



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Organisation
des Nations Unies
pour l'éducation,
la science et la culture

Organización
de las Naciones Unidas
para la Educación,
la Ciencia y la Cultura

Организация
Объединенных Наций по
вопросам образования,
науки и культуры

منظمة الأمم المتحدة
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、
科学及文化组织

Report by the Director-General on the execution of the programme (34 C/5) (01 January 2008 – 31 December 2009)

Coordination and monitoring of action to benefit Africa

Part II.C – Programme-related services

Paragraph 10108

Chapter 1 – Coordination and monitoring of action to benefit Africa

Regular budget: Activities (rounded to \$ thousand)	
Planned: \$ 1 103	Actual: \$ 1 177

34 C/5 Expected results	Achievement(s)	Challenges/ lessons learned	Cost-effectiveness	Sustainability
<p>Relations with African Member States strengthened, in particular through their Permanent Delegations and National Commissions and groups of African Member States within UNESCO, the United Nations and the African Union and its NEPAD programme as well as the subregional organizations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cooperation with African Member States has continued to be strengthened. This included a visit to the Organization’s Headquarters by a dozen heads of State and government and by the Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union (AU) , visits by the Director-General to several countries (Cameroon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Nigeria, United Republic of Tanzania), regular meetings between the Africa group and the Organization’s sectors and central services, the implementation of joint activities with this group, and successful meetings between the Director-General and high-ranking officials from almost all African Member States, leading to the signing of cooperation agreements/memorandums/joint communiqués. Regular consultations held with the Africa group, awareness-raising activities carried out at the highest levels with African Member States, and UNESCO’s participation in international conferences have further consolidated existing ties and have led to the ratification by African countries of some 30 UNESCO conventions during the 2008-2009 biennium. These countries have also taken ownership of the key problems and issues affecting Africa, such as the extension of the continental shelf, the teaching of African languages, the popularization of the <i>General History of Africa</i> and climate change issues. <u>Cooperation with AU and the regional economic communities (RECs).</u> UNESCO’s active participation in the adoption by AU of major decisions in the Organization’s fields of competence should be emphasized: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - At the 10th AU Summit (Addis Ababa, January 2008): participation and decisions in the fields of science and technology, education and languages. A decision regarding the extension of the African continental shelf reiterates the appeal by the Director-General of UNESCO in January 2007. - At the 11th AU Summit, Sharm-El-Sheikh (July 2008) on the theme of water and sanitation: participation of UNESCO in the AU-RECs-ADB-AEC coordination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The various meetings and policy-related activities carried out on matters concerning Africa have improved UNESCO’s image. However, programme sectors must implement the commitments made by the Director-General at these meetings within a reasonable timeframe, in order to improve the Organization’s credibility in Member States. The Africa Department also recommends that UNESCO strengthen its participation in forthcoming AU meetings and continue implementing ongoing projects identified by both institutions. Action already undertaken – advocacy and partnership – must be continued and strengthened. Sectors must implement the commitments made by the Director-General during his visits/meetings in order to bolster the Organization’s credibility in the eyes of the individual Member States concerned and within the regional organizations. 		<p>Recognition, unanimously shared by African countries and regional institutions, of the Organization’s crucial, visible and measurable activities.</p> <p>Establishment of lasting ties with countries and regional bodies.</p> <p>Advocacy by the Organization at the highest level on issues related to UNESCO’s fields of competence.</p>

