

**DRAFT COMMUNIQUÉ ISSUED AT THE END OF THE  
EIGHTH SUMMIT OF THE HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT  
IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE (HSGIC) OF THE NEW  
PARTNERSHIP FOR AFRICA'S DEVELOPMENT,  
MAPUTO, MOZAMBIQUE, 09 JULY 2003**

1. The Eighth Summit of the Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee (HSGIC) of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) was held in Maputo, Mozambique on Wednesday, 09 July 2003 ahead of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the African Union scheduled for 10-12 July 2003 in Maputo.

2. The following dignitaries attended the Summit:

- i. His Excellency, Mr. Abdelaziz Bouteflika, President of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria;
- 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. Mwai Kibaki, President of the Republic of Kenya;
- vi. His Excellency, Col. Muamar Al-Khadafi, Leader of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya;
- vii. The Rt. Honourable Sir Anerood Jugnauth, Prime Minister of the Republic of Mauritius;
- viii. His Excellency, Mr. Joaquim Alberto Chissano, President of the Republic of Mozambique;
- ix. His Excellency, Chief Olusegun Obasanjo, President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;
- x. His Excellency, Mr. Paul Kagame, President of the Republic of Rwanda;
- xi. His Excellency, Mr. Abdoulaye Wade, President of the Republic of Senegal;
- xii. His Excellency, Mr. Thabo Mbeki, President of the Republic of South Africa;
- xiii. His Excellency, Mr. Yoweri Museveni, President of the Republic of Uganda;
- xiv. His Excellency, Mr. Meles Zenawi, Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia;
- xv. His Excellency, Mr. Amara Essy, Interim Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union;

- xvi. Her Excellency, Mrs. Ana Dias Lourenco, Minister of Planning of the Republic of Angola;
- xvii. His Excellency, Mr. Ahmed Maher El Sayed, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt;
- xviii. His Excellency, Mr. Lassana Traore, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation of the Republic of Mali;
- xix. His Excellency, Mr. Hamdi Hamouda, Secretary of State of the Republic of Tunisia;
- xx. His Excellency, Mr. M Moorad, Ambassador of the Republic of Botswana to Ethiopia and Permanent Representative of Botswana to the African Union;
- xxi. His Excellency, Mr. Mohamed Al-Madani Al-Azhari, Secretary General of the Community of Sahelo-Saharan States [CEN-SAD];
- xxii. His Excellency, Mr. Louis Sylvain Goma, Secretary General of the Economic Community of Central African States [ECCAS];
- xxiii. His Excellency, Mr. Mohamed Ibn Chambas, Executive Secretary of the Economic Community of West African States [ECOWAS];
- xxiv. His Excellency Mr. Sindiso N Ngwenya, Deputy Secretary General of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa [COMESA];
- xxv. Professor Ibrahim Gambari, United Nations Under-Secretary General and Head of the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa [OSAA];
- xxvi. Mr. K. Y. Amoako, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa [ECA];
- xxvii. Mr. Jacques Diouf, Director of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation [FAO]; and
- xxviii. Mr. T Nkodo, Vice-President of the African Development Bank [ADB].

3. Representatives of other RECs, Heads of other United Nations agencies and other dignitaries were also in attendance at the 8<sup>th</sup> Summit of the NEPAD Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee [HSGIC].

### **Welcome**

4. His Excellency Mr. Joaquim Chissano, President of the Republic of Mozambique, welcomed all participants to the meeting noting that, as this particular Summit of the HSGIC is preceding the Assembly of the AU, it has an added importance with regard to the deliberations of the African Union.

5. President Chissano added that the main task of the HSGIC was to report to the Assembly of the AU. He acknowledged the tasks at hand, namely the implementation of the decisions and resolutions reached at the

Inaugural Session of the AU Assembly in Durban, South Africa in July 2002 on the integration of NEPAD into the AU.

