

A. CONDITIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

• The Peace, Security, Democracy, and Political Governance Initiative

71. African leaders have learnt from their own experiences that peace, security, democracy, good governance, human rights and sound economic management are conditions for sustainable development. They are making a pledge to work, both individually and collectively, to promote these principles in their countries, sub-regions and the continent.

(i) Peace and Security Initiative

72. The Peace and Security Initiative consists of three elements as follows:

- Promoting long-term conditions for development and security;
- Building the capacity of African institutions for early warning, as well as enhancing African institutions' capacity to prevent, manage and resolve conflicts;
- Institutionalising commitment to the core values of the *New Partnership for Africa's Development* through the leadership.

73. Long-term conditions for ensuring peace and security in Africa require policy measures to address the political and social vulnerabilities on which conflict is premised. These are dealt with by the Political and Economic Governance Initiatives, the Capital Flows and Market Access Initiatives and the Human Development Initiative.

74. Efforts to build Africa's capacity to manage all aspects of conflict must focus on the means necessary to strengthen existing regional and sub-regional institutions, especially in four key areas:

- Prevention, management and resolution of conflict;
- Peacemaking, peacekeeping and peace enforcement;
- Post-conflict reconciliation, rehabilitation and reconstruction;
- Combating the illicit proliferation of small arms, light weapons and landmines.

75. The leadership of the *New Partnership for Africa's Development* will consider, within six months of its establishment, setting out detailed and costed measures required in each of the four areas above. The exercise will also include actions required of partners, and the nature and sources of financing such activities.

76. The envisaged Heads of State Forum will serve as a platform for the *New Partnership for Africa's Development* leadership to seek to enhance the capacity of African institutions to promote peace and security on the continent, to share experience and to mobilise collective action. The Forum will ensure that the principles and commitments implicit in the initiative are fulfilled.
77. Aware of that requirement, Africans must make all efforts to find a lasting solution to existing conflicts; strengthen their internal security and promote peace among the countries.
78. At the Lusaka Summit, the African Union decided to take drastic measures in reviving the organs responsible for conflict prevention and resolution.

(ii) Democracy and Political Governance Initiative

79. It is now generally acknowledged that development is impossible in the absence of true democracy, respect for human rights, peace and good governance. With the *New Partnership for Africa's Development*, Africa undertakes to respect the global standards of democracy, which core components include political pluralism, allowing for the existence of several political parties and workers' unions, fair, open, free and democratic elections periodically organised to enable the populace choose their leaders freely.
80. The purpose of the Democracy and Governance Initiative is to contribute to strengthening the political and administrative framework of participating countries, in line with the principles of democracy, transparency, accountability, integrity, respect for human rights and promotion of the rule of law. It is strengthened by and supports the Economic Governance Initiative, with which it shares key features, and taken together will contribute to harnessing the energies of the continent towards development and poverty eradication.
81. The Initiative consists of the following elements:
- A series of commitments by participating countries to create or consolidate basic governance processes and practices;
 - An undertaking by participating countries to take the lead in supporting initiatives that foster good governance;
 - The institutionalisation of commitments through the *New Partnership for Africa's Development* leadership to ensure that the core values of the initiative are abided by.
82. The *New Partnership for Africa's Development* states will also undertake a series of commitments towards meeting basic standards of good governance and democratic

behaviour while, at the same time, giving support to each other. Participating states will be supported in undertaking such desired institutional reforms where required. Within six months of its institutionalisation, the *New Partnership for Africa's Development* leadership will identify recommendations on appropriate diagnostic and assessment tools, in support of compliance with the shared goals of good governance, as well as to identify institutional weaknesses and to seek resources and expertise for addressing these weaknesses.

83. In order to strengthen political governance and build capacity to meet these commitments, the *New Partnership for Africa's Development* leadership will undertake a process of targeted capacity-building initiatives. These institutional reforms will focus on:
- Administrative and civil services;
 - Strengthening parliamentary oversight;
 - Promoting participatory decision-making;
 - Adopting effective measures to combat corruption and embezzlement;
 - Undertaking judicial reforms.
84. Countries participating in the initiative will take the lead in supporting and building institutions and initiatives that protect these commitments. They will dedicate their efforts towards creating and strengthening national, sub-regional and continental structures that support good governance.
85. The Heads of State Forum on the *New Partnership for Africa's Development* will serve as a mechanism through which the leadership of the *New Partnership for Africa's Development* will periodically monitor and assess the progress made by African countries in meeting their commitment towards achieving good governance and social reforms. The Forum will also provide a platform for countries to share experiences with a view to fostering good governance and democratic practices.

- **The Economic and Corporate Governance Initiative**

86. State capacity-building is a critical aspect of creating conditions for development. The State has a major role to play in promoting economic growth and development, and in the implementation of poverty reduction programmes. However, the reality is that many governments lack the capacity to fulfil this role. As a consequence, many countries lack the necessary policy and regulatory frameworks for private sector-led growth. They also lack the capacity to implement programmes even when funding is available.
87. It is for this reason that targeted capacity building should be given a high priority. Programmes in every area must be preceded by an assessment of capacity, followed by the provision of appropriate support.

Objective

88. To promote throughout the participating countries a set of concrete and time-bound programmes aimed at enhancing the quality of economic and public financial management as well as corporate governance.

Actions

89. A Task Force from Ministries of Finance and Central Banks will be commissioned to review economic and corporate governance practices in the various countries and regions, and make recommendations on appropriate standards and codes of good practice for consideration by the Heads of State Implementation Committee within six months.
90. The Implementation Committee will refer its recommendations to African states for implementation.
91. The Implementation Committee will give high priority to public financial management. Countries will develop a programme for improving public financial management and targets, and assessment mechanisms will also be set.
92. The Heads of State Implementation Committee will mobilise resources for capacity-building to enable all countries to comply with the mutually agreed minimum standards and codes of conduct.

- **Sub-Regional and Regional Approaches to Development**

93. Most African countries are small, both in terms of population and per capita incomes. As a consequence of limited markets, they do not offer attractive returns to potential investors, while progress in diversifying production and exports is retarded. This limits investment in

essential infrastructure that depends on economies of scale for viability.

94. These economic conditions point to the need for African countries to pool their resources and enhance regional development and economic integration on the continent, in order to improve international competitiveness. The five sub-regional economic groupings of the continent must, therefore, be strengthened.
95. The *New Partnership for Africa's Development* focuses on the provision of essential regional public goods (such as transport, energy, water, ICT, disease eradication, environmental preservation, and provision of regional research capacity), as well as the promotion of intra-African trade and investments. The focus will be on rationalising the institutional framework for economic integration, by identifying common projects compatible with integrated country and regional development programmes, and on the harmonisation of economic and investment policies and practices. There needs to be co-ordination of national sector policies and effective monitoring of regional decisions.
96. The *New Partnership for Africa's Development* will give priority to the capacity building in order to enhance the effectiveness of existing regional structures and the rationalisation of existing regional organisations. The African Development Bank must play a leading role in financing regional studies, programmes and projects.
97. The sectors covered by the current Programme include the following priority areas:
 - (i) Infrastructure, especially information and communications technology (ICT) and energy
 - (ii) Human resources, including education, skills development, and reversing the brain drain
 - (iii) Health
 - (iv) Agriculture
 - (v) Access to the markets of developed countries for African exports
98. For each sector, however, the objective is to bridge existing gaps between Africa and the developed countries so as to improve the continent's international competitiveness and to enable her to participate in the globalisation process. The special circumstances of African island and land-locked states will also be addressed in this context.