Framework for a Renewed UN/AU Partnership on Africa's Integration and Development Agenda 2017-2027 (PAIDA)

March 2015

Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa (RCM-Africa)

Table of Contents

List of Acronyms

AfDB	African Development Bank
AGA	African Governance Architecture
AIDA	Plan of Action for Accelerated Industrial Development in Africa
APPER	Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery
AMV	African Mining Vision
APRM	African Peer Review Mechanism
APSA	African Peace and Security Architecture
AU	African Union
CAADP	Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme
CAP	Common African Position on the Post 2015 Development Agenda
CSDF	Capacity Strategic Development Framework
CEN-SAD	Community of Sahel-Saharan States
CEPGL	Economic Community of Countries of the Great Lakes
CFTA	Continental Free Trade Area
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
EAC	East African Community
ECA	Economic Commission for Africa
ECCAS	Economic Community of Central African States
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
DPI	Department of Public Information
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
HATC	High Level African Trade Committee
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
IGO	Intergovernmental Organization
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
MIP	Minimum Integration Programme
NBI	Nile Basin Initiative
NEPAD	New Partnership for the Development of Africa
NPCA	NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency
ODA	Official Development Assistance
PAIDA	New UN/AU Partnership on Africa's Integration and Development Agendas
PIDA	Programme for Infrastructural Development in Africa
PSA	Peace and Security Architecture of the AU
RCM	Regional Coordination Mechanism
REC	Regional Economic Community
SADC	Southern Africa Development Community
SME	Small and Medium Scale Enterprise
SRCM	Sub-regional Coordination Mechanism
SRO	ECA Sub-regional Office
TWG	AU Technical Working Group
TYCBP	UN Ten-Year Capacity Building Programme for the AU
UMA	Arab Maghreb Union
UNGA	United Nations General Assembly
UN-NADAF	United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa
UNPAAERD	United Nations Programme of Action for Africa Economic Recovery and Development

SECTION 1:   INTRODUCTION

1.   UN General Assembly resolution A/RES/60/1 of 2005, which provided the mandate for the formulation and implementation of the United Nations Ten-Year Capacity Building Programme for the African Union (TYCBP-AU), also called for a review of the programme every three years. The second triennial review was undertaken in 2013, covering the period 2010-2012, and was presented to the Regional Coordination Mechanism (RCM-Africa) at its 15th session in Abuja, Nigeria. It stressed the fact that the mandates of support to the African Union and its NEPAD Agency were between eight and twelve years old, …`` and so may have been overtaken by developments within these organizations and on the continent. It is time for [them]to be re-freshened and updated so that [they] [respond] more realistically to present-day needs."[1]

2.   Furthermore, it was recognized that significant changes had occurred on the African integration and development landscape. The Africa of hopelessness and despondency that needed all manner of assistance from donors and other well-wishers in the international community a decade ago,… is not the Africa of today. Indeed, Africa is rising thanks to strengthened economic management, good governance and political stability. The continent has grown in confidence and stature and has been able to demonstrate its ability to more confidently define its own agendas and articulate its own vision for the future. In virtually all areas of social, cultural, environmental, economic and political development, it has designed agendas and blue prints for transformations to occur. But particularly, it has spelled out its long term vision of a prosperous, peaceful and integrated Africa, which is encapsulated in its over-arching, major blueprint: Agenda 2063 – a people-centred fifty-year structural transformation framework; as well as in the Common African Position [CAP] on the post-2015 Development Agenda. All this now calls for new approaches to the support the UN provides to the continent. This calls indeed for a new partnership with Africa as it proceeds towards realizing its vision and aspirations, as enunciated in the afore-mentioned Agenda 2063 and CAP.

3.   The second triennial review of the TYCBP in April, 2014, revealed that substantial contributions [had] been made towards developing the capacity of the AU institutions through interventions that have advanced the objectives and responded to the priorities of these institutions at sub-regional, regional and global levels.``[2] The TYCBP-AU comes to an end in 2016,with its objectives having been largely met .It must be said that it has achieved an appreciable level of success in the sense that in virtually all its priority areas of action ,it has contributed towards enhancing the capacity of the organization. Through this partnership, the AU has been supported in the initiatives it took to define and articulate its priorities and strategies for the realization of its integration, peace and security, development and governance objectives and goals. In many of the areas that are critical in Africa`s integration and development, the UN entities in

---

[1] UNECA/AUC, 2013, United Nations Ten-Year Capacity Building Programme for the African Union: Second Triennial Review (2010-2012) para 191, p.39, Addis Ababa
[2] UNECA/AUC,2013,United Nations Ten Year Capacity Building Programme for the African Union: Second Triennial Review, Addis Ababa

the RCM-Africa system have partnered well with the AU ,as it came up with strong frameworks, agendas, plans and programmes of action for Africa`s integration and development: industrial development, infrastructure, agriculture, science and technology, human resources, governance and human rights, peace and security etc. It has also provided strong support to the AU in its negotiations on global issues such as international trade- the Doha Round-and climate change. Furthermore, the AU, in close and active collaboration with the UN system in Africa has formulated several short,medium and long-term integration and development blueprints- Agenda 2063 and its First Ten Year Implementation Plan 2013 -2023, the AUC and NPCA Strategic Plans, CAP Post -2015.

4.   The Review went on to recommend that as the TYCBP-AU approaches its life`s end,

> "[t]his is the time for action to be initiated on a coherent, well-resourced successor programme. The replacement that is to be decided upon should be an integral part of one comprehensive medium-to long-term programme of support to the African Union."[3]

5.   In adopting the review's overall findings and recommendations, RCM-Africa called upon the African Union Commission, in consultation with the United Nations,

> "… to set up a technical working group comprising members from the United Nations and the African Union, including the NEPAD Agency,· the Regional Economic Communities and the African Development Bank to formulate a long-term programme of support for the African Union, including for the African Union's Agenda 2063...".[4]

6.   The Technical Working Group (TWG) was established in November 2014 and promptly set to work. It drew its membership from UN entities operating in Africa, the AU system and the AfDB.   This Framework –**PAIDA**- is the outcome of its work.

7.   It provides the context within which results-based programmes and plans of action in support of the AU's integration and development Agenda will eventually be formulated for implementation by stakeholders in the UN family. It also follows a long tradition of partnership between the UN and Africa's continental organization, spanning more than three decades, during which five major programmes of support to Africa were established by the UN General Assembly. The experiences in the implementation of those programmes have informed the direction and thrust of this Framework. Unlike the previous programmes of support, the Framework is more "Afro-centric", in that it is anchored on Africa's own expressed aspirations, needs and priorities; and is neither borne out of   crisis situations nor externally-oriented. Given that the others depended on the goodwill of the international community, they remained precarious and subject to failure. Their final reviews and appraisal concluded that in fact, they were of limited success precisely because the support expected from the international community was not sufficiently forthcoming.

---

[3] Ibid, para 209,p44
[4] ECA/AUC,2014 ,RCM-Africa, Report of the 15thSession, Abuja, Nigeria, Recommendation K, Addis Ababa

8.   By contrast, PAIDA is not a "bail-out" from crisis and hopelessness, but a lever of support to the continent as it progresses along a new and positive trajectory of growth and development. It seeks to ensure that the UN accompanies the AU on its journey towards the structural transformation of the African economy, the integration of the continent and the social and economic development of its people. It emphasizes this perspective into the Organisation's concerns, in the full knowledge that its promotion will help create those conditions that would in turn enhance peace, stability and security within the continent. In essence, it is a new UN partnership with the AU.

A. Principles

9.   The expressed concerns for the new relationship between the United Nations and the African Union, to be based on shared values and strategic partnership, call for the principles that should undergird this partnership to be clearly articulated and agreed upon. These are:

Ownership and Leadership by the African Union

10. It is important that the expressed needs and priorities of the African Union provide the context within which UN support is to be conceived and delivered. In this way, these needs and priorities would more easily drive the process, and buy-in and ownership would be better assured.

Respect for Africa's Policy Space

11. Related to the need for leadership and ownership by Africans is the important issue of respect for Africa's policy space. All efforts should be made to avoid actions that violate this principle or infringe the sovereignty of the AU membership.

Faithfulness to Commitments Made

12. Commitments made in the partnership should, to the extent possible, be adhered to faithfully, so as to maximize results and avoid frustrations. This coheres with UN GA 293 of September 2012, establishing the UN monitoring mechanism (UNMM) to review commitments made towards Africa's development.

Consultation and Coordination

13. The partnership will thrive and wax strong with regular consultation and extensive coordination among all stakeholders. Dialogue and the quest for coherence and synergy should be an important basis for success.

Accountability

14. Partners will be accountable to each other and to those they represent and serve. Beneficiaries of

interventions will be accountable to stakeholders contributing to the implementation of this Framework.

Strategic Partnership

15. The partnership should be strategic in terms of its ability to catalyse change towards the attainment of Africa's objectives of integration, development, peace and security and governance,as enunciated in the Constitutive Act of the Africa Union. This is the type of partnership that should be extended to all the policy and implementing organs of the AU, including the RECs and NPCA.

Proactive Engagement

16. Past strategies of 'fire-fighting' or a reactive engagement with Africa, have not produced meaningful results. Programmes of support will avoid this. Rather, they will engage with Africa proactively on those aspects of the continent's agenda and priorities that are certain to obviate conditions that require fire-fighting and engender negative developments or crises in the social, economic, political or security fields.

SECTION II: SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, PEACE, SECU.RITY AND GOVERNANCE: AFRICA'S PERFORMANCE AND CHALLENGES - A SYNOPSIS

17. It is important to situate Africa's short- medium- and long-term priorities and goals within the context of the current challenges of, and opportunities for integration and development which the region faces. The present-day realities obtaining on the political, social ,economic and even global plane are what have determined the direction of change that Africa should follow. Politically, democracy is being deepened and governance significantly strengthened throughout the continent. The regional economy is performing appreciably well. Poverty rates are declining while the African middle class is growing fast. On the social front, all the access indicators, especially in reference to the Millennium Development Goals – education, health, water, sanitation, housing, etc. – are registering a very positive trend. The challenge now is to maintain, if not increase this type and pace of change. **PAIDA** is designed to support Africa in its bid to rise up to this challenge.

