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P.O. Box: 3243, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, Tel.: (251-11) 551 38 22 Fax: (251-11) 551 93 21  
Email: [situationroom@africa-union.org](mailto:situationroom@africa-union.org)

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**REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE NEPAD HEADS  
OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT ORIENTATION  
COMMITTEE (HSGOC)**

## **REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE NEPAD HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT ORIENTATION COMMITTEE (HSGOC)**

### **Opening**

1. The NEPAD Heads of State and Government Orientation Committee (HSGOC) held its 31<sup>st</sup> Session on 25 June 2014 in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea prior to the 23<sup>rd</sup> Assembly of the African Union (AU).

2. His Excellency Macky SALL, President of the Republic of Senegal and the Chairperson of the NEPAD HSGOC presided over the Session. The Chairperson congratulated Egypt, Malawi, South Africa and Mauritania for successfully holding recent national elections. H.E. Mohamed Ould ABDEL AZIZ, President of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania and Chairperson of the African Union and H.E. Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, Chairperson of African Union Commission (AUC) also addressed the Session.

3. High level participants at the 31<sup>st</sup> Session included: Member Heads of State and Government of the NEPAD Orientation Committee; H.E. John Kufour, former President of the Republic of Ghana and the UN Secretary General's Special Envoy on Climate Change; Chief Executives of the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA), Regional Economic Communities (RECs), Chairperson and Members of the Panel of Eminent Persons of the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM); AU Commissioners; Members of NEPAD Steering Committee (SC); Under Secretary General and Executive Secretary of UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA); UN Under Secretary General and Special Adviser on Africa; Director General of Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the Heads of partner institutions.

4. The 31<sup>st</sup> NEPAD Session primarily deliberated on three (3) major agenda issues:

- a) Accelerating Results and Impact in the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP);
- b) Outcomes of the Dakar Financing Summit for Africa's infrastructure; and
- c) Establishment of the Africa Global Partnership Platform.

### **Accelerating Results and Impact in the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP)**

5. In the context of 2014 AU theme of 'Transforming Africa's Agriculture for shared prosperity: Harnessing opportunities for inclusive growth and sustainable development', the 31<sup>st</sup> Session discussed through a high level roundtable focusing on the strategic means to accelerate results and impact in CAADP. It noted the contributions of NEPAD to CAADP in its decade of existence, pointing out that the programme had matured into an agenda for socio-economic transformation and globally recognized brand impacting on the continent's development.

6. Dr. Ibrahim Mayaki NPCA CEO, introduced the roundtable theme by indicating the goal of achieving full food sovereignty by 2035 and the priorities in CAADP future

initiatives based on strategic priorities. These include affirmative actions for women in agriculture; rural transformation and reinforcing value chains for regional markets; intensified support for African small-holder farmers; and stimulating domestic financial investments and linkages between agriculture and industrialization.

**7.** As Special Guests of the HSGOC, H.E. John Kufour, former President of the Republic of Ghana and Special Envoy of the UN Secretary General on Climate Change and Mr. José Graziano da Silva, Director General, FAO addressed the Session. H.E. President Kufour declared that the continent had well-articulated the importance of agriculture and addressing climate change to improve and sustain acceptable standards in the livelihoods of Africa's populations. He called for action to make agriculture climate smart in Africa. The FAO Director General noted CAADP as the changing face of African agriculture, the need to increase productivity and address post-harvest losses as well as the promotion of South-South Cooperation in agriculture. The Director General further announced the sum of US\$ 4 million to support the NEPAD Agency in facilitating the implementation of its job creation program for the youth in the agriculture sector. This was warmly welcomed by the Session.

**8.** The HSGOC debate focused on peer exchanges of country and regional level experiences to better harness the growth opportunities in agriculture, food and nutrition security through CAADP. In this regard, the NEPAD HSGOC emphasized the need for private sector inclusion and addressing gender disparity in CAADP implementation; developing favourable policies on labour-market relationships for youth employment; the modernization of agriculture with access to land and funding to attract more youth and women into agriculture as priority; skills development; domestic financial resource mobilization to promote agriculture investments; and in general, leveraging the NEPAD experience to serve as the driving force for implementation of the Agenda 2063.