6. President Chissano emphasised the challenges of globalisation faced by Africa and believed that Africans shall meet these challenges through instruments such as NEPAD. He recognised the importance of the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) in this regard and again echoed the views of the HSGIC regarding the importance of domestic resource mobilisation in the implementation of NEPAD. In conclusion, President Chissano invited H.E. Chief Olusegun Obasanjo, President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and Chairperson of the HSGIC, to chair and guide the HSGIC meeting.

### **Opening Remarks**

7. The Chairperson of the HSGIC, H.E. Chief Olusegun Obasanjo, President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, also extended a warm welcome to all Heads of Delegation and participants at the Summit. He noted that this Summit is the fourth one since the Inaugural Session of the Assembly of the African Union held in July 2002 in Durban, South Africa.

8. The Chairperson also wished President Chissano success in the momentous tasks ahead of him as the new Chairperson of the African Union and took the opportunity to salute H.E. Mr. Thabo Mbeki, President of the Republic of South Africa, for his leadership and the excellent work he has done in steering the African Union during the past 12 months.

9. The Chairperson noted that the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the African Union will be a very crucial one as Member States will be called upon to take vital decisions towards the operationalisation of the African Union. He further recognized that, since the theme of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ordinary Session of the African Union was "*Implementation of NEPAD*", this would further challenge this Summit of the NEPAD Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee.

10. President Obasanjo also commended President Chissano for the innovative idea of convening a Roundtable on NEPAD that will bring together the private sector, civil society and government on NEPAD. The Chairperson stated that the HSGIC looked forward to attending the Roundtable. Consequently, he proposed to conclude the HSGIC meeting early to allow for participation in the event.

11. The Chairperson briefly outlined his Progress Report to the AU Assembly, which referred, amongst others, to the international situation and the impact on Africa's development, NEPAD's unique contributions, the institutional arrangements, programme implementation, support by the international community and the challenges and constraints faced in the

implementation of NEPAD. The Chairperson also referred to the issue of integration of NEPAD into AU structures and processes, as well as the recommendations on the matter as they appear in the Draft AU Declaration on the Implementation of NEPAD.

12. The Chairperson stated that there was a need to continue sustaining the momentum that NEPAD has created and to allow for the building of capacity within the AU Commission to manage NEPAD. The Chairperson informed the meeting that its main tasks were to consider the Progress Report as well as the proposed recommendations to the Assembly of the African Union, which are reflected in the draft Declaration on the Implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development.

13. In conclusion, the Chairperson expressed his sincere gratitude to all Members of the HSGIC for their pioneering spirit and courage in steering Africa towards an accelerated economic growth and development path. He also thanked the AU Commission, the NEPAD Steering Committee and Secretariat for the excellent work done and acknowledged the enhanced co-operation and co-ordination role of the Regional Economic Communities [RECs]. The Chairperson, therefore, requested the approval of the HSGIC of his Progress Report and the Draft Declaration on the Implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development for submission to the AU Assembly.

#### **Adoption of Agenda**

14. The Draft Agenda was unanimously adopted. The Chairperson noted that a Roundtable on NEPAD, organised by the Mozambican government, was to be held at 20.00 hrs after the formal meeting of the HSGIC. After being briefed by President Chissano, the HSGIC agreed to continue the meeting at the Roundtable on NEPAD and, therefore, requested that the presentation on the NEPAD Action Plan on Environment by the Minister of Environment of Uganda be made at the Roundtable on NEPAD.

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

15. The HSGIC endorsed the Progress Report for the period May – July 2003 presented by Professor Wiseman Nkuhlu, Chairperson of the NEPAD Steering Committee.

16. The Progress Report addressed the following areas:

- (i) Follow-up actions on previous HSGIC meetings
- (ii) Programme implementation

- (iii) Outreach and engagement with stakeholders, including Parliamentarians, the private sector and civil society
- (iv) Partnerships
- (v) Important upcoming activities and events
- (vi) Challenges, and
- (vii) Decisions required.

17. Professor Nkuhlu provided a status report as to the work being done in producing the Study on the Possible Impact of the War on Iraq on Africa's Development. A copy of the preliminary results of the Study was provided to the HSGIC.