A. Economic Conditions[5]

18. In the last decade, Africa's growth performance has been very good compared with what obtained in the rest of the world. The African economy registered a 3.3 percent growth in 2014, up from 3.2 per cent in 2013. The drivers of this growth are the improvements in the regional business environment, and in political and economic governance; sound macroeconomic management; investments in infrastructure,

---

[5] This Section and the next are drawn from the AUC/ECA Economic Report on Africa, 2015

and trade and investment ties with emerging economies. Africa's growth is also influenced by growing domestic demand, driven mainly by the rising middle class, as well as increased private capital flows.

19. Increase in private consumption and investment (gross capital formation) continued to boost GDP growth. Private consumption grew at 3.3 percent in 2014, marginally down from 3.4 per cent in 2013 which was mainly influenced by greater domestic demand due to continued increase in consumer confidence and the expanding middle class with rising incomes. Investment growth was underpinned by improvements in the business environment and a reduction in the cost of doing business in a number of African countries.

20. Government consumption, particularly public investments in infrastructure and the rise in wages, also contributed to GDP growth in 2014. Net exports continued to contribute negatively to growth because the value of the continent's exports - commodities mainly - is outweighed by its industrial imports. This trend is expected to persist as governments continue to increase investments in infrastructure and as private consumption remains strong.

21. Despite the drop in the price of oil in 2014, oil exporting countries registered strong economic performance in the short term. Growth in oil-importing countries is expected to accelerate to 4 percent in 2015, after stagnating at 3.4 per cent in 2013 and 2014. The robust growth in 2015 is expected to be driven by low oil prices as well as consumer and business confidence. The expectations are that these countries will increase investments in capital and private consumption. Africa's current account deficit continues to deteriorate over the recent period owing to declining export earnings and the rising import of capital goods to support infrastructure development and construction

22. Africa's inflation decreased in 2014, continuing a trend started in 2012. Factors responsible for the decline include the pursuit of prudent monetary policies, decreasing global commodity prices, and higher agricultural output. The depreciation of major African currencies as a result of the combination of declining oil and commodity prices, as well as large trade and fiscal deficits, has impacted negatively on inflation.

23. On the fiscal side, it has been observed that Africa's deficit increased in 2014, as a result of continuous expansionary fiscal policies being pursued by several countries in order to support infrastructure development, expenditure on the public sector wage bill, transfers and subsidies, and other social sector projects. This has led to an increase in the continent's average fiscal deficit. The drops in oil and commodity prices have also reduced the revenues of some countries and, therefore, with no change in expenditure, caused their deficit to rise. It has to be noted that a number of countries have taken steps to curb public waste, minimise corruption and inefficiencies, as well as cut allocations on non-essential expenditure. Revenue mobilization is expected to improve as countries continue to institute tax reforms and implement measures for improved domestic resource mobilization. These measures, if strictly adhered to, are expected

to lead to an improved fiscal position for African countries.

24. Demand for Africa's agricultural products and minerals remained weak as a result of increased supply and weakening global demand, which depressed export earnings. This trend is expected to persist in the medium term, given the continued fragility in the Eurozone, slow growth in China and trade protectionism in developed economies. Nonetheless, weakened currencies in most African economies are expected to improve net exports, and so minimize the deterioration of the continent`s current account deficit.

25. The improvement in the business climate and the continuous rise in positive-corporate-sentiment ratings have combined to boost the flow of private capital into the economy. Foreign direct investment (FDI) continues to be the largest source of external private finance, followed by remittances and portfolio equity. Remittances remain the stable source of private capital flow in Africa, increasing by 7 per cent in 2014, from their 2013 level of US$63 billion. However transfer costs remain very high, calling for measures to be instituted to have them substantially reduced so that they could be channelled more efficiently towards supporting development projects.

26. Both FDI and portfolio equity flows are expected to increase in the coming years because of the improved business climate on the continent. Overseas development assistance (ODA) constitutes an important component of public finance in many African countries. In addition to ODA, African countries have also relied on external debt to finance their development programmes. Since 2010, the total foreign debt stock has remained above 30 per cent of GDP, although in the short-run it is expected to rise. However, taking into account the ability of countries to cover their foreign debt using their current foreign currency reserves, net foreign debt as a percentage of GDP will be lower.

27. Despite its positive growth trajectory, Africa's medium term prospects face a number of internal and external risks. This is because the current decline in oil and commodity prices, slow recovery in the Eurozone and Japan, and the decline in demand for commodities in China could potentially impact negatively on Africa's growth prospects in the medium term as trade weakens. Adverse global monetary and financial conditions in developed economies through interest rate hikes could result in the outflow of private capital and cause increased volatility and weakness in some African currencies. While controls on capital flows can offer a temporary solution to this, more robust initiatives such as adjusting funding strategies and plans, and an improved business environment to retain capital would play a vital role. Structural transformation through value addition and diversification of African economies, must be central to strategies to mitigate the downside risks to the economy.

28. Going forward, Africa stands ready to enhance its productivity through structural transformation and the promotion of industrialization. Sound policy interventions are needed to target the more productive sectors so as to foster job creation and reduce the size of the informal sector. Further, in education and

training, there is need to align skills and competences to labour market requirements, and to promote entrepreneurship and innovation .The continent also needs to increase intra-regional trade as well as export diversification away from agricultural commodities, minerals, and oil to value-added products. To translate the region's economic growth into sustainable and inclusive development, Africa has to maintain its improved business environment, good political and economic governance and management in order to significantly enhance productivity in those sectors where Africa has a comparative advantage. This would call for infrastructure, technology, and human capital deficits to be seriously addressed, including by pursuing innovative ways of domestic resource mobilization through, for example, improving public sector management, combating tax evasion and illicit capital flight, deepening financial systems, issuing infrastructure bonds and developing sovereign wealth funds. Furthermore, Africa should accelerate regional integration and establish the Continental Free Trade Area.

B. Social Conditions

29. The magnitude and consistency of growth required for significant poverty reduction in Africa is yet to be fully realized. While rates have dropped in recent years, the absolute number of poor people has actually increased, due to faster population growth. It is expected that in 2015, 366 million Africans will still be living on less than USD1.25 a day.

30. Africa also faces the challenge of inequality in the distribution of assets and in access to public services such as education and healthcare. While the inequality of elasticity of poverty is the lowest of all regions, a percentage change in inequality has a more significant impact on poverty than a percentage change in growth. Furthermore the lack of social protection mechanisms in many countries has increased exclusion of the poorest and most vulnerable groups of the population such as women, rural dwellers, persons with disabilities, etc.

31. Most African countries are, or will soon be experiencing a demographic and urbanization transition that will have an impact on the continent's development prospects. The continent has the youngest population in the world and by 2040 this youthful population would have swollen into the largest labour force worldwide - one billion workers - and more than that of China and India combined. This dramatic rise in the labour supply will only translate into demographic if the economy is made to expand significantly to enable it effectively absorb these large numbers of additional workers and if the right investments in developing the capabilities of these young men and women are made such that the future labour force is of high quality and employable. Furthermore, the formulation and implementation of the appropriate policies that positively impact labour market growth, would also in the process, bring about higher economic output, savings and investment.

32. While Africa is the least urbanized region in the world (38 percent in 2012), its urban growth rate is also the fastest, and is projected to double in 20 years as a result mainly of rural-urban migration, natural

population increase and territorial reclassification. This will lead to intermediate-size and smaller cities absorbing the vast majority of the total growth. Moreover, Africa's centres of economic activity have shifted markedly from the agrarian countryside to urban areas, accounting for no less than 55 percent of the GDP and contributing to improved human development, rising incomes and better living standards. However the presence of more people in Africa's towns and cities has placed a strain on the already inadequate infrastructure and services, including roads, access to water and sanitation, waste disposal, energy, education and health. The UN Habitat estimates that no less than 40 - and in some countries even up to 85 - percent of the urban population live in slums, leading to economic and social alienation and tensions. Furthermore, the urban poor live in life-threatening conditions with limited access to clean water, adequate drainage and sanitation. They are also affected by high levels of pollution due to toxic waste, traffic and industrial emissions, residential congestion and absence of green spaces. The result is environmental degradation, increased natural and man-made disasters, scarcity of drinking water and increased health risks. Africa's urban unemployment and under-employment rates, especially among the youth, are the highest in the world.

33. In the area of education, Africa is making good progress. Although learning achievements have been inadequate, enrolment and retention rates are up. Enrolment rates for girls and gender parity in primary schools are rising faster than anywhere else in the world. It is important to note that knowledge accumulation and its application are part of the major drivers of sustainable economic development, as well as being central to a country's competitive advantage in the global economy. That is why African countries are redoubling their efforts in scaling up investments in education. However, all this notwithstanding, challenges in matching education with the evolving labour market very much remain. Although there have been improvements in enrolment rates, completion rates continue to be low, especially for girls due to reasons such as early marriage. At the same time, numeracy and literacy skills achieved as primary school outcomes have also been inadequate. One out of every three school-going children in Africa falls short of the minimum learning threshold on numeracy and literacy, leading to critical skills gaps and barriers for social and economic opportunities in life. Educational systems are failing to address the skills gaps in response to the continent's skills needs for industrialization and for the creation of an educated workforce that is able to compete in the global marketplace and realise the prospect for a democratic dividend on the continent. However, efforts are being made to enhance relevance and responsiveness of education, increase access to higher education to produce much-needed intellectual capital and higher order technical skills. Efforts are also being made to revitalise and strengthen scientific research and innovation to address current challenges, including enhancing productivity in key sectors such as agriculture and the management of natural resources. Intra- African collaboration in research has increased significantly, thus enhancing Africa`s capacity to develop solutions to collective challenges; and initiatives like the Pan-African University are helping to model strategic linkages between higher education and research on the one hand and the public sector on the other.

