



**The  
New Partnership  
for  
Africa's Development  
(NEPAD)**

**IN  
PLAIN LANGUAGE**

**A resource for organisations**



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**OPEN SOCIETY FOUNDATION FOR SOUTH AFRICA**



# Foreword

The New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) has sparked much debate on the future of the African continent. While some have hailed it as ground-breaking in its efforts towards global integration and promotion of democratic governance, others have dismissed it as a weak attempt to create a framework that simply promotes global economic priorities.

The purpose of this document is not to sway opinion for or against it. Instead it is intended to break down the original, rather dense NEPAD document into an accessible format that can facilitate debate at all levels, national, sub-regional and continental. This is in line with the OSF-SA's mission to foster debate and dialogue by civil society in order to strengthen and promote participatory governance.

While NEPAD is principally a pan-African initiative, real challenges, including ownership of the national agenda, have yet to be addressed. The role of civil society is key to effecting some of the laudable proposals of this initiative. It is also a significant barometer of popular sentiment.

NEPAD should not be viewed as an event, but rather a process that has the potential to widen and deepen democracy on the African continent.

**Zohra Dawood**  
Executive Director  
Open Society Foundation for South Africa

We have developed two plain language versions of the NEPAD document:

- Please see page 3 for our Full Plain Language Version of the whole NEPAD document.
- Please see page 69 for our Summary Plain Language Version of the NEPAD document.

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**The  
New Partnership  
for  
Africa's Development  
(NEPAD)**

**FULL  
PLAIN LANGUAGE VERSION  
A resource for organisations**

APRIL 2003



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OPEN SOCIETY FOUNDATION FOR SOUTH AFRICA



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# How to use this full plain language version

This is a plain language version of the full NEPAD document – in other words, we have tried to make the original NEPAD document more understandable and easier to use.

We have taken care to keep the spirit of the original document, and also its overall structure and paragraph numbering system. Within this framework, we have added these tools to help you use this full version effectively in your organisation and community:

- **Detailed contents pages:**  
Look up the section and page number you need on pages 4-5.
- **A list of abbreviations:**  
Check on the meaning of abbreviations (➔ please see page 7).
- **Extra sub-headings, breaking the text up into points, and explanations:**  
Use these to find the information you need within sections.
- **Cross-references:**  
Follow the ➔ symbol to other parts of this full plain language version.
- **Questions for discussion:**  
Use these questions to think about NEPAD and its issues, programmes and projects (➔ please see page 116).
- **Useful words:**  
Look up the meaning of words we put in italics the first time we use them in the summary (➔ please see this A to Z list of words from page 117 onwards).
- **Useful contacts:**  
Discover where to find more information on NEPAD and NEPAD issues (➔ please see pages 123-124).

## **The use of 'we' and 'our'**

NEPAD leaders use the words 'we' and 'our' in the text of the original NEPAD document. This plain language version also uses 'we' and 'our' in its text to capture the spirit of this direct call made by NEPAD leaders to readers.

# Abbreviations and acronyms

<b>AIDS</b>	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
<b>AU</b>	African Union
<b>DAC</b>	Development Assistance Committee
<b>eg</b>	For example
<b>GDP</b>	Gross domestic product
<b>HIPC</b>	Highly Indebted Poor Country
<b>HIV</b>	Human Immuno-deficiency Virus
<b>ICT</b>	Information and communications technology
<b>IDG</b>	International Development Goal
<b>IMF</b>	International Monetary Fund
<b>NEPAD</b>	The New Partnership for Africa's Development
<b>ODA</b>	Overseas development assistance
<b>PPP</b>	Public-private partnership
<b>SADC</b>	Southern African Development Community
<b>TB</b>	Tuberculosis
<b>UN</b>	United Nations
<b>UNESCO</b>	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
<b>WHO</b>	World Health Organisation
<b>WTO</b>	World Trade Organisation





**Introducing  
NEPAD**

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# 1 Introducing NEPAD

1. The New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) is a promise by African leaders, based on shared vision and beliefs, to urgently:

- Get rid of poverty.
- Work towards the *sustainable growth* and *sustainable development* of every country and Africa as a continent.
- Participate actively in the world economy and political structures.

NEPAD is anchored on our determination as Africans to move ourselves away from being underdeveloped and excluded in a *globalising* world.

2. Africa's poverty and backwardness contrasts greatly with the prosperity of the *developed world*. Leaving us out of *globalisation* and social exclusion of the majority of our people is a serious threat to stability in the world.

3. Institutions of the international community have shaped African development through credit and aid:

- Credit has led to the *debt deadlock*, with its instalments and rescheduling. It continues to block growth in African countries and is thus a limited option.
- Private aid has reduced and public aid is at a limit below the target set in the 1970s.

## 4. Measuring Africa's development

In Africa:

- 340 million people (50% of the population) live on less than US\$1 a day.
- The mortality rate of children under 5 is 140 for every 1000.
- Life expectancy at birth is 54.
- 58% of the population have access to safe water.
- The rate of illiteracy for people over 15 is 41%.
- There are only 18 mainline telephones for every 100 people, compared to 146 for the whole world and 567 for high-income countries.

## Challenging dependency and underdevelopment

5. NEPAD calls for reversing this abnormal situation by changing the relationship leading to the current position. Africans do not want more *dependency* through aid, or small concessions.

6. Now is the historical opportunity to end the *underdevelopment* of Africa. There are many available resources, such as capital, technology and human skills, to launch a global war on poverty and underdevelopment.

To mobilise these resources and to use them properly, we need:

- Bold and imaginative leadership that is truly committed to sustained human development and doing away with poverty, and
- A new global partnership based on shared responsibility and interests.