**9.** Consequently, the Session endorsed the CAADP Results Framework as a viable tool to enhance evidence-based planning, monitoring and learning by Member States in the pursuit of agricultural-led economic growth and inclusive development. It requested the NPCA to support the capacity strengthening in the AU Member States to internalize and use the Results Framework and develop necessary programmes on afforestation, irrigation and post-harvest loss.

**10.** Additionally, the Session noted that in the face of globalization and its impact on food and nutrition security, and livelihoods, Africa should embrace food sovereignty and regional trade preference strategies to attain food self-sufficiency and enhanced regional cooperation. In this direction, the 31<sup>st</sup> meeting called on NPCA, AUC and RECs to work with Member States to develop the requisite national and regional strategies, policies and programmes. In particular, it welcomed NPCA efforts to mainstream climate change into CAADP national investment plans and directed the Agency to increase technical coordination support to AU Member States to build resilience and adaptive capacity in response to climate change impact and variability, and design climate smart agriculture (CSA) investment programmes as well as sharing CSA best practices and lessons.

**11.** The NEPAD programme on agriculture climate change was also endorsed with its components on gender empowerment, intensified support to small-holder farmers and the setup of an African Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) Coordination Platform. The Platform will enable NPCA to collaborate with RECs, partners and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) targeting 25 million farm households by 2025. The HSGOC welcomed the innovative partnership between NPCA and major global NGOs to strengthen grass-root adaptive capacity to climate change and boost agricultural productivity. The meeting requested NPCA in collaboration with FAO to provide urgent technical assistance to AU Member States to implement the CSA programme and that the African Development Bank (AfDB) and partners should provide support to African countries on investments in the CSA field.

**12.** In ensuring that Africa's growth trajectory provides more opportunities for the youth and fosters rural transformation, the Session directed the Agency to upscale actions in implementing the Rural Futures Programme (RFP) with stronger emphasis on youth job creation. The multi-sectorial nature of agriculture and its central role in driving rural transformation was also acknowledged with the Agency mandated to provide technical support to strengthen alignment between agricultural and national development policies and rural development programmes through the RFP.

**13.** To accelerate CAADP implementation, the 31<sup>st</sup> Session recommitted to the Maputo Decision in recognition of the continued need to support Member States to effectively monitor the 10% target in agriculture budget allocation. In this respect, it tasked the NPCA in collaboration with FAO to undertake a study and develop guidelines to help Member States improve the quality of resource allocation to agriculture to determine the real value and relativity to the GDP size.

### **Outcomes of the Dakar Financing Summit for Africa's infrastructure**

**14.** The NEPAD HSGOC recalled the Decisions of the 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> Assembly of the African Union, namely Assembly/AU/Dec.488(XXI) and Assembly/AU/Dec.508(XXII). The ECA Executive Secretary, Dr. Carlos Lopes presented the outcomes of the Dakar Financing Summit (DFS) for Africa's Infrastructure held in Dakar, Senegal from 14-15 June 2014 under the distinguished leadership of H.E. Macky SALL, President of the Republic of Senegal and Chairperson of HSGOC.

**15.** The Session noted with satisfaction the Summit outcomes towards strengthening innovative synergies between the public and private sectors to mobilize pan-African and global financial investments for infrastructure development. Accordingly, the HSGOC endorsed the Dakar Agenda for Action adopted by the Summit to move forward funding for Africa's infrastructure and validated the policy conclusions of the NEPAD-ECA Study on Domestic Resource Mobilization (DRM) towards implementing NEPAD programmes and projects which served as the basis for the Summit.