34. In the case of health, Africa is making progress despite the formidable challenges. Since 1990,

Africa has scored well on many of the MDG health-related indicators - a result of increased and more productive investment in the sector. Life expectancy has increased markedly from 50 years in 1990 to 58 years in 2012, although it is still below the global average of 70 years. Neonatal Mortality Rate (NMR) has fallen significantly from 44 per 1,000 live births in 1990 to 32 deaths in 2012 ,due primarily to increased immunization and improved access to health facilities. Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) dropped from 105 per 1,000 in 1990 to 63 per 1,000 live births in 2012, representing a 40 percent decline. Under-five Mortality Rate (U5MR) recorded an impressive decrease of 45 percent between 1990 and 2012, falling from 177 per 1,000 live births to 98 per 1,000 live births over the period. Africa also posted an appreciable improvement in women's health through a huge reduction in the Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR) from 870 deaths per 100,000 in 1990 to 460 deaths per 100,000 in 2013, representing a robust 47 percentage drop in the period, although still short of the 75 per cent goal set by MDG 5a. This commendable progress notwithstanding, significant additional investments have to be made to strengthen health systems and ensure easier access to health services of good quality for all, particularly for women and girls, as well as address those preventable causes that continue to claim the lives of many children and pregnant women every year.

35. Africa has made notable progress in tackling the AIDS epidemic, TB and Malaria. New HIV infections declined 33 percent among all ages in Sub-Saharan Africa in the period 2005–2013, and 42 percent among young people 15-24 years since 2001. HIV prevalence among young men and women of between 5 and 24 years fell by 42 percent between 2001 and 2012, whilst AIDS death rates have also declined significantly. This is attributed to the rapid expansion of the use of antiretroviral treatment (ART) across Africa. It has also contributed to a reduction in the incidence of TB infections and deaths. However, the highest levels of infection continue to occur in Africa South of the Sahara, which also hosts 71 percent of people living with HIV globally, with women constituting a large proportion of the affected population. AIDS is the leading cause of death for women of reproductive age in the region.

36. Notable progress has also been registered in Malaria and TB incidence and associated deaths. The outbreak of the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) in West Africa has exposed Africa's - and indeed the international systems' – capacity weaknesses in effectively responding to these types of health emergencies. At the country level, the disease has also uncovered the fragility of existing health systems and the insufficiency of coping mechanisms, especially at household level, thereby pushing more and more affected communities into deeper poverty and vulnerability. In particular, the disease has posed an unprecedented challenge to women`s rights and protection, given women's primary care-giving role in the household and community as well as their roles as nurses in healthcare systems. This has immensely elevated their risk of contracting the disease. EVD has also revealed the challenges to the predictability and adequacy of the international response to complex emergencies such as this. Building resilient and sustainable public health systems will be at the centre of the AU's medium and long-term post-Ebola recovery plan and strategy in its assistance to countries in strengthening their capacities to effectively implement international health regulations and prepare to avert future threats to the continent's health status.

37. Unemployment and the quality of jobs created on the continent remain a major challenge. The impressive growth rates registered over the last decade have not translated into any appreciable levels of employment growth. This is mainly because economic growth has been concentrated in the capital-intensive sectors of the economy such as the extractive industrial sectors. Furthermore, job creation has occurred mostly in the low-productivity informal and agricultural sectors where women abound. On the brighter side, a dynamic private sector and increased private-public partnerships in many countries are providing opportunities for training and skills- upgrading, to better match the labour market`s needs; and Governments are providing incentives to SMEs and putting in place job creation-oriented industrial policies. Industrialization and value-chain production, coupled with specialized training and skills adjustment programmes, especially including entrepreneurship and innovation, may be able to provide the quantity and quality of jobs needed to increase incomes and raise people out of poverty.

38. Africa has also made progress in the area of gender equality and women's empowerment especially in the context of MDG3. Evidence from the Africa MDG reports confirms the positive trends in the political and economic empowerment of women. Despite these gains, challenges still remain and women constitute the majority of the poor and extremely poor in informal, low level and low paying jobs. Indeed, current African economic growth is still not fully translating economic gains into meaningful gender equality outcomes for women. In sum, much more needs to be done to bring more women out of poverty, and end all forms of gender - based discrimination, enhance their productivity and incomes, improve their general and reproductive status, promote their human rights, and ensure that appropriate policies are formulated and legislations promulgated to further protect and empower them. It is therefore timely for the African Union to have declared 2015 as the Year for Women's Empowerment and Agenda 2063.

C. Regional Integration

39. The need for the integration of the continent is now stronger than ever, if Africa is to the constraints of marginalization on the global stage. Many of the countries on the continent are small in size with underdeveloped agrarian economies. Overall, intra-African trade is still insufficiently developed. This is why the leadership of the continent believes that the imperative for the integration of markets is an urgent necessity if African countries are to overcome the constraints arising from their small domestic markets and reap the benefits of economies of scale, stronger competition and increased domestic and foreign investment. Additionally, sixteen countries are landlocked and therefore face high transport costs and special difficulties, which can be resolved through improved regional cooperation or integration.

40. Although progress on the integration agenda is being registered, the results are mixed. Improvements have been made in the areas of trade, education, infrastructure - transport, energy, information and communication technology – management of trans-boundary water resources and macroeconomic polices. Africa's current integration landscape contains an array of regional economic

communities, including eight considered to be the building blocks of the African Economic Community: (i) the Arab Maghreb Union (UMA); (ii) the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA); (iii) the Community of Sahel-Saharan States (CEN-SAD); (iv) the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS); (v) the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS); (vi) the Inter- Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD); (vii) the Southern African Development Community (SADC); and (viii) the East African Community (EAC).

41. ECOWAS, EAC, SADC and COMESA have made significant progress in trade liberalization and facilitation. In the area of the free movement of people, ECOWAS's achievements stand out. SADC and EAC have progressed in the area of infrastructure development. For peace and security, ECOWAS and SADC have to be commended for their gains. In the transportation sector, all the regional economic communities are embarking on methods to promote unrestricted facilitation, reduce costs and improve overall efficiency. However, it still remains that transport costs in Africa are still exorbitant. Also, throughout the continent, many road, air and rail networks are not sufficiently interconnected.

42. In a bid to advance the development agenda, the African Union is embarking on a number of hard and soft infrastructure projects as part of the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA). The programme which is a major flagship project of AU Agenda 2063, is also considered to be a key driver of social and economic integration of the continent through, *inter alia,* strengthening intra-African trade, building peace and security, and promoting free movement of persons, goods and services. The initiative would supplement and support the implementation of existing continental frameworks, such as CFTA, CAADP, AIDA, AMV, MIP, Pharmaceutical Manufacture Action Plan, etc. The NEPAD Presidential Infrastructure Champion Initiative (PICI) has re-energized efforts to accelerate the implementation of regional projects among African stakeholders. Through PICI, eight major PIDA infrastructure projects are being championed for implementation and at a Dakar PIDA Financing Conference, sixteen priority projects were identified for immediate implementation under the PIDA Priority Action Plan (PAP). Furthermore, the Institutional Architecture for Infrastructure Development in Africa (IAIDA) has been put in operation and a monitoring, evaluation and reporting system set up.

43. There have been marked improvements in the application and use of ICT. This may be in part because of the global revolution in telecommunications technology and the growing commercialisation and privatisation of national services. While SADC, ECOWAS, COMESA and UMA have significantly increased connectivity, ECCAS and CEPGL are lagging far behind. Nonetheless, efforts are being made to build capacity for the establishment and proper management of national and regional internet exchange points as well as regional internet carriers on the continent.

44. In a bid to minimize energy costs, the RECs are exploiting economies of scale by establishing significantly expanded supply systems through regional power pools and the development of benign power sources. Some member states in ECOWAS, SADC and EAC have made appreciable progress in this

direction.

45. In a bid to robustly increase intra-continental trade, the Assembly of the Heads of State and Government of the African Union adopted decision[6] to establish a Pan- Africa Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA) by the indicative date of 2017. To ensure that the CFTA initiative achieves its objectives of boosting intra-Africa trade and accelerating Africa's market integration, the AU Summit also established, as part of the CFTA Architecture, a High-level African Trade Committee (HATC), comprising Heads of State and Government and the Chairs of the RECs. The CFTA is expected to build on the best practices of the   SADC-EAC-COMESA tripartite free trade process and agreement ,as well as other   regional integration efforts

D. Peace and Security

46. Many of the conflicts that plagued the continent in the 1990s and early 2000s have been successfully resolved. This has been the case in Liberia, Sierra Leone, Guinea-Bissau, Cote d'Ivoire and Angola. In a few other cases, conflicts have been long-running and have proven to be more intractable, including those in Somalia, Sudan's Darfur, DRC, Central African Republic and Western Sahara. Unfortunately, while some have been contained and resolved, others have flared up in other parts of the continent. South Sudan, Mali and Northern Nigeria are cases in point. The new wars in the Sahel are of a hue that is different from the ones preceding them, in that they are fueled by religion, not ideology or social, political and economic exclusion and alienation. They also have strong potentials for developing potent and deadly global connections. Although the AU in partnership with the UN, has been engaged in addressing these new developments, chances of a speedy resolution are not yet in sight. It is therefore an area that requires concerted and focused interventions by the international community.

47. State fragility is an ever-present threat to the peace and security of many countries. This is exacerbated by the emergence of new conflict-generation situations on the continent: religious militancy; terrorism; violent extremism; transnational organized crime including trafficking in drugs, arms and persons; urban crime and lawlessness; etc. These conflicts have forced millions to flee their homes to seek refuge across borders or remain internally displaced in their own countries, seeking assistance and protection. Over the years, several countries neighbouring conflict zones have been home to large and increasing numbers of refugees. Feelings of xenophobia as well as refugee and donor fatigue are beginning to set in, bringing along with them, new sets of challenges in terms of funding for upkeep and welfare, compliance with laws and regulations etc

48. A looming threat to cross-border peace and security is posed by policies or decisions on the utilization or exploitation of trans-boundary resources such as water or petroleum. Serious conflict

---

[6] See AUC, Doc. Assembly/AUIDec.39 [XVIII]

prevention measures should address this. The continued presence of secessionist movements in many countries on the continent has to be recognized and preventive actions taken to neutralize them. In some countries, differences between political groups, oftentimes over electoral processes and practices, have led to the flare- up of conflict. Africa's youth bulge, if not properly managed, might turn out to constitute a destabilizing factor in many parts of the continent. The AU and UN should formulate programmes to address these potential sources of tension.