7. As Africans, we declare that we will no longer accept things as they are. We will decide our own destiny, and call on the rest of the world to support our efforts.

We need to expand and speed up these signs of progress and hope:

- An increase in democratic governments committed to protecting human rights, people-centred development and market-oriented economies.
- African people beginning to show they refuse to accept weak economic and political leadership.

8. NEPAD aims to consolidate and accelerate these gains. It calls for a new relationship of partnership between Africa and the international community, especially the highly industrialised countries. We need this partnership to overcome the development gap that has widened over the centuries when our relationship with *developed countries* has been unequal.





**Africa in  
today's world:  
Between poverty  
and prosperity**

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# 2 Africa in today's world: Between poverty and prosperity

## 2.1 Africa as a resource

9. Africa is an irreplaceable resource base that has served all humanity for many centuries.

10. Africa provides 4 key resources:

- Resource 1:  
The rich complex of mineral, oil and gas deposits, the flora and fauna, and the wide unspoiled natural habitat that are the key to mining, agriculture, tourism and industrial development.
- Resource 2:  
The ecological lung formed by Africa's rainforests, and the small amount of environmentally harmful emissions and effluents – a global resource benefiting all humanity.
- Resource 3:  
Fossil and archaeological sites with evidence of the origins of the earth, life and the human race, and natural habitats with a wide variety of flora and fauna, unique animal species and open uninhabited spaces.
- Resource 4:  
The richness of Africa's culture and contribution to the variety of global cultures.

11. The world is most familiar with Resource 1. Humanity has more recently recognised Resource 2 with a major focus on environmental issues. Resource 3 is also an area of interest to all people, not just scientists and museum curators. Resource 4 reflects African creativity, which has been very underused and underdeveloped.

12. Africa's role is crucial in protecting the environment. Our resources include rainforests, an almost carbon dioxide-free atmosphere, and very few toxic effluents in rivers and soils that interact with the Atlantic and Indian Oceans, and the Mediterranean and Red Seas.

NEPAD has a strategy to look after these resources, to use them for Africa's development and to preserve them for all humanity.

13. Tropical forest communities will help to destroy our forests unless they are given another way of earning a living. Africa must have a development path that does not put tropical forests in danger, but preserves them for all humanity.

## **Africa as the cradle of humanity**

14. Modern science recognises Africa as the cradle of humanity. Africans should understand and value this contribution as part of reconstructing our identity and self-confidence as people. The whole world should cherish Africa's status as the birthplace of all its peoples.

NEPAD must thus preserve this common heritage and use it to help the world understand the need to stop underdeveloping and *marginalising* Africa.

15. Africa has a major role in keeping the strong link between human beings and the natural world. Changing technology often emphasises human beings competing for a place in production with existing and newly developed tools. Africa's open uninhabited spaces, flora and fauna, and unique animal species give all people a chance to maintain a link with nature.

16. Africa already makes a significant contribution to world culture through literature, music, visual arts and other examples of our culture. Our real potential is untapped because of our limited integration into the world economy.

NEPAD will enable Africa to contribute even more to science, culture and technology.

17. As we search for a way to build a better world in this new millennium, we will combine our resources and human will to establish Africa as an equal partner in advancing human civilisation.

## 2.2 How Africa was made poor

18. Africa's poorness was made worse by the legacy of colonialism, the *Cold War*, the effects of the international economic system and the policy shortcomings of many countries after independence.

19. For centuries, the world economy has mainly used Africa as a supplier of cheap labour and raw materials. This drained Africa's resources instead of using minerals and raw materials to develop the continent's manufacturing industries and a highly skilled labour force to sustain growth and development. This is why Africa remains the poorest continent even though it has very rich resources.

20. There was great investment in other continents and countries, creating more wealth through *value-added products*. African resources should now be used to create wealth for the well-being of our peoples.

21. Colonialism:

- Did not respect traditional structures, institutions and values.
- Made traditional structures, institutions and values serve the economic and political needs of imperial powers.
- Slowed the development of an *entrepreneurial* class, and a middle class with skills and managerial capacity.

### The period after colonialism

22. Newly independent African states inherited a shortage of skilled professionals, a weak capitalist class and poorly functioning economies. This was made worse by poor leadership, corruption and bad administration in many countries. These factors and the divisions caused by the Cold War harmed the development of *accountable* governments across Africa.

23. Many African governments did not empower their people to realise their creative potential. Weak states are a major block to sustainable development.

Some of Africa's urgent challenges are thus to:

- Strengthen capacity to govern and develop long-term policies.
- Implement far-reaching programmes and reforms in many countries.

24. The *structural adjustment programmes* of the 1980s were only a partial solution. They promoted economic reforms, but did not focus enough on social services. As a result, only a few countries achieved sustainable higher growth under these programmes.

25. The rate of building up capital in post-colonial years has not been enough to rebuild African societies after colonial underdevelopment, or to sustain improvements in the standard of living. This has led to problems in political systems, including continued *patronage* and corruption.

26. These developments have allowed a cycle of events to set in, with economic decline, reduced capacity and poor government reinforcing each other. This has confirmed Africa's smaller, marginalised role in the world economy.

## **Facing our challenges**

27. NEPAD wants to build on and celebrate past achievements, and reflect on lessons learnt through painful experience.

NEPAD aims to set up a credible and implementable partnership that takes up the challenge to say:

- For African peoples and governments, development is a process of *empowerment* and self-reliance.
- As Africans we must be the architects of our own sustained upliftment, not the servers of kind guardians.

## 2.3 Africa and the global revolution

28. The world has entered the new millennium during an economic revolution that can stimulate Africa's revival. While globalisation has increased the cost of Africa's ability to compete, effectively integrating Africa into the global economy is its best chance of achieving future economic prosperity and reducing poverty.