### **Agriculture**

18. The HSGIC reiterated its resolve as regards the implementation of the priority agriculture projects. The focus was now on preparing detailed national and regional projects with the participation of relevant RECs, governments, farmers associations and civil society. Furthermore, the HSGIC was provided with original copies of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme [CAADP]. The CAADP was developed and further extended by way of the identification of a number of flagship projects for fast-tracking. The HSGIC also took note that the CAADP document was to be circulated to each delegation at the AU Assembly.

### **Infrastructure**

19. The HSGIC recalled that a priority list of projects from the Short-Term Action Plan on Infrastructure [STAP] was endorsed by the HSGIC at its last meeting and that it undertook to facilitate implementation of the detailed plans nationally and regionally and endorsed the various projects identified for implementation. The HSGIC requested the NEPAD Secretariat, RECs and the ADB to work together and develop a funding or financing mechanism for approval.

20. The NEPAD Secretariat, ADB and the RECs have already begun consultations towards the development of the Medium to Long-Term Action Plan [MLTAP], which will complement the STAP. All the RECs have now been visited by the NEPAD Secretariat. The HSGIC took note that the revised Short-Term Infrastructure Action Plan [STAP] had now been published and was made available to all delegations participating at the AU Assembly, as well as Members of the HSGIC. The HSGIC also noted that a NEPAD delegation met with a World Bank team in Washington D.C., USA on 24 June 2003 to discuss programme and project implementation in the various infrastructure fields, including water, and in agriculture and the environment. They also attended the US Corporate Council on Africa Summit on 25 June 2003, where six infrastructure projects were showcased for investors. Finally it was reported that the e-schools initiative was

launched during the World Economic Forum Africa Summit in Durban, South Africa from 11-13 June 2003.

### **Presentation by UN-Habitat**

21. The HSGIC endorsed the project proposal by UN-Habitat on Sustainable Cities. The programme not only took into account the programmes of the other UN Agencies but also those of the World Bank and European Union etc. and attempts to ensure a collaborative and coordinated effort. The HSGIC noted the selection criteria and the objectives of selecting seven cities. The HSGIC gave strong support to the programme and mandated the NEPAD Steering Committee and the Secretariat to work closely with UN-Habitat in its further development.

### **African Energy Commission [AFREC]**

22. The HSGIC took note of the lack of progress on the Convention on AFREC since its adoption by the 37<sup>th</sup> Ordinary OAU Assembly in Lusaka, Zambia in July 2001. To-date only two countries have ratified the Convention while 15 countries are required to ratify in order for the Convention to come into force and to be operational. The AFREC Board and the Technical Advisory Body have not been operationalised as the Secretariat in Algeria has only two members of staff. The HSGIC urged Member States to sign and ratify the Convention on the establishment of the African Energy Commission.

### **African Peer Review Mechanism [APRM]**

23. The HSGIC noted the progress made on the operationalisation of the APRM. The six Members of the APRM Panel of Eminent Persons that were appointed have been invited to attend an inaugural High-Level Working Session on the APRM where they will interact with leaders of partner institutions on the APRM, as well as some Members of the Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee. The meeting is scheduled for 25-27 July 2003 in Cape Town, South Africa. The Republic of Mauritius signed the APRM MOU during the meeting, thus becoming the sixteenth state to join.

### **African Governance Forum**

24. The HSGIC noted with appreciation that the UNDP and the NEPAD Secretariat are collaborating with regard to the 6<sup>th</sup> African Governance Forum to be held in Kigali, Rwanda from 02-05 December 2003 and urged all invited to attend.

### **NEPAD Trust Fund**

25. At its last meeting, the HSGIC had supported the exploration of adequate funding mechanisms for sustainable financing of NEPAD programmes and projects, including the possibility of a NEPAD Trust Fund to be managed by the African Development Bank [ADB]. The HSGIC noted that the NEPAD Secretariat has appointed a team of consultants to examine this proposal in consultation with the ADB.