**16.** Particularly, the 31<sup>st</sup> Session welcomed the reiteration that Africa should now look more purposefully and decisively inwards to raise additional financial resources and continued need for political determination by African leaders. It noted the prioritization of

the financing of the identified infrastructure projects showcased in Dakar as a first step to actualizing PIDA Priority Action Plan (PAP) by 2020, with the public sector working to achieve project readiness and minimizing risks to guarantee investment safeguards.

**17.** In the context of Dakar Agenda for Action, the 31<sup>st</sup> HSGOC particularly welcomed the *Africa50* initiated by the AfDB as an investment platform designed significantly to narrow the infrastructure financing gap, the setup of the Continental Business Network (CBN) on Infrastructure Financing coordinated by NPCA and the Summit organizing partners, improving the enabling policy and legal environment to attract investments – all in support of the implementation of high impact national and cross-border infrastructure projects. The Session reaffirmed the strong linkage between the NEPAD Presidential Infrastructure Champion Initiative (PICI) and the projects presented at the Summit as mutually reinforcing and complementary to accelerate PIDA implementation.

**18.** Consequently, the HSGOC requested the NEPAD Agency to design and develop the appropriate modalities to fully implement the Dakar Agenda for Action and thereafter report regularly to the NEPAD Orientation Committee on progress being made in this regard. Further, it urged the NPCA in conjunction with RECs, AfDB, ECA, UNDP, World Bank and the NEPAD Business Groups/Foundation to strengthen engagement with the private sector on taking forward the Dakar Agenda. Based on the intervention by the AUC Chairperson, the Session underscored the important linkages between skills development and infrastructure driven by science, technology and innovation, thereby urging the HSGOC to prioritize this factor in PIDA and PICI implementation.

**19.** Overall, the 31<sup>st</sup> Session of the NEPAD HSGOC highly commended H.E. Macky Sall and his government for successfully hosting the Summit. Particularly, it thanked the specific leaders for their high level participation, namely: H.E Yayi Boni, President of the Republic of Benin; H.E Goodluck Ebele Jonathan, President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria; H.E Ibrahim Boubacar Keita, President of the Republic of Mali and H.E. Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, AUC Chairperson. The Session further acknowledged the strong support provided to the process by Dr. Ibrahim Mayaki, NPCA Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Elham Ibrahim, AU Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy, Dr. Donald Kaberuka, President of African Development Bank, Dr. Carlos Lopes, UNECA Executive Secretary and Mr. Mahtar Diop, World Bank Vice President for Africa.

**20.** Furthermore, the Session agreed on the importance of taking a cue from the Dakar Summit outcomes to consider holding a Special High Level Summit on Financing for Africa's Development in general in order to give effect to the AU Assembly Decision (Assembly/AU/Dec488(XXI)) of May 2011. The proposed high level event should aim to bring together all the strands of work done on mobilizing resources for AU and NEPAD programmes through a coordinated and consolidated approach. Hence, such process will take into account the endorsed NEPAD-ECA DRM Study, the work of the high level Panels on Alternative Sources of Funding the AU and Illicit Financial Flows by former President Olusegun Obasanjo of Nigeria and former President Thabo Mbeki of South Africa, as well as the NPCA Domestic Resource Innovation Mechanism (DRIM) and proposals of the Cotonou NEPAD Steering Committee of December 2012.

## **Establishment of the Africa Global Partnership Platform**

**21.** The HSGOC recalled the Assembly Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.508(XXII) and commended the efforts of the members of the NEPAD Steering Committee and NPCA to reform the Africa Partnership Forum (APF) for greater impact and benefit to the continent. The HSGOC Chairperson presented the key components of the proposed Africa Global Partnership Platform.

**22.** Subsequently, the 31<sup>st</sup> NEPAD Session approved the establishment of the proposed Africa Global Partnership Platform as a new partnership mechanism premised on Africa's regional integration agenda and a coalition-building forum to comprise AU Member States represented in the HSGOC, NPCA, AU Commission, RECs and lead regional institutions<sup>1</sup> and Africa's major trade, investment and aid partner countries from the G8, G20 and OECD.