29. Advances in information and communications technology (ICT) have partly made the current economic revolution possible. ICT has:

- Reduced the cost of and increased the speed of global communication.
- Abolished previous barriers of time and space.
- Affected all areas of social and economic life, such as integrating national systems of production and finance, and leading to massive growth in cross-border flows of goods, services and capital.

30. Integrating national production systems has affected manufacturing and service sector production. Greater movement of capital means that borrowers (governments or private bodies) compete for capital in global not national markets. This has increased the costs for countries, including many African countries that are unable to compete effectively.

### The globalisation gap

31. There have been big differences in how countries have contributed to globalisation. The highly industrialised countries are the drivers of the world economy, with only a few countries of the developing world playing a substantial role. Most *developing countries*, especially from Africa, contribute passively through environmental and other resources.

32. The biggest inequality is in the distribution of benefits.

Opportunities have increased to improve the quality of life, for example to:

- Create or expand wealth.
- Gain knowledge and skills.
- Improve access to goods and services.

In some parts of the world, a more open global economy has created opportunities to lift millions of people out of poverty.

33. Greater economic *integration* has further marginalised countries unable to compete effectively.

Without fair and just rules, globalisation has:

- Increased the ability of the strong to push their interests at the expense of the weak, especially in trade, finance and technology.
- Limited the space for developing countries to control their own development, as there is no compensation for the weak.
- Worsened the conditions of marginalised countries and thus created a split between included and excluded nations.

## Africa's obstacles

34. Africa's inability to effectively use the globalisation process partly flows from structural obstacles to growth and development, such as the outflow of resources and unfavourable trade terms. Failure of political and economic leadership in many African countries has also blocked the effective use of scarce resources in productive activities that attract domestic and foreign investment.

35. A low level of economic activity means that the necessary tools for attracting private funds and risk-taking are not available. As a result:

- Africa's capacity to participate in globalisation is severely weakened and we are further marginalised.
- There is an increasing gap between wealth and poverty, and this threatens the *sustainability* of globalisation.

36. There was a serious financial collapse in the developing world in the last years of the 20th century. This threatened the stability of the global financial system and economy, and worsened existing levels of deep, structural poverty:

- 50% of the world's population live on less than US\$2 a day.
- 20% of the world's population live on less than US\$1 a day.

37. Other factors posing serious long-term risks include:

- The rapid increase in the numbers of socially excluded people, leading to political instability, civil war, military conflict and new patterns of mass migration.
- Greater industrial production and increasing poverty, contributing to environmental pollution of our oceans, atmosphere and natural vegetation.

Governments in developing and developed countries must urgently respond to these challenges.

## 2.4 Facing Africa's challenges

38. We can still reverse these gloomy trends. Improving the living standards of marginalised people can lead to massive international economic growth through creating new markets and using increased economic *capacity*. This will result in greater global stability, and economic and social well-being.

39. The need for development thus challenges the moral conscience of the world and is the key to sustaining globalisation. Globalisation has resulted from scientific and technological advances, and many of these have been market-driven. Governments, especially in the developed world, have largely influenced the shape and progress of globalisation.

40. National authorities and private bodies should guide globalisation on a sustainable path that spreads benefits more equally. While globalisation has offered great opportunities to some previously poor countries, the process itself does not automatically reduce poverty and inequality.

41. We need a commitment by governments, the private sector and civil society bodies to real integration of all nations into the global economy and political system. This would involve:

- Accepting global *interdependence* around production and demand.
- Recognising the environmental base that sustains the planet.
- Allowing cross-border migration.
- Rewarding good socio-economic management globally.
- Recognising partnership among all peoples as part of government globally.

We declare that the international community has the capacity to create fair and just conditions for Africa to participate effectively in the global economy and political system.

A large, light gray, stylized number '3' graphic that curves around the central text.

**The new  
political will of  
African leaders**

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# 3 The new political will of African leaders

42. NEPAD recognises past attempts to set out programmes to develop Africa. These have not succeeded for a number of internal and external reasons, including weak leadership and ownership of the programmes. Today's new circumstances give us a better opportunity to integrate and implement these programmes.

43. The new phase of globalisation took place in a changing international climate:

- International relations reshaped after the Cold War.
- New ideas of security and self-interest arose, such as the right to development and the need to eliminate poverty.
- Democracy and state *legitimacy* were redefined to include these key elements: accountable government, a human rights culture and popular participation.

## New political conditions in Africa

44. There are now more democratically elected African leaders. They have declared that the hopes of Africa's people for a better life can no longer rest on the goodwill of others.

45. Democracy is spreading across Africa:

- The African Union (AU) is determined to deal with conflicts and to speak out against undemocratic actions.
- The voice of *civil society* is growing stronger, for example through women's, youth and independent media organisations.
- African governments have shown a greater awareness of regional and continental goals of economic co-operation and integration. This also helps to improve Africa's economic recovery and to show the advantages of countries being dependent on each other for progress.

46. Africa's changed conditions have been recognised internationally. The United Nations (UN) Millennium Declaration, adopted in September 2000, confirms the global community's commitment to:

- Support Africa's efforts to address its underdevelopment and marginalisation.
- Support preventing conflict, establishing stability and democracy, and eliminating poverty and disease.
- Increase the flow of resources to Africa by improving trade and debt relationships with Africa, and by increasing the flow of private capital.

The challenge is now to translate these commitments into reality.

47. NEPAD centres on African ownership and management. Through NEPAD, African leaders are setting an agenda for Africa's renewal, based on:

- National and regional priorities and development plans, reached after popular participation.
- The idea that African leaders should express and take a lead in implementing NEPAD through a mandate from their people.

