for the October 2006 APF, should focus on the three issues discussed in Maputo (i.e. agriculture, infrastructure and HIV/AIDS). Reporting should include progress in implementing the initiatives contained in the African Plan submitted to the October APF and in the declarations made by G8 Leaders at the Kananaskis, Evian, Sea Island and Gleneagles Summits. In addition, the G8 will produce for the 2006 Summit in St Petersburg a short report highlighting progress in implementing their Africa commitments.

The meeting commended the government of Mozambique for the warmth and hospitality extended and shown in hosting the Forum.

The 7th meeting of the APF will take place at the President Hotel, Moscow, Russia, on 26-27 October 2006