### **International Engagement and Support**

26. It was reported to the HSGIC that Presidents Obasanjo, Bouteflika, Wade and Mbeki participated in the G8/NEPAD discussions and the Enlarged Dialogue between the G8 and invited leaders from the developing world at the G8 Summit on 1 June 2003 in Evian, France. The HSGIC noted the following main outcomes of these discussions between the G8 and African leaders:

- (i) G8 leaders expressed satisfaction with the Progress Report of President Obasanjo on implementation of NEPAD programmes and projects while the African leaders expressed satisfaction with the G8 Report on the various actions undertaken individually and collectively by the G8 to implement the G8 Africa Action Plan in support of NEPAD;
- (ii) Both sides agreed that NEPAD was a long-term programme and agreed to continue strengthening the partnership between Africa and the developed world by way of a broadened and structured engagement involving other development partners;
- (iii) Agreement was reached that strong political leadership was required to effectively address the slow progress in achieving the goals of the WTO Doha Development Round and the current deadlock in the Geneva negotiations ahead of the Cancun Ministerial Conference, particularly in the area of agricultural subsidies and other destabilizing support measures;
- (iv) G8 leaders recognized the slow progress on the issue of debt and undertook to provide strong political leadership to ensure that they met their commitments made at their Summit last year; and
- (v) G8 leaders expressed firm commitment to the implementation of the Joint G8/Africa Plan on Peace Support Operations.

27. It was further reported that the Chairperson of the Steering Committee and Members of the NEPAD Secretariat have had a number of meetings with Japanese and Indian authorities to discuss support for the implementation of NEPAD under the TICAD process and the India-Africa Fund capitalized at \$200 million. The HSGIC noted that both countries were willing to support NEPAD infrastructure and agriculture projects. The

HSGIC requested proper follow-up actions on these issues. The HSGIC also noted the interactions with Brazil in the form of the Brazil-Africa Forum.

### **Funding of NEPAD and its Structures**

28. In discussing the issue of funding and support for priority projects in Africa, the HSGIC decided that a clear strategy was needed with respect to the mobilization of African financial, human and institutional resources. The HSGIC urged that appropriate funding mechanism be explored for a sustainable financing of NEPAD programmes and projects.

### **Contributions in Support of NEPAD**

29. The HSGIC noted with appreciation the generous contribution of US\$ 100 000 by Mr. Alhaji Tukur, Executive President of the African Business Roundtable, towards supporting NEPAD during the recent World Economic Forum Africa Economic Summit held in Durban, South Africa in June 2003.

### **Attendance at HSGIC Meetings**

30. H.E. Mr. Thabo Mbeki, President of the Republic of South Africa, presented his apologies for his late arrival as he was held back by the visit of President George Bush of the United States to South Africa. He also conveyed the apologies of H.E. Mr. Festus Mogae, President of the Republic of Botswana, for not being able to attend the Summit. President Mogae, apprised of the important decision with regard to attendance of HSGIC meetings, wished to be personally present at the 8<sup>th</sup> HSGIC Summit. However, he was also receiving President Bush who was on an official state visit to Botswana.

### **4<sup>th</sup> Pan-African Conference of Ministers of Public Service**

31. Hon. Geraldine Frazier-Moleketi, Minister of Public Service and Administration of the Republic of South Africa, made a presentation to the HSGIC in her capacity of Chair of the Committee of African Ministers of Public Service on the outcomes of the 4<sup>th</sup> Pan-African Conference of Ministers of Public Service held from 4-7 May 2003 in Stellenbosch, South Africa and on the efforts of the African Ministers of Public Service in assisting with the challenge of building continental institutions for governance and public administration.

32. In this respect, the Committee of African Ministers, inspired by NEPAD, have adopted a comprehensive supportive capacity development programme that would be delivered over the next three years and that would go a long way to address the challenge of establishing the required state capacities for effective, efficient and responsive governance and public

administration across the continent. The HSGIC acknowledged the linkages between the work of the Committee of African Ministers of Public Service and the programmatic thrust of NEPAD and requested the incorporation of their work as an important element of the overall AU work programme.