48. NEPAD is a new framework for interacting with the rest of the world, including industrialised countries and *multilateral organisations*.

NEPAD is based on the agenda set by African people to shape our own destiny through our own efforts and choices.

### **Responsibilities of African leaders**

49. To achieve these aims, African leaders will take joint responsibility to:

- Strengthen tools for preventing, managing and resolving conflict in subregions and Africa as a whole, and to ensure that these tools are used to restore and maintain peace.
- Promote and respect democracy and human rights in their countries and regions by developing clear national and subnational standards of accountability, *transparency* and participatory government.
- Restore and maintain *macro-economic* stability by developing suitable standards for financial policies, and structures to achieve these standards.
- Introduce transparent legal frameworks for financial markets and the auditing of private companies and the public sector.
- Revitalise and extend education, technical training and health services, with an urgent focus on the challenges of diseases such as the Human Immuno-deficiency Virus (HIV), the Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), malaria and tuberculosis (TB).
- Promote the role of women in social and economic development by:
  - Strengthening their education and training capacity.
  - Developing revenue-generating activities by giving access to credit.
  - Ensuring that women participate in political and economic life.
- Build the capacity of African states to enforce their legal framework, and to maintain law and order.
- Promote the development of *infrastructure*, agriculture and *agro-industries* and manufacturing to serve domestic and export markets.



4

**Appeal to the  
peoples of Africa**

# 4

## Appeal to the peoples of Africa

50. The *African Renaissance* project should allow our exploited continent to take its rightful place in the world. This depends on building a strong, competitive economy in a freer and competitive world economy.

51. NEPAD will be successful if it is owned by African peoples united in our diversity.

52. Africa has been made poor by slavery, corruption and bad economic management. Yet, if we use our enormous natural and human resources properly, Africa can achieve *equitable* and sustainable growth, and quicker integration into the world economy.

53. Our people need to regain confidence in their ability to overcome obstacles and participate in building a new Africa. NEPAD expresses the commitment of African leaders to turn the wishes of our people into action.

54. This struggle of our people will only be successful if we are in control of our own destiny.

55. This is why African political leaders appeal to all our different peoples to recognise the serious need to mobilise ourselves to:

- End the further marginalisation of Africa, and
- Ensure development by bridging the gap between Africa and the developed countries.

56. We therefore call on African people to take up the challenge of implementing NEPAD by setting up, at all levels, structures to mobilise, organise and take action.

57. African leaders believe that the true genius of our people is measured by our ability to think boldly and to be determined in supporting our own development.

58. We must not give up in implementing NEPAD's ambitious programme of building strong economies and democratic societies. African leaders now believe that we will succeed in these development efforts, and put the false starts and failures of the past behind us.

**Programme  
of Action:  
NEPAD's strategy for  
achieving sustainable  
development in the  
21st century**

# 5 Programme of Action: NEPAD's strategy for achieving sustainable development in the 21st century

59. Previous African development plans tried to address the same problems. NEPAD has a new approach and strategy to achieve Africa's development.

60. NEPAD is a long-term African-owned and African-led development programme.

61. This NEPAD *Programme of Action*:

- Lists top priorities, using the same structure as the NEPAD strategy.
- Covers what needs to be done as short-term actions.

The *Heads of State Implementation Committee* may revise these priorities when necessary.

62. Although the programme needs long-term funding, projects can be speeded up to help eliminate poverty and place African countries, individually and together, on a path of sustainable growth and development.

63. There are many urgent priorities – the idea is that the ones selected in this programme will help to encourage action in other priority areas in future.

64. Growth rates are not enough to help African countries reduce poverty. Africa's challenge is to develop the capacity to sustain growth at the level necessary to reduce poverty and sustain development.

Meeting this challenge will depend on factors such as infrastructure, *capital accumulation*, competitiveness, health and environmental management.

65. NEPAD aims to advance Africa's development by bridging existing gaps in priority sectors. This will help Africa to catch up with the developed world.

66. NEPAD's new vision needs massive, heavy investment to bridge these existing gaps. Our challenge is to raise this funding under the best possible conditions.

We call on our development partners to assist us in these efforts.

#### 67. NEPAD's long-term aims

- a) To eliminate poverty in Africa and to place African countries, individually and together, on a path of sustainable growth and development (and thus stop Africa being marginalised during globalisation).
- b) To promote the role of women in all activities.

#### 68. NEPAD's specific goals

- a) To achieve and sustain an average *gross domestic product* (GDP) growth rate of over 7% a year for the next 15 years.
- b) To ensure that Africa achieves these agreed *International Development Goals* (IDGs):
  - Reduce the number of people living in extreme poverty by 50% between 1990 and 2015.
  - Enrol all children of school age in primary schools by 2015.
  - Make progress towards gender equality and empowering women by removing gender differences in primary and secondary school enrolment by 2015.
  - Reduce infant and child death rates by 66% between 1990 and 2015.
  - Reduce the death rates of mothers by 75% between 1990 and 2015.
  - Provide access to all people needing reproductive health services by 2015.
  - Implement national strategies for sustainable development by 2005, as a way of reversing the loss of environmental resources by 2015.

## 69. NEPAD's outcomes

NEPAD's strategy has these 4 expected outcomes or results:

- a) Economic growth and development, and increased employment.
- b) Reduced poverty and inequality.
- c) *Diversified* productive activities, and increased international competitiveness and exports.
- d) Increased African integration into the world economy.