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	<p>meeting which focused on advocacy for the development of human resources at the level of the regional communities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - At the 13th AU Summit (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, July 2009): dissemination of the message and of the successful outcome of UNESCO-AU cooperation. - Joint UNESCO-AU Commission meeting (11 March 2009, Paris): signature of a joint statement on continuing and strengthening UNESCO-AU cooperation. <p><u>Meetings and exchanges with high-ranking AU officials and RECs with a view to strengthening cooperation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Third meeting of the Forum of African Regional and Subregional Organizations to Support Cooperation between UNESCO and AU/NEPAD (FOSRASUN) held on 24 February 2009 in Tripoli, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, on the theme of “the education/culture interface at the heart of regional integration”. This meeting illustrates the interest demonstrated by African leaders in UNESCO’s activities. <p><u>Cooperation agreements:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signature of a cooperation agreement between UNESCO and the Central African Economic and Monetary Community (CEMAC) on 21 October 2009. • Signature of a cooperation agreement between UNESCO and the Arab Maghreb Union (AMU) in May 2009 at Headquarters. <p>UNESCO has now signed cooperation agreements with all eight RECs officially recognized by AU.</p> <p><u>Joint planning and/or activities:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CEMAC: joint UNESCO/CEMAC meeting of ministers of education of CEMAC Member States (Douala, October 2008) on HIV/AIDS preventive education, followed by the funding of a project entitled “pilot programme using ICTs for primary and secondary teachers and teacher training colleges for HIV/AIDS prevention in the CEMAC region” (US \$1,227,224 including \$678,000 from Japanese Funds-in-Trust (JFIT)), aimed at supporting distance learning in 287 primary and secondary schools in the six CEMAC countries. • Southern African Development Community (SADC): joint consultation between SADC and the field offices 			<p>Significant policy-related activities aimed at continuing and strengthening cooperation.</p>

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	<p>concerned for joint planning and programming (4-5 December 2008); joint organization of a technical meeting of ministers of culture, tourism and sport in July 2009 in the run-up to the 2010 FIFA World Cup.</p> <p><u>Cooperation in the framework of the United Nations:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in the high-level discussion on “Africa’s development needs: state of implementation of various commitments, challenges and the way forward” on 22 September 2008 in New York. • Regional Consultation Mechanism of United Nations Agencies and Organizations Working in Africa. • Participation of the Organization in the ninth and tenth meetings of the Regional Consultation Mechanism. UNESCO now coordinates the “science and technology” thematic cluster and the “education” and “culture and sport” thematic sub-clusters. 			
<p>Development priorities of African Member States relating to the Organization’s various fields of competence reflected in UNESCO’s programming, as well as in joint programming of the United Nations system at the country level.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through the coordinated action of the Africa Department, several issues concerning Africa have been taken into account in UNESCO’s programming. • Thus, the Organization assisted the AU Commission and RECs in responding, <i>inter alia</i>, to the three objectives of the Plan of Action for the Second Decade of Education for Africa, provided technical assistance to the AU Commission in the networking of Pan-African universities and of the fund for higher education, and provided support in the implementation of science policies in some twenty African countries and in the establishment of virtual campuses in four African countries. • UNESCO has continued and strengthened its cooperation through the organization of various African festivals, fairs and trade shows – vectors of regional integration – such as the Pan-African Film and Television Festival of Ouagadougou (FESPACO), the Ouagadougou International Arts and Crafts Fair (SIAO), the Market for African Performing Arts (MASA), the International Festival of African Fashion (FIMA) and the Pan-African Music Festival (FESPAM). • In connection with its programme for safeguarding endangered languages, UNESCO is seeking to build national and regional capacities in sub-Saharan Africa in the field of the safeguarding of African languages and launched the project on the teaching of the 			