### **Special Session of the African Ministerial Conference on Environment**

33. The HSGIC noted that the Special Session of the African Ministerial Conference on Environment [AMCEN] was held from 09-10 June 2003. The AMCEN Special Session adopted the Environment Action Plan of NEPAD, pending amendments based on comments received from Member States. The HSGIC invited the Minister of Environment of Uganda, in his capacity as Chair of AMCEN, to make a presentation on the NEPAD Action Plan on Environment at the Roundtable on NEPAD.

34. Therefore, the Minister of Environment of Uganda presented his report on the Special Session of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment, as well as the outline of the NEPAD Action Plan on Environment, to the HSGIC at the Roundtable on NEPAD before the presentation was made to the AU Assembly.

### **Conference of African Ministers of Trade**

35. The HSGIC was also apprised of the decisions of the Conference of African Ministers of Trade held in Mauritius from 19-20 June 2003. The NEPAD Secretariat participated at the meeting and made its contributions. The HSGIC noted that the Conference agreed on a co-ordinated course of action on this important issue and, in particular, with regard to the ongoing trade negotiations in the context of the Doha Development Agenda.

36. The HSGIC noted the proposal made by Mauritius with regard to the NEPAD structures and process providing a holistic view in assisting Member States and their regions in trade negotiations. The HSGIC also noted the proposal on the possible creation of a mechanism for information exchange and sharing, as well as the imperative for the peculiar specificities and concerns of small island states to be recognised.

### **Draft AU Declaration on Agriculture and Food Security in Africa**

37. The HSGIC noted that the Committee of African Ministers of Agriculture met in Maputo, Mozambique on 1-2 July 2003 to solidify support for the CAADP and to discuss its implementation. The importance of prioritizing agriculture nationally and budgeting accordingly was emphasized. The meeting also recommended a Draft AU Declaration on Agriculture and Food Security in Africa for submission to the AU Assembly.

38. The HSGIC took note of the Draft Declaration on Agriculture and Food Security in Africa as proposed by the Conference of African Ministers of Agriculture. The HSGIC decided that the Draft should be amended to capture and highlight the programmatic thrusts and the purpose of the policies, which were to provide food security as well as to assist and develop small scale and traditional farmers. The HSGIC also resolved that the co-operation emphasis should be on engagement with our partners in the developed world on agricultural subsidies and the negative effect they have on development in Africa.

### **Progress Report by the Chairperson of the HSGIC to the AU Assembly**

39. The HSGIC considered the Progress Report on the Implementation of NEPAD by H.E. Chief Olusegun Obasanjo, Chairperson of the HSGIC, which would be tabled at the AU Assembly. The Report provided an account of progress made so far and all work-in-progress regarding NEPAD activities since July 2002. The Report also elaborated on the unique contribution of NEPAD and the need to safeguard the momentum, genuine interest, support and solidarity created by NEPAD. The HSGIC approved the submission of the Progress Report to the AU Assembly.

### **Draft NEPAD Annual Report**

40. The HSGIC took note that the NEPAD Secretariat has prepared a draft NEPAD Annual Report for the period 2002-2003 detailing progress on the various NEPAD activities and programmes. The draft Report was circulated to the meeting with a request for comments to be forwarded to the NEPAD Secretariat before 27 July 2003, towards the finalisation of the Annual Report by the NEPAD Secretariat under the leadership of the Chairperson of the HSGIC.

### **Formal Integration of NEPAD into AU structures and processes**

41. The HSGIC discussed the matter of Integration of NEPAD into AU structures and processes. The HSGIC took note of the recommendations of the Report on the Study on Integration commissioned by the AU Commission and the NEPAD Secretariat. The HSGIC, therefore, concurred with the recommendations by the Joint Report and agreed to the relevant portions of the Draft Declaration on the Implementation of NEPAD that incorporated these recommendations.