**23.** The HGSOC re-emphasized the rationale for the partnership structure to reflect the changing global political and economic architecture, especially the pivotal role of the G20 in international economic cooperation. It welcomed the new platform as an Africa-owned and led 'umbrella formation' which brings together the continent's existing and major international partnerships to promote Africa's transformation under the auspices of the AU and contribute to greater coherence in the continent's partnership engagements and outlook. The Session reaffirmed that the new partnership vehicle is complementary and is not to replace existing bilateral partnership arrangements.

**24.** The 31<sup>st</sup> Session further endorsed the terms of reference prepared by the NPCA and submitted through the NEPAD Steering Committee reflecting proposed rationale, objectives, format and membership of the platform. It noted that the new mechanism will focus on issues of economic cooperation of strategic nature to Africa, globalization and the defined development priorities as embodied in the AU, NEPAD and Agenda 2063.

**25.** Accordingly, the Session mandated the HSGOC Chairperson with the support of the NPCA Chief Executive Officer and the NEPAD Steering Committee, to formally approach the identified and potential partner governments and institutions to determine their level of interest and readiness to join the Africa Global Partnership Platform and nominate appropriate senior level officials. Further, the meeting requested the NPCA CEO to engage Germany as the current G7 Presidency on the possibility of revamping the G7-Africa partnership outreach during its term and called on Mauritania and Senegal (as countries chairing AU and NEPAD respectively) and South Africa (as G20 member) to approach Australia as current G20 Presidency on the proposed G20-Africa Forum.

**26.** In addition, the HSGOC welcomed the launch of the African Innovation Outlook-2 Report by the NPCA which captures the status of science, technology and innovation in the African Union Member States and requested Member States, the AU Commission,

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<sup>1</sup> African Development Bank (AfDB), African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) Secretariat, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and United Nations Office of the Special Adviser on Africa (OSAA).

and NPCA along with the private sector and development partners to increase the roll-out of the surveys to all African countries.

### **Closing**

**27.** The 31<sup>st</sup> Session acknowledged the continued strategic leadership and guidance of African Leaders towards the accelerated implementation of NEPAD and commended the Chairpersons of the Union, HSGOC and Commission along with the Chief Executive Officer of the NEPAD Agency for their special efforts in this regard. The Session also expressed gratitude to the RECs, African institutions and development partners towards implementing NEPAD in its second decade.

**28.** The next 32<sup>nd</sup> Session of the NEPAD Heads of State and Government Orientation Committee will hold on the eve of the 24<sup>th</sup> African Union Assembly in January 2015 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

**DRAFT**  
**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT**  
**ORIENTATION COMMITTEE (HSGOC) ON NEPAD**  
**Doc. Assembly/AU/9(XXIII)**

**The Assembly,**

1. **NOTES WITH APPRECIATION** the report by the Chairperson of the NEPAD Heads of State and Government Orientation Committee (HSGOC), H.E. Macky Sall, President of the Republic of Senegal;
2. **ENDORSES** the conclusions of the Thirty first Session of the HSGOC;
3. **HIGHLIGHTS** the contributions of NEPAD to the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) in its decade of existence, **NOTING** that CAADP had matured into an agenda for socio-economic transformation and recognized global brand impacting on the continent's development through the strong expression of reclaimed ownership of agricultural policy by Member States and African citizens;
4. **ENDORSES** the CAADP Results Framework as a tool to enhance evidence-based planning, monitoring and learning by Member States in the pursuit of agricultural-led economic growth and inclusive development. **REQUESTS** the NPCA to support the capacity strengthening in Member States to internalize and use the CAADP Results Framework, and develop necessary programmes on afforestation, irrigation and post-harvest loss;
5. **NOTES** that in the face of globalization and its impact on food and nutrition security and livelihoods, Africa should embrace food sovereignty and regional trade preference strategies to attain food self-sufficiency and enhanced regional cooperation. **IN THIS REGARD, URGES** NPCA, AUC and RECs to work with Member States to develop the requisite national and regional strategies, policies and programmes;
6. **APPRECIATES** the programmatic work of NPCA in mainstreaming climate change into CAADP national investment plans and **REQUESTS** the Agency to increase technical and coordination support to Member States to build resilience and adaptive capacity in responding to the impacts of climate change and variability, as well as design climate smart agricultural investment programmes and support the sharing of best practices and lessons on climate smart agriculture;
7. **FURTHER ENDORSES** the NEPAD Programme on Agriculture Climate Change with its components on gender empowerment, support to small-holder farmers and the establishment of an African Climate Smart Agriculture Coordination Platform through which NPCA will collaborate with Partners including RECs and Non-Governmental Organisations targeting 25 million farm households by 2025;