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	<p><i>General History of Africa</i> in February 2009.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Organization's action is consistent with the priorities defined by the African Union and the relevant decisions of the Executive Board; with respect to implementation (advocacy, strategy development, follow-up), close cooperation has been established between the sectors concerned and the Africa Department: implementation of the Plan of Action for the Second Decade of Education for Africa and of Africa's Science and Technology Consolidated Plan of Action, particularly through its three flagship projects: educational use of the <i>General History of Africa</i>; drafting of a strategy on youth; development of an extrabudgetary project for capacity-building in the African Academy of Languages (ACALAN) with a view to promoting African languages. Future-oriented contributions to ensure that the continent's priorities are taken into account in UNESCO's future action are included under this result. The same applies to the reflection of those priorities in the various intersectoral platforms. 			
<p>New partnerships with multilateral and bilateral organizations and with the private sector established and implemented.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthened partnerships and mobilization of extrabudgetary funds with a view to the implementation of educational, scientific, cultural and communication projects in Africa. Implementation of plans of action in the framework of partnerships established between Africa and other regions (European Union, Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD)). 			<p>Projects are under way in several African countries, in the Organization's fields of competence.</p>
<p>Assistance provided to joint activities carried out in cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), other United Nations partners and African regional organizations in all post-crisis African countries at their request, in particular, through the Programme of Education for Emergencies and Reconstruction (PEER).</p>	<p><u>Côte d'Ivoire:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuation of the special post-conflict overall support programme in UNESCO's fields of competence for Côte d'Ivoire. The Plan of Action is divided into two phases: the activities carried out in the pre-electoral and electoral periods to create a climate of peace and strengthened social cohesion and a second post-electoral phase of four years. For the first phase, a number of projects have been identified, for which funding was mobilized. Examples include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project concerning the "Request for support for the Examinations and Competitive Examination Board of the Ministry of National Education of Côte d'Ivoire, with a view to the digital filing of documents and the computerization of the Board's services"; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actions already underway to provide support for countries in post-conflict and post-disaster situations, and close collaboration with United Nations Country Teams should be continued and strengthened. The creation of an efficient system makes it possible to respond to emergencies and provide institutional support in the Organization's fields of competence. 		

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	<p>- Support for the project “For increased and recognized effectiveness of action by parents of pupils and students in Côte d'Ivoire”;</p> <p>- The establishment of a National Virtual Campus;</p> <p>- Côte d'Ivoire also benefits from a UNESCO/ ECOWAS/ADB regional project called “Education for the culture of peace, human rights, citizenship, democracy, intercultural understanding and regional integration in countries in crisis and post-conflict situations (Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Togo)”.</p> <p><u>Sierra Leone:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Memorandum of Understanding signed in October 2009 between the Director-General and Mr Minkailu Bah, Minister of Education, Youth and Sports of Sierra Leone, highlighting institutional capacity-building in education, the sciences, culture, information and communication, as well as the creation of a Teacher Services Commission. <p><u>Sudan:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Khartoum Office is participating in activities carried out by the United Nations Country Team (UNCT), notably on the HIV/AIDS task force. In February 2009, UNESCO presided over the task force of the United Nations Country Team and of development partners on non-formal education, higher education and the promotion of secondary education and of technical and technological education for northern and southern Sudan. • A number of flagship programmes originated in this biennium, including EDUCAIDS (\$226,000) and phase two of the “In-service training of trainers project” (\$199,896 – Japanese funds); “Expansion of flexible alternative learning/training opportunities for adults and adolescents in southern Sudan” (EUR 500,000 – Italian funds), and “Enhancing protection of cultural diversity in Sudan” (\$477,692) (Norwegian funds). • Concerning peace education, the “World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development in southern Sudan” was held on 9 June 2009 in Juba. • The Juba antenna is now fully operational. <p><u>Somalia:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of a project on technical and professional training, launched by the UNESCO-PEER 			