### **Draft African Union Declaration on the Implementation of NEPAD**

42. The HSGIC, having considered the Draft Declaration on the Implementation of NEPAD, decided that the Draft Declaration should be amended to take into account the role of youth and women and to

acknowledge the linkage between the work of the Committee of African Ministers of Public Service and the programmatic thrust of NEPAD.

43. The HSGIC adopted the Draft Declaration on the Implementation of NEPAD, with the above amendments, for submission to the AU Assembly.

***(See the Attached Draft Declaration on the Implementation of NEPAD)***

**Roundtable on NEPAD**

44. After a brief adjournment, the HSGIC resumed the meeting at the Roundtable on NEPAD. All Members of the HSGIC, NEPAD Steering Committee, NEPAD Secretariat as well as representatives of academia, heads of UN agencies, members of the diplomatic corps, private sector and civil society, amongst others, were invited to attend. The Roundtable was structured as a working dinner hosted by H.E. Mr Joaquim Chissano, President of the Republic of Mozambique.

45. The purpose of the Roundtable was to highlight the need for partnerships between governments, countries, sub-regions, regional economic communities, Civil Society Organizations (CSO), the private sector and development partners in the design, management and implementation of NEPAD programmes. President Obasanjo moderated the Roundtable while the following Heads of State and Government introduced the topics for discussion:

<b>Topics</b>	<b>Presenters</b>
Peace, Security and Conflict Resolution	President J Kufuor
Operationalisation of the APRM and its Impact on Development	President J Chissano
Implementation of NEPAD Action Plan on Infrastructure	President A Wade
Agriculture, Trade and Market Access	Prime Minister M Zenawi and President Y Museveni
Domestic Resource Mobilisation Strategies	President A Bouteflika

46. Hon. Mr. Fernandes Sumbana, Minister of Tourism of the Republic of Mozambique made a presentation to the Roundtable on the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Conservation Area on behalf of his South African and Zimbabwean counterparts. It was noted that the Treaty between South Africa, Zimbabwe and Mozambique on the Area has started stimulating both local and international support. The HSGIC noted that benefits have begun to trickle down to local people who are actively involved in the management

of natural resources, including their participation in eco-tourism. The HSGIC noted that the initiative fits into the NEPAD priority projects.

47. The Roundtable was a success as there were frank discussions amongst all stakeholders. Civil Society, the private sector as well as other stakeholders were provided with an avenue to engage political leaders and decision makers on issues of development and NEPAD.

#### **Presentation of the NEPAD Action Plan on Environment by the Minister of Environment of Uganda**

48. At the Roundtable, the Chairperson of the HSGIC called upon the Minister of Environment of Uganda to present the NEPAD Action Plan on Environment. The Minister briefed the Roundtable on the various processes, including workshops, that informed the development of the Action Plan. He noted the excellent co-operation that had been received from different stakeholders, including academia and other experts, that made an input towards the successful completion of the document.

49. The Minister observed that a total of 200 projects have been identified out of which priority projects will be considered for funding. In conclusion, he urged all stakeholders including Africa's development partners to participate in the mobilization of funds for the implementation of the Plan.

#### **Appreciation**

50. The HSGIC expressed its profound appreciation to President Chissano, the Government and people of Mozambique for the hospitality and excellent arrangements, which facilitated the success of the 8<sup>th</sup> NEPAD HSGIC Meeting and wished him a successful hosting of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ordinary Session of the African Union Assembly.

#### **Date and Venue of the Next HSGIC Summit**

51. The HSGIC meeting closed at 19h46 while the Roundtable on NEPAD closed at 23h00. The HSGIC decided to hold its next meeting in November 2003 after the TICAD Summit. The Chairperson of the HSGIC will write to his counterparts to invite them to the next meeting.