70. Africa will not achieve these IDGs and the 7% annual GDP growth rate unless we do something new and radical.

As a result, African leaders now propose NEPAD's strategy under these 3 main headings:

- Conditions for sustainable development  
(→ please see 5.1 from page 31 onwards)
- Sectoral priorities  
(→ please see 5.2 from page 36 onwards)
- Mobilising resources  
(→ please see 5.3 from page 48 onwards).

Each part of NEPAD's strategy has key themes, supported by detailed action plans.

# 5.1 Conditions for sustainable development

## 5.1.1 The Peace, Security, Democracy and Political Governance Initiatives

71. The experiences of African leaders show that the conditions for sustainable development are:

- Peace
- Security
- Democracy
- Good *governance*
- Human rights
- Good economic management.

African leaders promise to work individually and together to promote these principles in their countries, subregions and Africa as a whole.

### The Peace and Security Initiative

72. **Aims: peace and security**

- a) To promote long-term conditions for development and security.
- b) To build the capacity of African bodies to pick up early signs of conflict, and to prevent, manage and resolve conflicts.
- c) To inspire commitment to NEPAD's core values in all structures through strong leadership.

73. To achieve long-term peace and security, Africa needs policies that deal with political and social pressures leading to conflict.

We cover these policies in:

- The Democracy and Political Governance Initiative (➔ please see page 32).
- The Economic and Corporate Governance Initiative (➔ please see page 34).
- The Human Resource Development Initiative (➔ please see page 41).
- The Capital Flows Initiative (➔ please see page 48).
- The Market Access Initiative (➔ please see page 51).

74. Efforts to build Africa's conflict management capacity must focus on strengthening existing bodies in 4 key areas:

- Preventing, managing and resolving conflict
- Making, keeping and enforcing peace.
- Reconciling, rehabilitating and rebuilding after conflict.
- Stopping the illegal growth of small arms, light weapons and landmines.

**Actions: peace and security**

75. NEPAD's leaders will by April 2002 explore:

- Detailed steps and costs to cover the 4 areas listed in paragraph 74.
- Actions that all partners should take to implement these steps.
- Ways and sources for financing these activities.

76. The *Heads of State Forum* will:

- Enable NEPAD's leaders to help build the capacity of African bodies to promote peace and security, to share experience and to mobilise action.
- Ensure that the principles and commitments of the Peace and Security Initiative are carried out.

77. Africans must thus make all efforts to:

- Find a lasting solution to existing conflicts.
- Strengthen their internal security.
- Promote peace between countries.

78. At the Lusaka Summit, the AU decided to take urgent steps to revive the bodies responsible for preventing and resolving conflict.

### **The Democracy and Political Governance Initiative**

79. Development is not possible without true democracy, respect for human rights, peace and good governance. In NEPAD, Africa promises to respect global standards of democracy, including allowing:

- Different kinds of political systems.
- Political parties and workers' unions to exist freely.
- Fair, open, democratic and regular elections to choose leaders freely.

### **80. Aims: democracy and political governance**

The Democracy and Political Governance Initiative aims to help strengthen each participating country's political and administrative structures, in line with these principles:

- Democracy
- Transparency
- Accountability
- Integrity
- Respect for human rights
- Promoting the *rule of law*.

The Democracy and Political Governance Initiative will support and work with the Economic and Corporate Governance Initiative to mobilise for Africa to develop and to eliminate poverty.

81. The Democracy and Political Governance Initiative has 3 parts:

- A series of commitments by participating countries to create or strengthen basic governance methods.
- A promise by participating countries to lead in supporting efforts to encourage good governance.
- Commitment to this initiative's core values in all structures, inspired by NEPAD's leadership.

### **Actions: democracy and political governance**

82. NEPAD participating countries will commit themselves to meet basic standards of good governance and democratic behaviour, and to support each other. Countries will get support to make necessary reforms.

By April 2002, NEPAD's leaders will identify:

- Recommendations on suitable tools to assess how countries are meeting good governance standards.
- Weaknesses in structures and ways of correcting these.

83. NEPAD's leaders will help develop the ability to govern by building capacity. This will be done through reforms in:

- Administrative and civil services.
- Strengthening the monitoring of parliament.
- Promoting participatory decision-making.
- Adopting effective steps to stop corruption and *embezzlement*.
- Introducing judicial reforms.

84. Participating countries will:

- Lead in supporting and building structures and efforts that protect the commitments of the Democracy and Political Governance Initiative.
- Work to create and strengthen national, subregional and continental structures that support good governance.

85. The Heads of State Forum will:

- Monitor and assess progress made by African countries in achieving their commitment to good governance and social reforms.
- Be a platform for countries to share experiences that can encourage good governance and democratic practices.

<p>This monitoring role is an example of <i>peer review</i> where countries check on each other's performance.</p>
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## 5.1.2 The Economic and Corporate Governance Initiative

86. The state should play a major role in promoting economic growth and development, and in implementing poverty reduction programmes. Many governments do not have the capacity to create conditions for development. As a result, many countries:

- Do not have policies and laws for private sector-led growth.
- Do not have the capacity to implement programmes, even when funding is available.

87. Countries should prioritise capacity-building for specific target-groups. In all programmes, we should assess capacity and then give the support needed.

### 88. Aim: economic and corporate governance

To promote in all participating countries concrete programmes and time-frames to increase the quality of:

- Economic and public financial management.
- *Corporate* governance.

### 89. Actions: economic and corporate governance

- a) The *Heads of State Implementation Committee* (HSIC) will consider a report from a Task Force from the Ministries of Finance and Central Banks by April 2002. The Task Force will:
  - Review economic and corporate governance practices in various countries and regions.
  - Recommend suitable standards and codes of practice.
- b) The HSIC will refer its recommendations to African countries for implementation.
- c) The HSIC will prioritise public financial management. Countries will develop a programme for improving public financial management and targets, and will set up assessment tools to measure progress.
- d) The HSIC will mobilise capacity-building resources to allow all countries to follow the agreed minimum standards and codes of conduct.