49. It must be said that the AU's capacity for peacekeeping and conflict resolution has been enormously strengthened in the last decade, such that it has been able to successfully mitigate or prevent the emergence of conflict in many a situation. The UN has played a significant role in bringing about this outcome. Over the years, working together, the AU and the UN have been able to create and strengthen an African Peace and Security Architecture and Platform, and establish a fully-functioning Peace and Security Council. Operationally, the setting-up of the Continental Early Warning System, the Panel of the Wise and the African Stand-by Force, have all done much to enhance the region's capacity for the maintenance of peace and the prevention and resolution of conflict. Even so, more has to be done to enhance capacity for conflict prevention and peace building.

50. Women and girls are affected disproportionately by conflicts and wars on the continent. In conflict situations, the breakdown of law and order, and the weakening of justice systems and social norms which at times of peace would offer minimum protection for women, lead to the further exacerbation of women's marginalization and an increase in their vulnerability. Furthermore, in many instances sexual violence against women has been used as a war strategy. The UN Security Council as well as African governments have adopted various resolutions condemning violence against women in conflict situations, and calling for increasing women's involvement in conflict prevention, conflict resolution, peace building and post-conflict reconstruction. Concerted action should be taken to implement these resolutions.

E. Governance

51. By all accounts, Africa is making steady progress towards improving political and economic- including corporate - governance. The quest for greater democracy and good governance is now a common demand of citizens. Issues of transparency and accountability are certainly of great concern, especially to civil society and the ordinary citizenry. There have been marked improvements in the promotion of democratic culture, the observance of the rule of law and greater commitment to the fight against corruption, with the increasing spread of public anti-corruption institutions throughout the continent. There has also been a growing awareness and stronger embrace of civic and democratic values, while the AU and the RECs have displayed a strong determination not to tolerate actions that contravene their set standards of democracy and good governance.

52. Elections which are held regularly in all African countries, have been improving in quality, although

still being tainted by the effects of illiteracy, ethnicity and regionalism, at times leading to violence and loss of life. Increasingly, electorates have been insisting on the observance of constitutionalism. And efforts to build capable states have been redoubled with greater political inclusiveness; more competent, efficient and accountable public services; greater decentralization of public administration and management to municipalities and local government institutions; etc. The participation and share of women in political representation has also shown a marked increase. There is,however, room for further improvement through the institution of special enabling measures, better public and civic education and awareness etc

53. In order to increase the score on governance, the African Union has created, and is forging ahead, with the African Governance Architecture and Platform and the full implementation of the African Charter on Democracy and Elections. African Human Rights institutions such as the African Court on Human and People`s Rights and the African Commission on Human People`s Rights need to be well -resourced. Measures need to be instituted to increase the rate of ratification and domestication of human rights and related treaties signed by the Governments of the continent. The African Peer Review Mechanism has been in existence for many years now. It acts as a useful scorecard for participating governments to gauge the level and quality of their performance in areas such as economic and political governance, including human rights, with a view to making the necessary improvements. Its processes and working   methods are to be significantly strengthened and improved.

F. Africa in the Global System

54. Africa is increasing its contributions to the global quest for peace, security, good governance, the observance of human rights and the attainment of inclusive, sustainable socio-economic development for all. This is in spite of its current place in the global system which from time, has been determined by the global interest in, and demand for Africa's vast natural resources and primary products. Consequently, over the last fifty years, even as Africa has sought to redress its continued marginalization in the global security, political, governance and economic systems, it remains an indispensable supplier of natural resources to meet the needs of the developed countries.

55. In the last decade, Africa's efforts have been particularly significant in advancing its own continental development agenda and evolving a programme of renaissance that seeks to build a strong, competitive continent capable of taking its rightful place in the global system. Some of these efforts are evident in the transformation of the OAU to the African Union AU, the strengthening of the RECs as the building blocks of continental integration, and in the elaboration of well-defined policy frameworks for the promotion of peace, security, good governance and socio-economic development. Africa has also come up with new frameworks   such as the APSA, the AGA, the APRM and NEPAD. By relentlessly pursuing the objectives and goals of these frameworks, Africa hopes to emerge as a strong and active player in global affairs.

56. Meanwhile, the continent is still faced with major structural challenges that hamper its progress towards inclusive development and its full integration as an equal partner, in the global political, economic, security, technological and social systems. Poverty levels, although declining, remain high in spite of the consistently high rates of economic growth registered in the last decade. There is growing inequality, including in income, assets and gender. Many African economies still lack the strength and resilience to reduce their dependence on development assistance. And as they show a stronger resolve to reduce this dependence, they are redoubling their efforts to significantly enhance their capacities for mobilizing resources domestically, through a much broadened tax base, securitized remittances, much better harnessing of insurance and pension funds, and curbing illicit financial flows from their economies. Significantly higher levels of investment in infrastructure, agriculture, industry, human resource development, as well as a much deeper engagement with the private sector and civil society, will be needed to bring about the structural transformation that is required to usher in meaningful and lasting socio-economic development of the continent and endow it with the strength and resilience to enable it function as an equal partner on the world stage.

57. The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union,_*h*in its 50th Anniversary Solemn Declaration, spelled out its vision for Africa in the global system: (i) to continue the struggle against all forms of racism and discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance; (ii) to act in solidarity with oppressed countries and peoples; (iii) to advance international cooperation that aligns with the pan- Africanist vision and promotes Africa's interest; (iv) to speak with one voice and act collectively to promote common interests and positions in the international arena; (v) to play an active role in the globalization process and international fora, including in financial and economic institutions; and (vi) to advocate for the reform of the United Nations Security Council and other global governance institutions, in particular the Bretton Woods Institutions, in order to ensure the equitable presence of Africa in these institutions.

58. Africa's fortunes are certainly changing. And although the challenges it faces are many, its opportunities for prosperity and development are enormous. Africans themselves are conscious of this fact. That is why they have initiated the numerous frameworks, agendas, programmes and plans of action, designing for the continent, a willed future of hope and promise.

SECTION IV: AGENDA 2063, THE FIRST TEN-YEAR IMPLEMENTATION PLAN AND THE COMMON AFRICAN POSITION-2015

59. The contexts within which the UN is to order its programme priorities in support of the objectives and goals of the AU have already been defined, and are expressed in the major frameworks and agendas drawn up by the AU. These are the *Agenda 2063 and its Ten Year Implementation Plan, the Strategic Plans of the AUC and NPCA, and the CAP-Post 2015*. These major blueprints have incorporated into

themselves all the concerns of the other major sectoral frameworks already formulated- PIDA, CAADP, AMV, AGA, PSA, etc. Furthermore, the AU has developed, or is in the process of developing, new ten to fifteen year sectoral frameworks for the implementation of Agenda 2063 as well as flagship programmes. The frameworks and strategies include the Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa 2024 and the continental Technical and Vocational, Education and Training Strategy. It is from all of these that the action areas of this Framework are derived.

A. AU Agenda 2063

60. Fifty years after the first thirty-three independent African states gathered in Addis Ababa to form the Organization of African Unity (OAU), now the African Union (AU), the continent's leaders decided to look ahead towards the next fifty years. This prospective was decided upon at the celebration of the Golden Jubilee of the OAU/AU as Africa's political leadership reviewed their organisation's past achievements, assessed its challenges and rededicated themselves to the pan-African vision of "an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa, driven by its own citizens and representing a dynamic force in the global arena."

61. Agenda 2063, a plan for Africa's structural transformation, was agreed upon by the African Union Golden Jubilee Summit of May 2013. The Summit also pledged, through the Solemn Declaration it subsequently adopted, to develop and pursue a transformational Agenda in eight key areas: (a) African identity and renaissance; (b) the struggle against colonialism and the right to self-determination of people still under colonial rule; (c) economic integration; (d) social and economic development; (e) peace and security;(f) democratic governance; (g) determining Africa's destiny; and (h) a stronger place for Africa in the world.

62. Agenda 2063 takes strongly into account the convergent voices of Africans of different backgrounds in the extensive consultations that went into its preparation. From these consultations, a common set of aspirations have emerged which constitute the pillars of the Agenda:

    i.   A prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development;

    ii.   An integrated continent, politically united, based on the ideals of pan-Africanism and the vision of Africa's renaissance;

    iii.   An Africa of good governance, democracy, respect for human rights, justice and the rule of law;

    iv.   A peaceful and secure Africa;

    v.   An Africa with a strong cultural identity, common heritage, values and ethics;

    vi.   An Africa whose development is people-driven, unleashing the potentials of its women and youths; and

vii.   Africa as a strong, resilient and influential global player and partner.

63.   These seven aspirations are in sync with the AU Vision, and are in line with the eight priorities of the OAU/AU 50th Anniversary Solemn Declaration. In addition, they collectively demonstrate a strong continuity of thinking between the Founders and the present generation of Africans, albeit in a different context. The Agenda also takes account of past achievements and challenges as well as the continental and global context in which the continental transformation is being implemented. It also builds on the AU Constitutive act and regional frameworks. In addition, it takes cognizance of, and reviews past regional continental frameworks such as the Monrovia Declaration, Lagos Plan of Action and the Abuja Treaty, as well as present ones such as PIDA, CAADP and MIP.

64. The aspirations reflect the desire of Africans for prosperity and well-being, for unity and integration, for a continent of free citizens and expanded horizons, with freedom from conflict and improved human security. They also project an Africa of strong culture and values, as well as a strong and influential partner on the global stage making appreciable contributions to human progress and welfare - in short a different and better   Africa. There are transitions along the realization of the aspirations, with each milestone along the way representing a step towards the attainment of the end goal of Agenda 2063.

65. The aspirations embed a strong desire to see a continent where all men and women are guaranteed the full exercise of their human rights and fundamental freedoms and where they assume a leading role in the development of their societies, in the conviction that Africa has the potential and capability to catch up with other regions of the world, and take her rightful place in the global comity of nations and realize its vision of a prosperous, united and integrated Africa.