**Done at Maputo, this 9<sup>th</sup> Day of July 2003**

**Annexure: DECLARATION ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW PARTNERSHIP FOR AFRICA'S DEVELOPMENT (NEPAD) (AU Doc. Assembly/ AU/Decl.8 (II))**

**We**, the Heads of State and Government of Member States of the African Union, meeting at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ordinary Session of our Assembly in Maputo, Mozambique from 10 to 12 July 2003;

**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 the Heads of State and Government of the Organisation of African Unity in July 2001 in Lusaka, Zambia [AHG/Decl.1 (XXXVII)] where we adopted the Strategic Policy Framework and a new vision for the revival and development of Africa;

**Recalling Further** our decision on the Implementation of the *New Partnership for Africa's Development* [NEPAD] made at the Inaugural Session of the African Union Assembly in Durban, South Africa from 8 to 10 July 2002 [Assembly/AU/Decl. 1(I)], mandating the Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee [HSGIC] and its supporting structures to ensure the implementation of the NEPAD Initial Action;

**Reiterating** our commitment to the principles and objectives set out in the Constitutive Act of the African Union and our common conviction that peace, security, democracy, good governance, political and social stability as well as sound economic policies are essential conditions for the sustainable socio-economic development of the African continent;

**Re-Emphasising** our common resolve to eradicate poverty, confront underdevelopment and arrest the marginalisation of the African continent;

**Noting** that the challenges and problems that prompted us to develop NEPAD as the socio-economic development programme of the African Union aimed at regenerating and reviving the African continent, have not changed;

**Noting With Appreciation** the Progress Report presented to us by the Chairperson of the NEPAD Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee, 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 2002 in Durban, South Africa;

**Noting Also** the progress made in the areas of agriculture, especially in the preparation of detailed and costed country and region-specific agriculture projects for implementation under the Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP), and also in the implementation of infrastructure high priority projects in energy, transport, water and sanitation, and information and communication technology (ICT) identified under the

revised NEPAD Infrastructure Short-Term Action Plan [STAP], as well as progress in developing the Medium to Long-Term Infrastructure Action Plan;

**Recognising** the high-level political will and involvement of African Heads of State and Government in creating conditions for sustainable development and implementing Africa's socio-economic development programmes and the crucial role played by the HSGIC and its supporting structures in ensuring the implementation of the NEPAD programmes;

**Recognising Further** that the primary purpose of the *African Peer Review Mechanism* [APRM] is to foster the adoption of policies, standards and practices leading to political stability, high economic growth, sustainable development and accelerated regional and continental economic integration;

**Taking Cognisance** of the need for the formal integration of NEPAD into the African Union structures and processes and the need to sustain the momentum, genuine interest, support and solidarity created by NEPAD;

**Noting With Appreciation** the strong support of the international community, especially as expressed in the United Nations General Assembly Declaration (A/RES/57/2) and Resolution on the NEPAD (A/RES/57/7) affirming the United Nations system's support for the implementation of the NEPAD and recommending that the NEPAD be used as the framework for supporting Africa's development by the international community, including the United Nations system;

**Welcoming** the United Nations General Assembly Resolution on "Strengthening of the United Nations: an Agenda for Change" (A/RES/57/300) wherein, amongst others, the Assembly endorsed the decision of the Secretary-General to establish the Office of the Special Advisor on Africa [OSAA] with the responsibilities to coordinate the United Nations support to Africa, guide reporting on Africa and coordinate global advocacy in support of NEPAD;

**Noting With Satisfaction** the work-in-progress in the five Clusters of UN Agencies established by the United Nations system with a view to operationalising the renewed interaction, collaboration and co-operation with Africa on the established Clusters (Infrastructure Development: Water and Sanitation, Energy, Transport, and ICTs; Governance, Peace and Security; Agriculture, Trade and Market Access; Environment, Population and Urbanization; and Human Resource Development, Employment and HIV/AIDS);

**Welcoming Further** the continued support by the international community and the structured engagement and dialogue by the African leaders with the leaders of the Group of Eight Most Industrialised Countries [G8] at their last Summit held from 1 to 3 June 2003 in Evian, France where the implementation of NEPAD as well as the G8 Africa Action Plan were reviewed and, amongst others, the issues of international trade and debt relief for African countries were highlighted to G8 leaders;