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	<p>regional programme for the benefit of displaced, disarmed and demobilized groups and youth in central and southern areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The PEER programme began implementation of a project under the DFID-UNICEF-UNESCO partnership, entitled “DFID strategic partnership for education recovery and development in Somalia”. <p><u>Democratic Republic of the Congo:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Launch of the project “Capacity-building on use of the new technical and vocational education (TVE) syllabi for instructors and managers of vocational training centres in Equateur Province, DRC”, by the UNESCO-PEER regional programme and financed by the BREDA. Launch, in May 2008, of “Conflict prevention and peace-building network for the Great Lakes Region and the Horn of Africa”. This regional project aims to enhance the efficiency of a network of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) specializing in conflict prevention and resolution, and peace-building in the Great Lakes Region and the Horn of Africa. In addition to sub-regional organizations including IGAD and the Secretariat of the Economic Community of the Great Lakes Countries, the countries that will benefit directly from this project are: Burundi, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, Sudan and Uganda. <p>Responses to emergency situations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AFR reinforced cooperation with field offices located in post-conflict and post-disaster countries. A scheme put in place to meet the urgent needs of these countries has efficiently proven its effectiveness, particularly in Togo following floods there in July 2008, where funds were quickly made available in response to a request for emergency aid, and in Namibia following floods in February 2009. 			
<p>Action coordinated, interaction and communication improved between UNESCO Headquarters, field offices in Africa and the UNESCO African National Commissions in African countries.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordination with UNESCO field offices and with National Commissions was enhanced, particularly through exchanges and consultations held in Cotonou at the consultation meeting of African National Commissions on the Draft Programme and Budget for 2010-2011, at the FOSRASUN and at Executive Board sessions. Enhanced cooperation facilitated through the implementation of several high-profile events at Headquarters and within Member States (exhibitions), 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> These exchanges/consultation meetings with National Commissions should be reinforced. 		

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	<p>as well as through the publication of a dozen or so works on the subject of Africa, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An evaluation of activities carried out by UNESCO in Africa during the 2008-2009 biennium (150 pp); - the Records of the 2nd Joint UNESCO-African Union Commission (60 pp); - “Africa and UNESCO’s standard-setting instruments – a status overview” (50 pp); - Civil society in Africa: definition and role in the process of the African Union programme, NEPAD (50 pp); - Cooperation between UNESCO and Japan in support of Africa (40 pp); - Critical inventory of history textbooks in use in French-speaking Africa (30 pp); - Records of the International Symposium on Dialogue among Endogenous Religions, Christianity and Islam in the Service of the Culture of Peace in Africa (250 pp); - Education, culture, science and communication for regional integration in Africa (68pp); - two issues of the <i>Listening to Africa</i> bulletin. 			

Intersectoral Platform

Paragraph 08015 – Priority Africa: coordinating and monitoring the plan of action to benefit Africa

Regular budget: Activities (rounded to \$ thousand)	
Planned: \$	Actual: \$

34 C/5 Expected results	Achievement(s)	Challenges/ lessons learned	Cost-effectiveness	Sustainability
<p>Programme and Budget (34 C/5) to benefit Africa effectively implemented</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institutional support was provided to the Commission of the African Union thanks to the advocacy and support of the Africa Department in coordination with BRENDA. A senior programme specialist, responsible for supporting the AU in implementing the action plan for the Second Decade of Education for Africa, was made available to the Commission in this context. • As part of the AU’s project to create a Pan-African UNIVERSITY, a “Special Account for the strengthening of higher education in Africa” was opened within the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint efforts to raise awareness and mobilize funding by the African Union and the services involved at UNESCO (AFR, 		