B. The First Ten-Year Implementation Plan (2013-2023)

66. AU Agenda 2063 is to be realized through the implementation of five ten-year implementation plans, the first of which has been drawn up and covers the period 2013-2023. It addresses the following:

i.   Sustainable inclusive economic growth

ii.   Human capital development

iii.   Employment creation

iv.   Social protection

v.   Gender/women development and youth empowerment

vi.   Good governance and capable institutions

vii.   Infrastructural development

viii. Science, technology and innovation

ix. Peace and security

x. Culture, arts and sports

67. In addition, it spells out its goals and areas of priority which it bases on the seven aspirations of Agenda 2063. The goals that the implementation of its priorities will seek to attain are: poverty reduction; the expansion of education at all levels; improved maternal and child health as well as water and sanitation facilities; industrialization of the African economy; greater resilience to the effects of climate change and prioritize adaptation,; modernize agriculture forincreased production, productivity and value-addition better and more sustainable management of natural resources, including mineral and agricultural resources; the establishment of a continental free trade area as well as a significantly increased intra-African trade; and a well-developed infrastructure network. The proper observance of good governance, the rule of law and human rights and the cessation of all inter- and intra-country conflicts on the continent are also goals to be attained by 2023. Also to be achieved are goals in the realm of culture: full engagement with the African diaspora, the development and wider use of African languages and the growth of the creative arts and cultural industries. The greater empowerment of women and youths is also an important goal to be pursued as is the need to increase Africa's presence and voice in global affairs.

68. In taking this forward, the 24th Summit of the AU requested the AUC to formulate road maps for the implementation of Agenda 2063's flagship projects: the integrated high-speed train network; the Great Inga Dam project; the single aviation market; outer space programme; the pan-African e-network; an annual African consultative platform; the virtual university; the African passport and the free movement of persons; the continental free trade area; silencing the guns by 2020; development of a commodity strategy; the establishment of the continental financial institutions, including the African Central Bank by 2030.

69. The UN will work closely with the African Union towards the achievement of these goals by 2023.

C. Common African Position [CAP] on the Post -2015 Development Agenda

70. The CAP is Africa's consensus on the continent`s challenges, priorities and aspirations, as well as the strategies for addressing them. It reaffirms the Rio Principles, especially the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, the right to development and equity and mutual accountability and responsibility.

71. The CAP's focus is on structural economic transformation for inclusive and people–centred development. Achieving this would require the development of productive capacities in the areas of infrastructure, sustainable agriculture, nutrition and food self-sufficiency, industry and services, science, technology and innovation; youth development and engagement; women`s empowerment; and sustainable natural resource management .It also requires addressing the challenges posed by climate change,

desertification and land degradation, drought and loss of biodiversity; promoting peace and security; and elaborating a responsive and accountable global governance architecture through, *inter alia*, the full and equitable representation of African countries in international financial institutions. The CAP therefore positions Africa's development priorities upon six pillars: i) structural economic transformation and inclusive growth; ii) science and technology and innovation; iii) people-centred development; iv) environmental sustainability, natural resources management and disaster risk management; v) peace and security; and vi) finance and partnerships.

72. CAP recommends that the agreed goals of the post-2015 development agenda should be implemented within the existing continental mechanisms, such as the African Peer Review Mechanism[APRM],NEPAD and the African Governance Architecture[AGA]It also calls for an effective global governance architecture ,including full and equitable representation of African countries in international, financial and economic institutions ,as well as decision-making processes that reinforce the principles of fair trade ,deter illicit financial flows, and are framed by genuine cooperation and partnerships for development based on trust. It further calls for the protection of human rights of all citizens in order to ensure their meaningful participation in society; fight against all forms of discrimination; eradicating all forms of violence and harmful practices - such as female gfenital mutilation - against women; and promote the constructive management of diversity through democratic practices and mechanisms at the local , national and continental levels.

73. CAP strongly supports the promotion of the right to development ,as adopted in 1986 by the United Nations General Assembly [GA]in its Resolution 41/128 and recognized in the African Charter on Human and Peoples` Rights .This right also includes the right of all countries to be allowed the policy space to fashion their own development and participation in global governance systems.CAP recommends that the post-2015 agenda should ensure equality and access to justice and information for al through the unequivocal observance of justice and the rule of law, and guarantee the protection of the rights of minorities and people living in vulnerable situations, including children, women, the elderly, people with disabilities, rural populations, refugees, displaced persons and migrants. It also stresses the need for mutual accountability between the State and its citizens, and between the State and its development partners. CAP recognises the need to improve the health status of vulnerable groups by ensuring universal access to quality health care including reproductive health.

74. To achieve its goals, CAP stresses that there is need for countries to pursue sound macro-economic policies that combine short-term imperatives of growth with long-term development considerations such as equality, environmental sustainability, and social inclusion at the national, regional continental and global levels. Furthermore, private sector development has to be encouraged by improving the investment and business climate and supporting small- scale enterprises as wel as by promoting public/private partnerships, quality assurance, participation and leadership of the private sector, local content policy, and socially responsive and accountable business practices. The implementation of continental mechanisms to promote

intra-African trade including the NEPAD framework is also crucial in achieving this objective. There is also the need to establish viable and credible participatory processes that respect diversity and encourage inputs from all stakeholders-from priority setting to the planning and monitoring of implementation of development policies. The pursuit of effective monitoring and evaluation practices, and the preservation, protection and promotion of traditional intellectual property and knowledge –creation are vital for the successful implementation of the post-2015 agenda.

SECTION V: PRIORITY ACTION AREAS OF THE FRAMEWORK

75. All UN entities operating at the regional level will be required to tailor their programmes to fit the objectives and priorities set forth in this Framework. These priorities are, in turn, based on frameworks established by the AU, primarily Agenda 2063 and its First Ten-Year Implementation Plan, the Strategic Plans of the AUC and NPCA, as well as the CAP Post -2015 . Broadly, these frameworks seek to accelerate the socio-economic development of the continent; achieve the full economic integration of Africa; significantly strengthen political and economic governance throughout the region; and bring about lasting peace and security for the African people.

76. Ultimately, they seek to render African economies and societies much stronger and more resilient. As economies become more widely diversified away from a dependence on oil and gas, minerals and primary agricultural and other commodities, and into renewable sources of energy, manufacturing, financial and other services, telecommunications, etc., the sources of growth will become less precarious. The effort to decrease external dependence should also aim at encouraging much higher levels of domestic investment, especially in the productive sectors - industry, commercial agriculture and fishing, energy, mining, etc. - and significantly reduce the huge outflow of financial resources from the continent. Domestic savings will also have to be significantly increased.

77. The current preoccupation with addressing or averting threats to national security and the integrity of states takes attention and resources away from more productive endeavours. The violent break up states cannot be allowed to constitute the only answer to disagreements. A number of countries in the Sahel and in Central Africa are already threatened with such an eventuality. The UN will continue to collaborate with the African Union and its bilateral partners to completely remove this threat to Africa's security and stability. Integration rather than disintegration must be the ultimate goal.

78. The RECs will pursue this goal with greater vigour. And with the instruments of integration firmly established, economic and to a lesser extent, political integration will be far advanced. As the BRIC countries continue to alter the configuration of power at the global level, so also will Nigeria, South Africa, Kenya and Ethiopia take the lead in the economic, social and political transformation of their respective sub-regions.

79. With peace, stability and development firmly planted on African soil, Africa's presence in the global political and economic arena will be greatly enhanced. And even socially and culturally, Africa's global influence will spread more widely through the spread of its music, fashion, dance and food.

80. The Framework's priorities on the **development** front which the UN partnership with the AU should address are:

i. The total structural transformation of the African economy through the formulation of the appropriate macro-economic frameworks whose implementation would facilitate and enhance inclusive growth, reduce inequalities and spur industrialization, beneficiation, restructured trade, and the sustainable development of the green and blue economies;

ii. Significantly strengthened capacity for the judicious and sustainable management of Africa's natural resources including agriculture, mineral, land and marine resources;

iii. The development and effective maintenance of public infrastructure for energy, water and sanitation, transport and communication, ICT, education and health delivery.

iv. The development and effective utilization of Africa's human resources through the expansion of access to high quality education and training of relevance at all levels; significant strengthening of primary, secondary and tertiary health systems; and a greatly widened employment market;

v. Gender equality and the empowerment of women in all fields of endeavour as a key factor for sustained progress and development;

vi. Significantly enhanced capacity for domestic resource mobilization, public financial management, tracking and curbing illicit financial flows and evolving innovative financing models that fit African realities.

81. For the **economic integration** of the continent, actions will be undertaken to
   i. Support the implementation of the integration programmes of the RECs;
   ii. Strengthen the institutions of integration such as the sub-regional monetary and financial institutions, river basin organizations, etc.;
   iii. Continue the support to NEPAD's integration projects particularly in agriculture and infrastructure;
   iv. Promote the increase of intra-African trade.
   v. Support the adoption and implementation of gender-responsive intra-African trade policies

82.   To achieve the ***continent's*** priorities in the area of economic and political governance, actions will seek to

   i.   Deepen democracy, the rule of law, systems of justice and the observance of human rights;

   ii.   Enhance the protection of human rights of all citizens in order to ensure their meaningful participation in society;

   iii. Support the fight against discrimination and help promote the constructive management of diversity through enabling democratic practices at the local, national and continental levels;

   iv.   Strengthen public institutions of governance.

   v.   Achieve gender parity in economic and political governance at all levels in Africa.

83. In **peace and security** priority will be to

   i.   Silence the guns;

   ii.   Address the new threats to the integrity and continued existence of some African states, notably in North Africa, Eastern and Central Africa and in the Sahel, by the increasing incidence of ethnic, regional and religious insurgencies;

   iii. Confront emerging new health treats such as Ebola, which has tested the strength of governance in some of the countries affected;

   iv.   Address the threat of climate change to African agriculture and fisheries as well as to its islands, coastal villages, towns and cities;

   v.   Confront the threat of trans-national organized crime including money-laundering and the trafficking in drugs, persons, wildlife, artifacts, etc.;   22

   vi.   Address the causes of conflict and re-examine and strengthen Africa's new conflict intervention initiatives.

   vii. Intensify efforts to ensure the full protection of women in conflict situati*o*ns, and from terrorism, as well as end impunity in sexual and gender –based violence.

   viii. Intensify efforts to promote and ensure women`s involvement in conflict prevention, conflict resolution, peace building and post-conflict decision making and post conflict reconstruction processes.