## Subregional and regional approaches to development

90. Most African countries have a small population and a low income for each person. They often have limited markets and have not diversified their production and exports. This limits potential investment in essential infrastructure that depends on *economies of scale* to make it worthwhile.

91. To improve their international competitiveness, African countries should share their resources, and improve regional development and economic integration. We must therefore strengthen Africa's 5 subregional economic groupings.

92. NEPAD aims to provide essential regional resources (eg transport, energy, water, eliminating disease, preserving the environment), and to promote trade and investment within Africa.

The focus will be to:

- Develop a structure for economic integration by identifying common projects that fit into country and regional development programmes.
- *Harmonise* economic and investment policies and practices.
- Co-ordinate national sector policies and the effective monitoring of regional decisions.

93. NEPAD will prioritise capacity-building to make existing regional structures more effective and to streamline existing regional organisations. The African Development Bank must take the lead in financing regional studies, programmes and projects.

94. NEPAD's current programme includes these 5 *priority sectors*:

- a) Infrastructure, especially ICT and energy
- b) Human resources, including education, skills development and *reversing the brain drain*
- c) Health
- d) Agriculture
- e) Access to the markets of developed countries for African exports.

95. Each sector should try to bridge existing gaps between Africa and developed countries with aim of improving Africa's international competitiveness and participating in globalisation. In doing this, we need to deal with the special conditions faced by African island and landlocked countries.

## 5.2 Sectoral priorities

### 5.2.1 The Infrastructure Initiative

#### All infrastructure sectors

96. NEPAD will focus on subregional or continental infrastructure, including roads, highways, airports, seaports, railways, waterways and telecommunications facilities.

97. Infrastructure is a key measure of economic growth. We need solutions to raise Africa to the level of developed countries in accumulating material and human capital.

98. With the same basic infrastructure as developed countries, Africa could produce more for domestic use and international competition. The infrastructure gap is a serious obstacle to economic growth and reducing poverty.

Improved infrastructure, including the cost and reliability of services, would benefit Africa and the international community. International trading partners would be able to get African goods and services more cheaply.

99. In many African countries, colonial powers built infrastructure to export raw materials from Africa and import industrial goods into Africa.

100. In addition to credit and aid, private foreign finance is essential to improve infrastructure in Africa.

101. The Infrastructure Initiative has elements common to all infrastructure sectors, but there also elements that are sector-specific.

#### 102. Aims: all infrastructure sectors

- a) To improve access to, and the affordability and reliability of, infrastructure services for businesses and households.
- b) To increase regional co-operation and trade through expanded cross-border development of infrastructure.
- c) To increase financial investments in infrastructure by lowering the risks facing private investors, especially with policies and *regulatory frameworks*.
- d) To build the knowledge and skills needed in technology and engineering for installing, operating and maintaining infrastructure networks in Africa.

#### 103. Actions: all infrastructure sectors

- a) With the help of sector-specialised agencies:
  - Establish policy and legal frameworks to encourage competition.
  - Introduce new regulatory frameworks and build capacity for regulators, to harmonise policies and regulations for trading across borders and enlarging markets.
- b) Increase investment in infrastructure (especially in repairing and restoring) and improve system maintenance to sustain infrastructure.
- c) Facilitate training bodies and networks to develop highly skilled technicians and engineers in all infrastructure sectors.

- d) Promote community and user involvement in building, maintaining and managing infrastructure, especially in poor urban and rural areas (together with NEPAD's other governance initiatives).
- e) Work with the African Development Bank and other African development finance bodies to mobilise sustainable financing. This should happen through multilateral organisations and donor governments, with the aim of getting grants, debt relief and development assistance to lessen medium-term risks.
- f) Promote *public-private partnerships* to attract private investors and focus public funding on the urgent needs of the poor, by building capacity to implement and monitor agreements.

This section has covered issues common to all infrastructure sectors. Now we will cover sector-specific strategies for different types of infrastructure.

## Information and communication technologies

104. Information and communication technologies (ICTs) are a key to the knowledge-based economy of the future. Rapid advances in technology and the lower costs of new ICT tools have given African countries the opportunity to accelerate their economic growth and development.

ICT developments can:

- Assist the aim of achieving an African Union and a *Common Market*.
- Encourage trade between African regions.
- Speed up Africa's integration into the world economy.

105. Intensive use of ICTs in Africa can:

- Support democratisation and good governance.
- Facilitate Africa's integration into the 'new information' world, using our cultural diversity as an advantage.
- Help in many situations, such as remote sensing and environmental, agricultural and infrastructural planning.
- Inspire the training of a core of professionals in the use of ICTs.
- Help establish African research programmes and technology exchange programmes to meet our needs, especially in the fight against illiteracy.
- Identify and exploit opportunities for trade, investment and finance.
- Set up regional distance learning and health education programmes.
- Be a tool for monitoring tension spots and providing an efficient early warning in managing conflict and controlling *pandemic* diseases.

106. In Africa, people have had limited access to affordable telephones, broadcasting, computers and the Internet because of poor ICT infrastructure, weak policy and regulatory frameworks, and limited human resources.

As a result:

- Africa has only one line for every 100 people.
- The connection cost averages 20% of GDP for each person, compared to the world average of 9% and 1% for high-income countries.
- Africa has been unable to effectively use ICT as a tool in improving peoples' lives and creating new business opportunities.
- There have been limited links across African borders and with global markets.
- While many countries have started ICT policy reforms, the number of areas serviced, service quality and tariffs have not yet improved.