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	<p>Organization to facilitate the mobilization of partners and funds for this university, for which five poles of excellence will be set up in the five African sub-regions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The process of harmonizing the content of school programmes for HIV/AIDS preventive education in CEMAC countries was promoted and supported by the Africa Department in cooperation with the Yaoundé Bureau. • Over the course of the 2008-2009 biennium, two out of the six UNESCO Chairs established were financially supported by the Africa Department as an encouragement for the mobilization of partners to reinforce these potential centres of excellence in Africa. • In the framework of AU/NEPAD, the Africa Department raised awareness among UNESCO Permanent Delegations and provided political support to SC in order to establish a network and set up the Biotechnology Research Centre (BTRC) in Libya, a regional centre of excellence. • In cooperation with the Natural Sciences Sector, the Africa Department coordinated and supported UNESCO's contribution to the CPA for Science and Technology. Particular attention was paid to the process of establishing an Observatory on Science and Technology. • The establishment of the African Virtual Campus in Benin, Cape Verde, Côte d'Ivoire and Senegal was closely monitored by the Africa Department and support was provided to SC in the mobilization of funds with regional banks. • Relationships between Member States and Sectors were facilitated by the Africa Department and advocacy to support the ERAIFT was provided, in order to give this institution a legal status and support its expansion to other subregions. • The Africa Department reminded UNESCO's Secretariat and African Member States of the deadline for submission of a dossier to extend the African Continental Shelf. It facilitated contact between the IOC and African Member States, to enable the IOC to provide technical assistance in the preparation of these files. 	<p>ERC, ED) should be the second phase of the process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This activity, aimed at harmonizing learning content, which was appreciated by CEMAC Member States, should be encouraged in other subregions, as it is a part of the African regional integration process. • Work for the reinforcement of the International Network of UNESCO Chairs should be carried out more systematically with a view to building a wide pool of expertise. • Greater synergy should be established between SHS and ED in the implementation of flagship projects. • With regard to the teaching of sciences, a coordination link should be established with TTISSA, while IICBA should participate in this activity. Moreover, a comprehensive programme on teaching sciences, including an African Virtual Campus, may be developed. • Links should be established with intersectoral platforms on education for sustainable development as well as climate change. 		<p>Wherever possible, there is a need to associate United Nations agencies in the process as part of UNDAF. The quality of technical assistance provided to Member States contributes greatly to sustainability in the implementation of this CPA. Cooperation with the African Union is to be reinforced for the creation of the Observatory.</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In cooperation with SHS, the Africa Department monitored and supported the process of establishing a category II centre for regional integration at the West Africa Institute. • Given the political component of the "Greater Horn Horizon Forum", aimed at promoting dialogue between intellectuals in the region and in the diaspora, the Africa Department contributed to raising awareness among the different countries involved about the importance of dialogue in conflict resolution. • The process of elaborating UNESCO's strategy for African Youth was carried out in close cooperation with SHS and the Africa Department, which contributed to publicizing it among Permanent Delegations, National Commissions and the Commission of the African Union. A project was also submitted for funding via extrabudgetary funds. • In close cooperation with CLT, the Africa Department facilitated relations between CLT, Member States and the AU, and participated in implementing the project for the educational use of the <i>General History of Africa</i> (2008-2012). A scientific committee was set up for this project; focal points were identified; COMEDAF IV was consulted; a study on the state of history teaching is underway, as is revision of the eight volumes of the <i>General History of Africa</i>, in preparation for a regional meeting for the project in 2010. • In cooperation with the Intersectoral Platform for Languages and Multilingualism, efforts were made by AFR to develop an extrabudgetary project in cooperation with the African Academy of Languages (ACALAN) to promote African languages, subject to financing by potential donors. • The creation of the African World Heritage Fund and the process of transforming it into a UNESCO category 2 centre received continued support from the Africa Department, which gave visibility to the project, provided advice and facilitated relations with the African Union and the Africa Group at UNESCO. • In cooperation with the Culture Sector, the Africa Department participated in revitalizing the Slave Route Project, establishing the project's new Scientific Committee and in developing a new strategy. • To promote interreligious dialogue, the Africa 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is an example of cooperation with a REC and financial institutions on the continent. Should be linked to the Intersectoral Platform on Foresight and Anticipation. • Establish links with the intersectoral platform on post-conflict, and the platform on contributing to a culture of peace. • This cross-cutting issue, considering the high percentage of youth in Africa and in view of the 2009-2019 Decade of Youth Development in Africa, merits the active involvement of all the Programme Sectors. • The project is part of the African Union's decision on the link between education and culture. Close cooperation with the African Union should be developed further to ensure political participation. The intersectoral nature of the project must be reinforced. • The creation of this Fund is an example of positive cooperation between the Permanent Delegations, a Member State (the South African Government), the Africa Department and the African Union. • Good cooperation between the Africa Group, CLT and AFR. Fundraising is necessary and intersectoral participation must be increased. • The outcome of this symposium, hosted by 		<p>Converting a project into a regional institution could be evidence of the sustainability of that institution.</p> <p>The sustainability of the project is based on defining a coherent strategy on the link between education and culture with more extensive participation from regional institutions specialized in history, languages and intangible heritage.</p> <p>Fundraising must be carried out jointly by the Fund, the African Union and UNESCO. A call for African contributions is a determining factor in the sustainability of the institution.</p> <p>This project's 15th anniversary is an opportunity to renew fundraising efforts and raise awareness among partners.</p>