8. **WELCOMES** the innovative partnership between NPCA and major International NGOs to strengthen grass-root adaptive capacity to climate change and boost agricultural productivity. **SPECIFICALLY REQUESTS** the NPCA in collaboration with FAO to provide technical assistance to Member States in the implementation of the NEPAD Climate Smart Agriculture programme and the African Development Bank and development partners to provide support to Member States for investments in climate smart agriculture;
9. **COMMENDS** the ongoing implementation actions by the NPCA in promoting NEPAD programmes on food security and nutrition, gender empowerment, sustainable land and water management **WHILE EMPHASIZING** the need to ensure that Africa's growth trajectory provides opportunities for the youth and foster rural transformation. **DIRECTS** NPCA to upscale the implementation of the Rural Futures Programme with a stronger emphasis on youth employment. **FURTHER AGREES** that the AUC and NPCA should develop policies on labour-market relationship favourable to foster youth employment and invest in practical actions targeting skills development and making agriculture more attractive to the African youth;
10. **WARMLY WELCOMES** the announcement by the Director General of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of a grant of USD 4 million to support the NPCA in facilitating the implementation of the Agency's job creation programme for the youth in the agriculture sector;
11. **ACKNOWLEDGING** the multi-sectorial nature of Agriculture and its central role in driving rural transformation, **REQUESTS** NPCA through its Rural Futures Programme to provide technical support to strengthen alignment between agricultural and national development policies and rural development programmes;
12. **RECOMMITS** to the CAADP Maputo Decision and **IN RECOGNIZING** the continued need to support Member States to effectively monitor the 10% target in agriculture budget allocation, **REQUESTS** the NPCA in collaboration with FAO to undertake a study and develop guidelines to help Member States improve the quality of resource allocation to agriculture to determine the real value and relativity to the GDP size;
13. **RECALLS** the Decisions Assembly/AU/Dec.488(XXI) and Assembly/AU/Dec.508(XXII) and **NOTES WITH SATISFACTION** the outcomes of the Dakar Financing Summit for Africa's Infrastructure held in Dakar, Senegal on 15 June 2014 under the distinguished leadership of H.E. Macky SALL, President of the Republic of Senegal and Chairperson of HSGOC, which promoted the strengthening of innovative synergies between the public and private sectors to mobilize pan-African and global financial investments for infrastructure development in the continent;
14. **ACCORDINGLY ENDORSES** the Dakar Agenda for Action adopted by the Summit to move forward the financing for Africa's infrastructure and **VALIDATES** the policy

conclusions and recommendations of the NEPAD-ECA Study on Domestic Resource Mobilization (DRM) for implementing NEPAD programmes and projects which served as the basis for the Summit;