This is why we speak of the need to *bridge the digital divide* – in other words, to invest in ICT so that Africa can connect with and benefit from advances in ICT.

#### 107. Aims: ICT

- a) To double the number of lines to 2 lines for every 100 people by 2005, with an adequate level of access for households.
- b) To lower the cost and improve the reliability of service.
- c) To achieve *e-readiness* for all African countries.
- d) To develop a pool of ICT-competent youth and students for Africa to draw on as trainee engineers, programmers and software developers.
- e) To develop local-content software, based especially on Africa's cultural legacy.

#### 108. Actions: ICT

- a) Work with regional agencies such as the African Telecommunications Union and Africa Connection to design model policy and laws for telecommunications reform, and protocols and templates for e-readiness assessments.
- b) Work with regional agencies to build the capacity to regulate ICT.
- c) Set up a network of training and research bodies to help build high-level competency in ICT.
- d) Promote and accelerate existing projects to connect schools and youth centres.
- e) Work with African development finance bodies, multilateral structures (eg G-8, UN Task Force) and donors to establish financial tools for lessening risks in the ICT sector.

## Energy

109. Energy plays a critical role in development as a domestic necessity and as a key part of production. In production, the cost of energy directly affects prices of other goods and services, and the competitiveness of businesses. The search for plentiful and cheap energy is affected by the uneven distribution of energy resources in Africa.

#### Aims: energy

- a) To distribute existing energy resources more evenly throughout Africa.
- b) To develop Africa's plentiful solar energy resources.

- c) To increase Africa's access to reliable and affordable commercial energy supply from 10% to 35% or more by 2021.
- d) To improve the reliability and lower the cost of energy supply to productive activities to encourage economic growth of 6% a year.
- e) To exploit and develop the hydropower potential of Africa's river basins.
- f) To integrate transmission grids and gas pipelines to help the flow of energy across borders.
- g) To reform and harmonise petroleum law.

**110. Actions: energy**

- a) Set up an African Forum for Utility Regulation and establish national regulatory bodies.
- b) Set up a task force to recommend priorities and strategies to implement regional projects, including hydropower generation, transmission grids and gas pipelines.
- c) Set up a task team to speed up developing energy supply to low-income housing.
- d) Broaden the *biomass* energy conservation programme from the Southern African Development Community (SADC) to the rest of Africa.

**Transport**

**111. Aims: transport**

- a) To reduce delays in cross-border movement of people, goods and services.
- b) To reduce waiting-time in ports.
- c) To promote economic activity and cross-border trade through improved land transport links.
- d) To increase air passenger and freight links across Africa's subregions.

**112. Actions: transport**

- a) Establish customs and immigration task teams to harmonise border crossing and visa procedures.
- b) Set up and develop public-private partnerships (PPPs), and give concessions for constructing, developing and maintaining ports, roads, railways and sea transport.
- c) Promote the harmonising of standards and regulations for different types of transport, and the increased use of transport facilities that combine different types of transport.
- d) Work with regional organisations to set up *transport development* corridors.
- e) Promote PPPs in the more efficient organisation of the airline industry, and build capacity for air traffic control.

## **Water and sanitation**

### **113. Aims: water and sanitation**

- a) To ensure sustainable access to safe and adequate clean water supply and sanitation, especially for the poor.
- b) To plan and manage water resources to become part of national and regional co-operation and development.
- c) To systematically manage and sustain ecosystems, *biodiversity* and wildlife.
- d) To co-operate on shared rivers between participating countries.
- e) To effectively deal with the threat of climate change.
- f) To ensure better irrigation and rain-fed agriculture to improve agricultural production and access to enough healthy food.

### **114. Actions: water and sanitation**

- a) Speed up work on multipurpose water projects, eg the Nile Basin Initiative.
- b) Set up a task team to plan to respond to the negative impact of climate change on Africa.
- c) Work with the Global Environmental Sanitation Initiative to promote sanitary waste disposal methods and projects.
- d) Support the UN Habitat programme on water conservation in African cities.

## **5.2.2 Human Resource Development Initiative**

### **Reducing poverty**

#### **115. Aims: poverty**

- a) To take the lead by prioritising reducing poverty in NEPAD's programmes, and in national macro-economic and sectoral policies.
- b) To focus specifically on reducing poverty among women.
- c) To ensure empowerment of the poor in strategies to reduce poverty.
- d) To support existing multilateral efforts to reduce poverty, eg:
  - The Comprehensive Development Framework of the World Bank.
  - The Poverty Reduction Strategy approach linked to the debt relief plan for Highly Indebted Poor Countries (HIPCs).

#### **116. Actions: poverty**

- a) Ensure that countries assess their poverty reduction impact in country plans prepared for NEPAD's programme of action, before and after their implementation.
- b) Work with the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the African Development Bank and UN agencies to speed up adopting and implementing the Comprehensive Development Framework, the Poverty Reduction Strategy and other similar plans.
- c) Set up a gender task team to ensure that NEPAD's poverty reduction strategies deal with the specific issues faced by poor women.
- d) Set up a task team to speed up adopting participatory and decentralised procedures for providing infrastructure and social services.

### **Bridging the education gap**

#### **117. Aims: education**

- a) To work with donors and multilateral organisations to reach the International Development Goal (IDG) of universal primary education by 2015.
- b) To work to improve curriculum development, educational quality and access to ICT.
- c) To expand access to secondary education and make it more relevant to Africa's development.
- d) To promote networks of specialised research and higher education institutions.

#### **118. Actions: education**

- a) Review current efforts jointly with the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) and other major international donors.
- b) Review what African countries spend on education, and lead the development of standards for government spending on education.
- c) Set up a task force to speed up introducing ICT in primary schools.
- d) Set up a task force to review and make proposals on the research capacity needed in each region of Africa.