**Noting With Encouragement** the building of linkages by NEPAD, on behalf of the African Union, with other partners, initiatives and organisations such as the European Union, Nordic countries, the Tokyo International Conference on African Development process [TICAD], Association of South-East Asian Nations [ASEAN], the *Economic Community of the Southern Cone* [MERCOSUR] amongst others;

**Re-Emphasising** the long term nature of the NEPAD programme and our determination to use all available resources to ensure its successful implementation and to sustain the interest and momentum created by the NEPAD process in the African continent and internationally and the need to retain the leadership and co-ordination role of the HSGIC, as a sub-committee of our Assembly, dedicated to the implementation of NEPAD;

**Recognising** the need to provide sustainable financing for the NEPAD programmes;

### ***Progress Report***

1. **ENDORSE** the Progress Report and **COMMEND** the HSGIC and its supporting structures for their co-ordination and catalytic role in facilitating the implementation of NEPAD priority programmes and projects across the African regions and more specifically through co-operation and collaboration with the Regional Economic Communities [RECs];

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

2. **WELCOME** the progress made with respect to the APRM in particular the accession of a number of Member States of the African Union to the APRM as well as the appointment of the Panel of Eminent Persons and **ENCOURAGE** other Member States of the African Union to accede to the APRM as well;

### ***Programmes Implementation***

3. **URGE** that the programmes identified in each priority area, such as infrastructure and agriculture, be urgently implemented and that each region and Member State, through the RECs, provide assistance in the further development and implementation of these programmes and in the continued popularisation of NEPAD amongst all sectors of society, including and in particular the private sector and the civil society at large, on the African continent;
4. **ACKNOWLEDGE** the linkage between the work of the Committee of African Ministers of Public Service and the programmatic thrust of

NEPAD and REQUEST the incorporation of their work as an important element of the overall AU programme;

5. **CALL** upon Member States and the RECs to promote and implement these priority programmes and projects as well as to develop detailed and costed action plans in the areas of health, education, culture, science and technology, environment and tourism;
6. **DECIDE** that the co-ordination of all NEPAD sectoral programmes, initiatives and related activities continue to be undertaken through the NEPAD HSGIC and its supporting structures;
7. **ENCOURAGE** the NEPAD Head of States and Government Implementation Committee to explore adequate funding mechanisms for sustainable financing of NEPAD programmes and projects, including the possibility of a NEPAD Trust Fund;

#### ***Integration of NEPAD into the AU Structures and Processes***

8. **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;
9. **MANDATE** the Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union, *in consultation with the Chairperson of the HSGIC*, to operationalise the following, with the flexibilities as may be required:
  - (i) establish appropriate linkages between the NEPAD Steering Committee with the relevant organs of the African Union including the Permanent Representatives Committee and the Executive Council in order to ensure integrated inputs into the work of the HSGIC;
  - (ii) enter into a temporary host agreement with the Government of the Republic South Africa with a view to providing the NEPAD Secretariat with a legal status of an AU office operating outside the African Union Headquarters for *a transitional period* of three (3) years as from July 2003, or until such time the relevant structures of the African Union are fully operational, whichever comes first;
  - (iii) formalise the working relations between the AU Commission and the NEPAD Secretariat, especially for programme co-ordination and harmonisation;
  - (iv) align and harmonise the conditions of service, rules of recruitment and accountability with those of the AU Commission; and

- (v) develop a sustainable funding mechanism for NEPAD after its complete integration into the AU structures and processes.

**10. MANDATE** the Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union, *in consultation with the Chairperson of the HSGIC*, to appoint the Executive Head of the NEPAD Secretariat during the *transitional period*;

**11. ENCOURAGE** voluntary contributions from all Member States of the African Union towards the operational budget of NEPAD and its structures during the *transitional period*;

***International Support***

**12. CALL** upon the international community to continue its enhanced support towards the implementation of NEPAD, and on the HSGIC to further intensify its efforts in engaging Africa's development partners in both developed and developing countries.