15. **WELCOMES IN PARTICULAR** the *Africa50* initiated by the AfDB as an investment platform designed significantly to narrow the infrastructure financing gap; the setup of the Continental Business Network (CBN) on Infrastructure Financing coordinated by NPCA and the Summit organizing partners; improvement measures to promote policy certainty, legal and fiscal stability towards enabling environment; the continued political determination of African Leaders to support the implementation of high impact national and cross-border projects and infrastructure project preparation and financing for the projects showcased at the Summit as a first step towards implementing the PIDA priority action plan by 2020;
16. **REAFFIRMS** the strong linkage between the Presidential Infrastructure Champion Initiative (PICl) and the priority projects presented at the Dakar Financing Summit as mutually reinforcing and impetus to further accelerate PIDA implementation. **URGES** Member States, development finance institutions and partners to increase funding support for infrastructure project preparation, especially the NEPAD Infrastructure Preparation Facility (IPPF) hosted by the African Development Bank;
17. **CONSEQUENTLY REQUESTS** the NPCA to design the appropriate modalities to implement the Dakar Agenda for Action and thereafter report regularly to the HSGOC on progress being made. **FURTHER URGES** the NPCA in conjunction with the RECs, AfDB, UNECA, UNDP, World Bank and the NEPAD Business Groups/Foundation to strengthen engagement with the private sector on taking forward the Dakar Agenda based on the conclusion to setup the Continental Business Network. **UNDERScores** the intrinsic linkages between skills development and modern infrastructure driven by science, technology and innovation, **NOTING** the need for the HSGOC to prioritize policy actions in this regard towards PIDA and PICl implementation;
18. **HIGHLY COMMENDS** the HSGOC Chairperson and the Government of Senegal for successfully hosting the Financing Summit and **EXTENDS DEEP APPRECIATION** for the high level participation of H.E Yayi Boni, President of the Republic of Benin; H.E Goodluck Jonathan, President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria; H.E Ibrahim Boubacar Keita, President of the Republic of Mali and H.E. Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, Chairperson of the AU Commission, with the support of NPCA Chief Executive Officer, Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy, President of African Development Bank; UNECA Executive Secretary and the World Bank Vice President for Africa;
19. Based on the assessment of reform of the Africa Partnership Forum (APF), **RECALLS** the Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.508(XXII) on the need to establish a new umbrella partnership formation and **APPRECIATES** the efforts by NPCA and NEPAD Steering Committee to this effect;

20. **APPROVES** the establishment of the proposed Africa Global Partnership Platform as a new partnership mechanism premised on Africa's regional integration agenda and a coalition-building forum comprising AU Member States represented in the NEPAD HSGOC, NPCA, AU Commission, RECs, lead regional institutions and Africa's major trade, investment and aid partner countries from the G8, G20 and OECD.
21. **IN RE-EMPHASIZING** the rationale for the partnership vehicle to reflect the changing global political and economic architecture, especially the pivotal role of the G20, **WELCOMES** the platform as an Africa-owned and led 'umbrella formation' bringing together the continent's existing international partners to concretely support Africa's transformation under the auspices of the AU, thereby fostering greater coherence in the continent's partnerships. **RE-AFFIRMS** that the new platform will not replace the existing bilateral partnership arrangements, but serve to complement them;
22. **ENDORSES** the terms of reference prepared by the NPCA and submitted through the NEPAD Steering Committee, highlighting the proposed rationale, objectives, format and membership of the platform, **WHILE NOTING** that the new platform will engage on issues of economic cooperation of strategic nature to Africa, globalization and the defined priorities embodied in the African Union, NEPAD and Agenda 2063;
23. **HEREBY MANDATES** the HSGOC Chairperson with the support of the NPCA Chief Executive Officer and NEPAD Steering Committee to formally approach the identified and potential partner governments and institutions to determine their interest and readiness to join and nominate appropriate senior level officials to the Platform. **ALSO REQUESTS** NPCA Chief Executive Officer to engage Germany as the current G7 Presidency on possibly revamping the G7-Africa partnership outreach during its term and **CALLS UPON** the Governments of Senegal, South Africa and Mauritania to approach Australia as the current G20 Presidency on the proposed G20-Africa partnership track possibly through the G20 Development Working Group;
24. **NOTES AND WELCOMES** the launch of the African Innovation Outlook-2 Report by the NPCA which captures the status of science, technology and innovation in the African Union Member States and requested Member States, the AU Commission, and NPCA along with the private sector and development partners to increase the roll-out of the surveys to all African countries.