84. In particular, to attain the objective of ***structural transformation***, priority will be accorded to the development of **sustainable agriculture** and its modernization for the attainment of continental food and nutrition security and self-sufficiency. This will be realised through the pursuit of policies and programmes that boost productivity, increase diversification, and value-addition across the agricultural value chain. This will also be achieved through the development of agro-industries and agri-businesses, as well as a significant stimulation of the blue and green economies. A commodities strategy will be

formulated to help African countries receive higher earnings from their commodity exports, ease their stronger integration into the global value chains and boost their value addition and content development. To this end, all efforts will be geared towards the realization of the 2014 AU Malabo Commitments on Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods. Special emphasis will also be placed on the mechanization of African agriculture, an area where the continent stands to experience quick gains.

85. Given the importance of the transformative impact of industrialization, critical interventions will also be required for the rapid industrialization of the continent. Policy will seek to enhance beneficiation and to prioritize value-addition especially in the extractive industry and in the primary commodities producing sectors generally. Linkages between the sectors will be significantly strengthened. The Plan of Action for Accelerated Industrial Development in Africa (AIDA) will guide industrial policy implementation.

86. The **private sector** will be further strengthened by improving the business and investment environment and promoting strong partnerships with the public sector. The informal sector and small and medium - scale enterprises will be more robustly supported through policies and measures that increase their productivity and their fuller involvement in the transformative process.

87. The development of the continent's **infrastructure** will be accorded high priority. Policy will seek to enlarge transport and communications infrastructure; expand the continent`s energy capacity with greater emphasis on renewables; significantly improve water and sanitation systems; and bring about appreciable   improvements   to Africa's social infrastructure. Integration and development projects formulated within PIDA, such as the Trans Africa Highway, the African High Speed Rail Network, the Grand lnga Dam, the Pan-African E-Network and the RECs' ICT broadband and infrastructure projects will be accorded priority attention. Member states will be encouraged to better harmonize their policies and regulatory frameworks in the transport, energy and ICT sectors.

88. **Capacity** will be enhanced for more effectively managing the continent`s biodiversity and reversing environmental degradation, especially the growing desertification and the depletion of the region's forest cover. Action will be undertaken to intensify capacity development and strengthening initiatives, especially for contract and trade negotiation, natural resource management, transfer of technology, etc. Capacity for a more effective management of Africa's mineral resources will be significantly strengthened through, inter alia, the African Minerals Development Centre and the resolute pursuit of the African Mining Vision. Generally, the ultimate goal will be to create capacities at continental, regional and country levels. Capacity for implementing Decisions of the Heads of State and Government of the AU will be further reinforced.

89. Action will be undertaken to achieve a faster expansion of Africa's **education and training** systems to address the continent`s demographic challenges, particularly the youth bulge, and its human capital requirements for structural transformation. Issues of enhancing access will be addressed, including through open, distance and e-learning technical and vocational education and through a new continental education strategy to succeed the Plan of Action for the Second Decade of Education for Africa. Maternal and child **health and nutrition** will remain high on the agenda as will the double burden of communicable and non-communicable diseases. Priority will be assigned to issues of increased access to healthcare services especially in rural areas, and to food and nutrition security in accordance with the African Health Strategy that is to be implemented. Maternal and child health will remain high on the agenda and the double burden of communicable diseases will be addressed. Special programmes will continue to address pandemics such as HIV/AIDS, and intransigent scourges such as malaria and tuberculosis. And every effort will be made to build resilient health systems that can help prevent, detect and respond to public health emergencies. The African Centre for Disease Control will be made operational and will provide the necessary support for early detection and response to outbreaks in Africa.

90. More will be done to ensure a fuller and more equitable participation of **women** in national political, social and economic affairs. Efforts will be intensified to address issues of women's occupational mobility, wage inequality, ownership of land and other productive assets; and access to credit, extension services and training. Stronger policies and strategies will be put in place to ensure that they more fully empower the continent's youths through an increased access to financial and credit services, more relevant training opportunities, and decent and productive employment in accordance with the Ouagadougou Plan of Action. Youth volunteerism will be promoted to enhance Pan –Africanism, social responsibility and employment preparedness among young Africans.

91. Africa's rapid urban growth calls for careful planning of its towns and cities. Programmes for the development of capacity for municipal management will be strongly supported as will the efforts of municipal administrators to deal with urban overcrowding, improve the provision and delivery of services and reduce or eliminate the cities' slums. In sum, all initiatives for improving Africa's **human settlements** will be given the attention they deserve.

92. The sustainable management of Africa's vast *natural resources* is also a major concern of the African Union. **Water** from important waterways such as the Nile, Niger, Volta, the Great Lakes and Lake Victoria, are trans-boundary resources and therefore need to be collectively managed and in a regulated manner so as to ensure their sustainability. Support will be provided to efforts to reduce dependence on fossil fuels and promote the exploitation of Africa's vast sources of renewable **energy**. Policies that seek to promote a more judicious and sustainable exploitation of the continent's **mineral resources** will be encouraged and supported.

93. In pursuit of the continent's *integration* objectives, priority will be accorded to trans-boundary, trans-national infrastructure projects, especially those identified by PIDA. In addition, policies and programmes that boost **intra-African trade** will receive greater attention and extensive support will be provided to the Continental Free Trade Area, the Customs Union and the Common Market programmes. Priority will also be given to the creation and strengthening of the financial and monetary instruments of integration such as the African Central Bank, the African Monetary Fund, the African Investment Bank, the Stock Exchange, etc.

94. The RECs being the AU's building blocks for the region's integration also have their special programmes of integration whose implementation will be strongly supported. These programmes include the creation of free trade areas, customs unions and common markets. The promotion of intra-regional trade and the development of transport and communications infrastructure are also high on their agenda. Their initiatives in these areas will be fully supported through the work of the Sub-regional Coordination Mechanisms.

95. Concerted efforts will be made to address *threats* to human security in Africa. Priority action will be directed at containing and degrading **insurgencies** based on ethnic, religious or regional differences. The objective of silencing the guns will be vigorously pursued with the elaboration of an African Human Security Index and the full implementation of the African Peace and Security Architecture. Every effort will be made to insulate the region from threats from new **diseases** such as Ebola.

96. Threats to the social and economic wellbeing of the continent such as **climate change**, will also be addressed frontally. The African LDCs are at most risk because they are more dependent on agriculture; more vulnerable to coastal and water resource changes; and have less financial, technical and institutional capacity for climate adaptation. Efforts to protect the many cities, towns and villages in the 35 African coastal countries threatened by coastal erosion and its consequences will be fully supported. The African Climate Change Strategy will be implemented and the African Climate Fund made fully operational. Substantial support will be provided to the African Climate Policy Centre as part of the Climate Information for Development in Africa Programme (ClimDev-Africa) initiative. Particular attention will also be given to support Africa`s efforts in fighting and combating land degradation and desertification, a challenge unique to Africa. \in the fight against desertification, initiatives such as the Great Green Wall of the Sahara and the Sahel will be pursued with greater vigour. In view of the exposure and vulnerability of livelihoods and production systems to various risks, efforts will be geared towards supporting the implementation of regional and national risk reduction programmes. In addition, equitable and sustainable management of the environment and natural resources will be promoted. Programmes on capacity building in early warning will be pursued and the the implementation of Africa`s Space Policy and Strategy will be strongly supported.

97. Every effort will be made to more resolutely address the scourges of **trans-national organized crime** including the trafficking in illicit drugs, persons, arms and artifacts, wildlife and natural resources, and to arrest the spread of money laundering practices. Capacity will be enhanced to enable Africa confront problems of terrorism, violent extremism and piracy.

98. In pursuance of the continent's *peace and security* objectives, much attention will be paid to tackling the causes of conflict in Africa: social and economic exclusion; gender and income inequalities; discrimination on religious, ethnic or regional grounds, etc. Efforts will be intensified to strengthen cross-border cooperation in the resolution of disputes and in enhancing cross-border security. Inclusive conflict prevention and resolution, peace-building and post- conflict reconstruction programmes will be developed and fully supported as will the AU's APSA. The African Stand-by Force and the Rapid Deployment Capability will be fully developed.

99. For Africa's objectives and priorities to be realized, serious measures must be undertaken to improve and strengthen political and economic **governance**. Action will be taken to improve the quality and efficiency of public services; intensify the fight against corruption; promote greater transparency and accountability in public affairs; strengthen the observance of human rights and the rule of law; improve democratic practice; strengthen existing continental governance mechanisms such as the APRM and the African Governance Architecture and Platform. Efforts will be intensified to arrest and reverse the illicit financial flows from the continent and to promote probity, accountability and integrity in political leadership.

A. Priorities of the Regional Economic Communities

100.   The RECs in each of Africa's five sub-regions have their individual programme priorities which will be supported by their respective SRCMs. Apart from the programmes on regional integration which are common to them all- intra-regional trade, infrastructural development, energy, industrialization, peace and security and governance - there are important priority programmes that are peculiar to each. These will equally enjoy the full support of the UN system operating in each of the sub-regions.

101.   **In East and Southern Africa**, the development of transport corridors in the eastern, northern and central parts is a top priority. Climate change and natural resource management will also command much attention, as will the transformation of agriculture (including livestock and fisheries), the development and strengthening of integrated water resource management systems such as those of the Nile Basin Initiative (NBI) and the Lake Victoria Basin Authority, and the greater exploitation of the vast tourism potentials of the sub-region. Programmes on science and technology and ICT for development will also be fully supported.

102.   **North Africa** being the least integrated of all the sub-regions, places special emphasis on integration programmes in intra-regional trade, multi-modal transport systems and ICT connectivity. It assigns special importance to agricultural development in order to reduce its heavy dependence on food imports and increase its food security. Given the recent political developments in the sub-region and the rise of religious extremism, special attention will be paid to peace and security initiatives   being developed as well as to initiatives aimed at promoting political reform, strengthening governance, further empowering women and youths, and addressing the problems of unemployment.