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	<p>Department took the initiative of hosting a symposium in Cotonou on Dialogue among Endogenous Religions, Christianity and Islam in the Service of the Culture of Peace in Africa (20-21 August 2007).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of category centres: the Institute for African Culture and International Understanding (Nigeria) and the Regional Centre for the Living Arts in Africa (Burkina Faso) were planned in close consultation with the Africa Department, which participated in the for the feasibility study of the institute in Nigeria. • The Africa Department acted as promoter and supporter, providing technical and financial assistance to the Organization at festivals, fairs and African shows, including FESPACO, SIAO, MASA, FIMA, FESPAM, FESTHORN, FESPAD, the Pan-African Cultural Congress as well as cultural and artistic events on the continent or hosted by Africans abroad, such as the World Festival of Black Arts (FESMAN). 	<p>the Africa Department, may contribute to the platform pertaining to the dialogue among civilizations and cultures. The records of the symposium have been published (bilingual edition)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contributed to the Plan of Action for Cultural Industries in Africa. • UNESCO's contribution is appreciated and provides visibility to the Organization's activities. 		<p>Category 2 centres can contribute to showing the important role played by culture in the economic development of the continent. Their durability depends on their appropriation by African States for fundraising.</p> <p>Continued support to the AU for the coordination of the action of regional institutions in Africa to map cultural events on the continent.</p>
<p>Sectors were helped to take account of the regional and subregional dimension in UNESCO's fields of competence.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional and subregional dimension of UNESCO activities in Africa taken into account by Sectors. Consultations and concrete activities/projects were carried out jointly with the African Union and the RECs. Noteworthy accomplishments included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - implementation of the DESD in coordination with BREDAs; the establishment of the African Union Observatory on Education; planning of COMEDAF IV; consultation on the Arusha Convention; establishment of the Fund for the promotion of higher education; - consultation and participation in the project on the educational use of the <i>General History of Africa</i> needs to be developed; - support provided to the Plan of Action for Cultural Industries in Africa, to Pan-African festivals and to the Pan-African Cultural Congress; - consultation on UNESCO's youth strategy; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> with CEMAC – the EDUSIDA project; with ECOWAS – establishment of the West African Institute; with the Great Lakes region – the creation of the Great Lakes Women's Research and Documentation Centre. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to improve communication with the African Union and to encourage the Organization to identify a focal point within UNESCO so that it incorporates and publicizes UNESCO programmes in its planned activities. • Need to extend the participation of National Commissions to UNESCO and partners, including NGOs involved in regional and subregional activities. 		

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<p>A coherent and measurable evaluation/report on Priority Africa obtained.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A general overview document (181/EX/INF/4) on activities in Africa was submitted to the Executive Board. A draft report on the implementation of activities related to Priority Africa was produced, compiling the contributions from the different Sectors and field offices. The report includes the amount allocated to different activities and countries. • An internal database on activities implemented in Africa in 2008-2009 is being compiled. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Difficulties in obtaining accurate data on SISTER, as well as some weakness in communication between the Africa Department, Sectors and field offices, due to the fact that it was the coordination platform's first year of operation. 		