103.   Internal and cross-border conflicts have plagued the **Central Africa** sub-region for more than two decades. Naturally, this has negatively affected the socio-economic development and poverty reduction efforts of the countries of the sub-region. Conflict resolution and prevention initiatives will therefore be accorded high priority, with the instruments designed for this purpose such as the UN Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa and the Central Africa Peace and Security Council (COPAX) being fully supported. Special attention will be paid to the infrastructure and transport projects of the Economic Community of Central African States, which are important for the attainment of the integration goals of the sub-region. Support will be provided to the sustainable management of the sub-region's forestry resources which is top on the list of priorities of the countries of the sub-region. In addition to what will be done to assist in the implementation of the energy projects of NPCA's PIDA, programmes that address the requirements that are peculiar to the sub-region's energy needs will also be supported.

104.   Progress towards the attainment of the integration goals in **West Africa** is far advanced, with the free movement and residency of people anywhere in the Community having been achieved, and the key Community institutions being more firmly established. ECOWAS's objective of creating a common market in West Africa by 2020 will be strongly supported. Its programmes for the development of infrastructure and public utilities such as the West Africa Power Pool and the West Africa Gas Pipeline will be accorded priority attention. As it seeks to accelerate its pace of industrialization and revolutionalize its food production systems - cereals, roots, tubers, fruits and vegetables, fish and livestock production - the UN system will lend its full support. Jihadist and lslamist militancy is now on the rise in the Sahel belt of West Africa. The UN, together with the AU and ECOWAS will intensify the effort to address, degrade and eliminate this threat to the peace, stability and integrity of countries of the sub-region.

105.   Integration strategies need **financing**. Strengthening and deepening Africa's financial markets and institutions are essential for mobilizing financial resources needed for the implementation of integration projects. In addition, efforts must be made to encourage the RECs to establish development banks in their regions to assist member countries in financing integration projects. However, the integration of the financial markets in Africa requires the harmonisation of national policies and procedures governing these markets and institutions across member countries. This requirement will be fully addressed.

B. Support to the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency

106.   As the implementing agency of the AU, NPCA's mandate is to convert policy into realistic frameworks and implementable programmes in pursuit of the Organisation's objectives and goals. In fact, over the years it has come up with numerous frameworks and programmes for implementation at the national, regional and continental levels and has endeavoured to assist in their implementation. As has already been mentioned, UN support will be provided to promote these frameworks and major programmes, but in addition, the particular needs of the NPCA will also be addressed.[8]

107.   One of NPCA's major preoccupations is with across-the-board capacity development. Its Capacity Development Strategic Framework seeks to significantly enhance capacities at the national, regional and continental levels for the planning, monitoring and implementation of programmes; for building effective partnerships; for mobilizing domestic and external resources to finance development projects and plans; and for judiciously managing economic development as well as for implementing NPCA programmes. Institutional re-engineering and strengthening, including for the RECs and NPCA itself, is an important part of the capacity development requirements of the region. The UN will lend its full support to interventions aimed at addressing these preoccupations.

108.   NPCA is also committed to ensuring that in the implementation of its programmes, the objectives of equity- especially gender equality, employment creation; environmental sustainability and greater private sector involvement, are taken fully into account and kept in view. These are objectives that it shares with the UN, making them lend themselves easily to the latter's support.

109.   Other concerns of the NPCA include the development and transformation of agriculture systems and fisheries; rural development programmes; the strengthening of knowledge management systems, including indigenous knowledge; and gender and youth empowerment. This Framework addresses all these issues and envisages that they will all receive UN support at the continental and regional levels, as well as in the way they are tackled in the implementation of NPCA programmes.

110.   A major pre-occupation is the need to diversify its partnerships towards much better quality of cooperation based on its own priorities and desires. Forging new and better partnerships within the South is an area of need in which much UN assistance will be required.

SECTION VI: UNITED NATIONS' SUPPORT

A. Programmatic and Institutional Support

111.   As in the past, the programmes and priorities of the African Union as laid out in this Framework will enjoy the full support and cooperation of the United Nations system at the global,

continental and regional levels. At the global level, the UN will continue its advocacy role in support of Africa's requirements in respect of foreign direct investment, official development assistance, trade promotion, global governance issues, etc.

112. Partnership at the continental level will be in the form of support in the implementation of integration and development programmes and projects of the AU and its NPCA ,while at the regional level this support will be extended to the work of the RECs.

113. The Office of the Special Adviser on Africa will continue its global advocacy and policy advisory activities on behalf of the AU, the NPCA and the RECs. At the continental level, the Regional Coordination Mechanism will be responsible for the delivery of programmes of support through the activities of its clusters and sub-clusters. RCM-Africa as a mechanism for the coordination of the delivery of UN system-wide support to the AU, has been tried and tested, especially through the implementation of the TYCBP-AU, and has proven to be worthy. It has sharpened the focus of UN support to the AU for relevance and effectiveness and so will continue to serve as the vehicle through which the UN system operating at the continental level will continue its support of the AU through the operationalisation of this framework. ECA will work together with the AU Commission to constitute the Joint Secretariat of the Regional Coordination Mechanism, providing the requisite direction and administrative and logistical backstopping. ECA will also be responsible for coordinating the support to be provided to the AU by key stakeholders in its negotiations on trade matters, especially on the Doha round and on climate change, as well as on mining and other contract agreements. It will provide focused support to the capacity development requirements of the AUC, the RECs as well as the NPCA in the elaboration of its CSDF.

114. The UN Office to the AU [UNOAU],with strong backstopping by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the Department of Political Affairs and the Department of Field Operations, all at UN headquarters, will continue to be the primary mechanism of support to the African Union on peace and security issues, in close collaboration with the relevant UN agencies, funds and programmes.

115. UN partnership with the RECs will be through the activities of the Sub-regional Coordination Mechanism whose secretariat will be located in the ECA sub-regional offices. UN entities participating in the RCM and the SRCM will be required to harmonize their programme planning and budgeting cycles; and to the extent possible, have them aligned with those of the AU system. This would make for greater synergy and coherence in the delivery of support.

116. There are of course a number of global frameworks and plans of action with special provisions for addressing the priorities of Africa. Frameworks such as the Vienna Programme of Action on Social Development, the Istanbul Programme of Action on Least Developed Countries, the Rio Outcomes, all contain commitments whose delivery would go a long way in alleviating Africa's stresses and strains in their particular areas of concern. Implementation of these programmes and plans of action would therefore

complement many of the actions that are envisaged in this Framework.

B. Resource Support

117.   The UN system continues to commit substantial technical, material and financial resources to support the development programmes of Africa; build institutional and human capacity; develop policies, strategies and programmes; enhance coordination, collaboration, and synergies at different levels; and build and strengthen confidence among UN agencies and between the UN and AU institutions. Through this Framework, it will strive for greater focus on the implementation of the plans and programmes of the AU that are aligned with, and developed for the roll out of Agenda 2063 and its Ten Year Implementation Plan.

118.   It should be recalled that one of the major constraints in the implementation of the TYCBP-AU and the smooth operation of the RCM -Africa system was the fact though both were mandated by the UNGA, they were not funded in a regular, predictable and dedicated manner. This Framework should not suffer the same fate. The   General Assembly will be called upon to make the requisite budgetary allocations for the proper functioning and effective operation of the RCM and the SRCM, and all UN agencies, programmes, offices, funds and commissions participating in both mechanisms will be expected to ensure their full and effective involvement by making regular financial provisions towards that end, irrespective of any other commitments in their respective memoranda of understanding with the AUC and the RECs. The Secretariats of the RCM and the SRCM will also be adequately resourced to ensure their effective delivery of services.

119.   Extra-budgetary resources will be mobilized to supplement the provisions of the General Assembly.

C. Delivery Strategies

120.   The point cannot be over-emphasized that this partnership will be led by the African Union and will be defined and directed by Africa's expressed objectives, goals and priorities. The UN system will continue to improve and strengthen its working methods, and increase synergy, coordination and coherence among all stakeholders. The RCM-Africa system - including its clusters and sub-clusters which have proven themselves capable of successfully delivering services of high quality - will serve as the vehicle for programme delivery, aligning its clusters very closely with the established structures of the AUC and the RECs. It will be through the work of the clusters and sub-clusters that programme delivery in pursuit of the priorities of this Framework will be assured.

121.   RCM-Africa and its SRCMs will be serviced by a well-resourced Joint Secretariat, in accordance with the decision taken by the RCM in 2010. It will comprise dedicated staff of the ECA and ECA sub-regional offices as well as the AU Commission respectively. The Joint Secretariat is to serve as

the institutional anchor of the mechanism. It will provide coordination between its respective ECA and AU Commission components, which will in turn jointly manage and strongly coordinate the activities of the clusters and sub-clusters, in order to ensure joint programming and joint implementation based on the programmes and priorities of the AU. It will formulate and implement a robust information and communications strategy and be the knowledge hub for the generation, collation and dissemination of information among participating UN entities, and between them and the African continental organizations, and beyond. It will be responsible for the day-to-day management of the RCM system and for providing regular reports on RCM-Africa to the UN Secretary General. It will convene and service meetings of RCM-Africa and those of each cluster and sub-cluster; undertake policy research and provide policy guidance and direction; prepare and disseminate RCM-Africa and cluster reports; monitor and evaluate cluster activities; and mobilize resources in support of RCM and cluster activities.

D. Accountability and Reporting Provisions

122.   The clusters and sub-clusters will provide annual reports on their activities to the RCM. The RCM will in turn present annual reports to the Secretary General, who will then report to the General Assembly. Annual reports will also be made by the Chairperson of the African Union Commission to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union.

123.   As was the practice with the TYCBP-AU, a review of the programme will be undertaken every three years and a comprehensive final review and appraisal carried out in 2028. Reports on these reviews will be presented to the General Assembly by the Secretary General and to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government by the Chairperson of the African Union Commission. These reports will also indicate the commitments of support that may have been made by donors and the international community at large, as well as the extent to which these commitments have been honoured. The Joint Secretariat will be expected to conduct periodic formative evaluation exercises of activities being implemented with a view to reporting to the leadership of RCM-Africa on their results and impact.

124.   Bi-lateral and multi-lateral donors supporting this Framework will receive comprehensive reports on the outcomes of their support. The Joint Secretariat will be responsible for such reports.

E. Coalition of Partnerships

125.   The partnership of the UN the AU as elaborated in this Framework, will be expanded to bring in important inputs and resource support from major multilateral partners such as the World Bank, the AfDB, as well as bilateral support from sources such as Japan's TICAD initiative, the EU, etc. They will all be called upon to provide material, technical and financial support to the framework `s initiatives as well as the work of the RCM`s clusters and sub-clusters. Much is to be derived from a better coordinated and harmonized course of action by all stakeholders in support of Africa's integration and development agenda.

POST SCRIPT

126.   This framework – PAIDA - is anchored on Agenda 2063 and takes account of the region`s past achievements and challenges as well as the continental and global contexts in which the transformation of the continent is being pursued. PAIDA is therefore aimed at supporting the African Union as it forges ahead with the implementation of Agenda 2063, which is essentially a continuation of the pan-African journey towards full self-determination, freedom, progress and collective prosperity. Agenda 2063 derives from, and restates the objectives and goals of earlier continental frameworks such as, most notably, the Lagos Plan of Action, the Abuja Treaty and NEPAD, and more recently, the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP), the Plan of Action for Accelerated Industrial Development in Africa (AIDA), the Minimum Integration Programme (MIP), the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa- (PIDA), the AU/NEPAD Science and Technology Consolidated Plan of Action, and Africa's Agro-industry & Agribusiness Development Initiative (3ADI), the Peace and Security and the Governance Architecture and Platforms. It is to these and other related programmes and plans of the AU that the UN system in Africa, through PAIDA, will provide coordinated, committed and unconditional support.

UN/AU PARTNERSHIP: PAST PROGRAMMES OF SUPPORT

1.   For the past 30 years, the UN General Assembly has consistently been according special attention to the needs of Africa. This concern over the plight of the African continent became even more pronounced in the 1980s when the continent was hit by a series of adverse events that led to a serious social and economic crisis of unprecedented proportions.

2.   On 3rd December 1984, and at the request of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), it adopted resolution 39/29 on the ***Declaration on the Critical Economic Situation in Africa***. A year later, as these conditions continued to deteriorate, it decided, by its resolution 40/40 to convene a special session "to focus, in a comprehensive and integrated manner, on the rehabilitation and medium-term and long-term development problems and challenges facing African countries..."7 This decision was prompted by a 1985 initiative of the OAU, in which it spelled out "***Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery1986-1990" (APPER)***. This priority programme   reaffirmed the   primary   responsibility   of   African Governments for the social and economic development of their people, but also stressed that the socio-economic   crisis   that   had   gripped   the   continent   called   for   concerted   action   by   the international community in support of the efforts of African countries.

3.   The nature of the crisis had been thoroughly analysed: an unfavourable external environment caused by a global economic recession, the collapse of commodity prices, adverse terms of trade, severely reduced financial flows, high interest rates and increased protectionism, a heavy debt burden and debt servicing obligations, all combined to constrict Africa's growth and development. To further compound matters, the region had experienced a long period of drought, which worsened the desertification situation in a good portion of the continent and exacerbated the problems of hunger and famine in the Horn of Africa and certain parts of the Sahel.

4.   The General Assembly therefore decided to institute a programme of support for Africa's economic recovery: ***"United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development1986-1990" (UNPAAERD)***. UNPAAERD was the response of the international community   to Africa's declared   commitment to mitigating the   adverse effects of   the   crisis and   forging   a path   for   its transformation and sustained development. A number of action measures were agreed upon to be undertaken   by African Governments and by the international community in the key sectors of the African economy: agriculture and food security; trade and finance; human resources development; economic management, etc. The financial requirement for the implementation of the programme by the international community over a five-year period was estimated at US$128 billion.

---

7 See A/RES/S.-13/2

5.   In 1991, the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session, conducted an assessment of the programme. It concluded that UNPAAERD had by and large, achieved only very limited results: "Sharp export price falls, real interest rate increases and declines in private sector investment and loans, all severely limited the positive effects of efforts made by Africa and its development partners....none of the goals of the Programme of Action were fully realized. Targets for growth, food security, human investment and debt reduction were missed, so declines rather than hoped-for increases [had] been recorded..."[8] In fact, a review of the prevailing social and economic conditions on the continent revealed that economic performance during the period of programme implementation "...was not satisfactory...The human condition of many millions of Africans continued to worsen. Absolute poverty rose in Africa".[9]

6.   The assessment concluded that the conditions that had given rise to the institution of UNPAAERD were still valid. It therefore called for the international community to renew its support to Africa in the decade of the 90s, and so decided to adopt a new programme - the *United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s (UN-NADAF)* - whose objectives were "the accelerated transformation, integration, diversification and growth of the African economies in order to strengthen them within the world economy, reduce their vulnerability to external shocks and increase their dynamism, internalize the process of development and enhance self-reliance."[10]

7.   The General Assembly went on to explain the role of the United Nations in the implementation of the UN-NADAF. It called on all UN entities operating in Africa to design special programmes of support that would be consistent with the objectives and strategies of the Programme and ensure that adequate resources were dedicated towards their implementation. Priority would be accorded to integration and infrastructure projects and programmes as well as to the continent's industrialization needs. It then laid down a monitoring and evaluation time table, which in fact culminated in a final review and appraisal of the programme in 2000.

8.   That review revealed that the UN-NADAF had also not achieved its desired results. It demonstrated clearly that, perhaps with the exception of one or two countries, by and large, Africa as a region, had honoured its commitments to reform and adjustment. The same could not be said of its partners in the international donor community in respect of their pledges of support of the programme. It stated that "components of the New Agenda were partially implemented by African Governments and hardly at all by the donor community"[11]. And this was why the programme failed. It found that the ODA promised was not provided at the levels agreed upon. Earnings from exports had declined as a result of unfavourable terms of

---

[8] UNGA Forty-sixth Session, 1991, Assessment of the Implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990, New York
[9] ibid
[10] Op.cit.
[11] UNGA, 2002, The Final Review and Appraisal of the Implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, New York.

trade. And support for adjustment came along with conditionalities that had a deflationary effect on African economies; weakened development structures, institutions and overall capacities; eroded the skills base through the brain drain; greatly increased poverty; and reversed much of the gains made in growth and development. Furthermore, the report concluded that "none of the countries that faithfully implemented market-based structural adjustment had progressed in the manner anticipated...poverty increased substantially as did the disparity between rich and poor".[12]

9.   In the circumstances, the General Assembly decided to continue its special programme of support to African development by adopting a new, home-grown African initiative that had been put out the year before: the ***New Partnership for the Development of Africa (NEPAD)***. In its resolution 57/7 of 20 November 2002, it called upon the UN agencies, within their respective mandates, to "align their activities in Africa within the priorities of the New Partnership"...and to "organize the activities of the United Nations system around clusters covering the priority areas of the New Partnership". It also "urged the United Nations system to work closely with the African Union and other regional and sub-regional intergovernmental organizations to ensure the implementation of the programme and priorities of the New Partnership"[13]

10.   In order to provide institutional support for the new programme, the Secretary General came up with ST/SGB/2003/6 of April 2003, which created the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa (OSAA) whose mandate was to coordinate "global advocacy in support of NEPAD" and be the NEPAD focal point at UN headquarters. Regional coordination of support to NEPAD was assigned to ECA and the mandate for public information on NEPAD went to DPI. Provision was also made to finance this support in Section 11 of the UN programme budget, which, from 2003 to 2014 provided almost US$80 million in budget support to the programme.[14]

11.   In 2005, the African Union approached the UN with a request for assistance with its capacity building requirements. In responding to this request, the General Assembly adopted resolution A/RES/60/1 in which it approved the formulation and implementation of a ten-year capacity building plan for the AU. The objectives, focus and areas of priority of such a plan were subsequently elaborated in a Declaration which was signed in November 2006, by the Heads of the two organizations. The Declaration was entitled, ***"Enhancing UN-AU Cooperation: Framework for the Ten-Year Capacity Building Programme for the African Union" (TYCBP-AU)***[15]. It took into consideration the new, broadened mandate of the AU *vis-à-vis* that of the Organisation of African Unity and sought to reinforce the partnership between the UN and the AU to strengthen the latter's institutions and build its capacities in order to empower it to better prosecute its objectives and goals in peace and security, governance, human rights, conflict prevention,

---

[12] Ibid
[13] UNGA Res 57/7, 20 Nov. 2002, New York
[14] See UNECA, 2014, Development of a Regional Cooperation Framework Between the AUC and the UN Agencies in Africa, Addis Ababa, p.39
[15] UNGA Doc A/61/630, 2006, New York

development and integration.

12.   By executive decision, the TYCBP-AU was to be implemented through the work of the Regional Coordination Mechanism (RCM) which had been established by the General Assembly in 2002[16] to enhance consultation on, and coordination of activities of the UN entities operating at the regional level in Africa. The thematic clusters of the RCM were required to use the TYCBP-AU as the framework for cooperation with the AU. They were also expected to "increase focus on, and align activities with the TYCBP-AU" taking into consideration "...the programmes and strategic plans of the AU Commission and the NEPAD Secretariat, relevant decisions of the AU and RECs as well as AU sectoral ministerial bodies".[17]

13.   It is in this way that the UN system working at the regional level in Africa has ordered its capacity building support to the African Union in implementing the TYCBP-AU which comes to an end in 2016.

---

[16] UNGA Res 57/7 op.cit.
[17] RCM-Africa Secretariat, 2009, "Delivering as One for Africa", Addis Ababa, p.12

MEMBERS OF THE REGIONAL COORDINATION MECHANISM AND ITS CLUSTERS

AUC	UNDPKO
AfDB	UNDESA
AIEA	UNEP
APRM	UNESCO
CEN-SAD	UNITAR
COMESA	UNICEF
EAC	UNIDO
ECA	UNFPA
FAO	UNHCR
ECOWAS	UN-HABITAT
ILO	UNOHCHR
IOM	UNOAU
ISDR	UNODC
IMO	UN WOMEN
ITU	UNOPS
NPCA	WFP
OCHA	WHO
OSAA	WIPO
SADC	WMO
UNAIDS	WMO
UNCTAD	WORLD BANK
UNDP	WTO
UNDPA	