119. Poor facilities and systems are the key problems facing Africans receiving education in Africa. Africans trained elsewhere in the world have shown their ability to compete successfully.

120. NEPAD's plan:

- Supports immediate strengthening of African university systems, including creating specialised universities where needed, building on available African teaching staff.
- Emphasises the need to set up and strengthen technology institutes.

## **Reversing the brain drain**

121. Aims: brain drain

- a) To reverse the brain drain and turn it into a 'brain gain' for Africa.
- b) To build and keep in Africa vital human capacities for Africa's development.
- c) To develop strategies for using the scientific and technological knowledge and skills of Africans living abroad for the development of Africa.

122. Actions: brain drain

- a) Create the necessary political, social and economic conditions in Africa that would help to stop the brain drain and attract much-needed investment.
- b) Set up a reliable database on the brain drain to:
  - Determine the size of the problem.
  - Promote networking and co-operation between experts in each African country and those abroad.
- c) Develop scientific and technical networks to:
  - Channel the return of scientific knowledge to home countries.
  - Facilitate co-operation between those abroad and at home.
- d) Ensure that the expertise of Africans living in developed countries is used to carry out some of NEPAD's projects.

## **Health**

123. Aims: health

- a) To strengthen programmes for containing *communicable diseases* to ensure that they reach the standard for reducing the number of people affected by the disease.
- b) To have a secure health system that meets needs and controls diseases effectively.
- c) To ensure the necessary support capacity for the sustainable development of an effective health care delivery system.
- d) To empower the people of Africa to improve their own health and to achieve *health literacy*.
- e) To successfully reduce the number of people affected by diseases among the poorest people in Africa.
- f) To encourage co-operation between medical doctors and traditional healers.

#### 124. Actions: health

- a) Strengthen Africa's efforts in getting affordable drugs, for example through international drug companies.
- b) Explore alternative delivery systems for essential drugs and supplies.
- c) Mobilise the resources needed to build effective disease interventions and secure health systems.
- d) Lead the campaign for increased international financial support for the struggle to deal with HIV, AIDS and all communicable diseases.
- e) Join forces with donors and international bodies, such as the World Health Organisation (WHO), to ensure that support for Africa is increased by at least US\$10 billion a year.
- f) Encourage African countries to give more priority to health in their budgets, and to phase in increases in health spending.
- g) Jointly mobilise resources for building capacity to enable all African countries to improve their health infrastructure and management.

#### Taking up the challenge of Africa's health crisis

125. Africa has major *endemic diseases*. Weak environmental policies and poor living conditions allow bacteria and parasites, carried by insects, animals and the movement of people. Epidemics of communicable diseases, especially HIV, tuberculosis and malaria, seriously limit human development.

126. In the health sector, Africa compares very poorly with the rest of the world:

- In 1997, child deaths were 105 for every 1000, compared to 6 for every 1000 in developed countries.
- Juvenile deaths were 169 for every 1000, compared to 7 for every 1000 in developed countries.
- Life expectancy is 48,9 years in Africa – and 77,7 years in developed countries.
- Only 16 doctors are available for every 100 000 people, compared to 253 in developed countries.

Poverty, as shown in very low average incomes for each person, is a major factor that limits peoples' capacity to deal with their health problems.

127. Nutrition is a vital part of good health. The average daily intake of calories in low-income countries is 2384, compared to 2846 in middle-income countries and 3390 in high-income countries.

128. The WHO defines health as 'a state of complete physical and mental well-being'.

In the working population, health improvement leads to fewer working days lost to sick leave, increase in productivity, securing better-paid jobs and economic growth.

For everyone, better health and nutrition lead to improved well-being through, for example, controlling the spread of disease, reducing infant mortality rates and having a higher life-expectancy. There is a clear link between health, nutrition and reducing poverty.

### 5.2.3 Agriculture

129. The majority of Africa's people live in rural areas, where farming systems are often weak and unproductive. As a result, agricultural supplies and income are low in many rural areas, leading to poverty. This is also affected by external factors, such as:

- Climate uncertainty
- Biases in economic policy
- Instability in world prices.

130. To achieve the urgent need for *food security* in Africa, we must improve farming systems to increase food production and raise nutritional standards.

131. Improving agricultural performance is essential for African economic development. Increasing the purchasing power of rural people will lead to a higher demand for African industrial goods, and thus aid economic growth.

132. We must remove a number of structural obstacles to improve productivity in agriculture. For example, climate uncertainty makes agriculture dependent on private investment a big risk.

To assist, governments should:

- Help to provide irrigation equipment.
- Develop arable lands when private agents are unwilling to do this.
- Improve other rural infrastructure (eg roads, rural electrification).

133. Institutional support for agriculture can boost productivity and performance, for example:

- Research centres and institutes.
- Extension and support services.
- Agricultural trade fairs.

Participation in regulating agriculture is also important, for example:

- Encouraging local community leadership in rural areas.
- Involving rural communities in policy and providing services.

134. More than 70% of poor people in Africa live in rural areas. All donors and multilateral organisations should therefore focus much more on the agricultural sector and rural development. Yet, for example, World Bank credits to agriculture were 39% in 1978, but dropped to 12% in 1996 and 7% in 2000.

## 5.2.4 The Environment Initiative

135. A healthy and productive environment is essential for NEPAD, yet securing a strong environment is a difficult challenge. We therefore need to:

- Combine our efforts to develop a clear environmental programme.
- Choose and prioritise key issues for short-term action.

136. A key aim of the Environment Initiative is to fight poverty and contribute to social and economic development in Africa. Efforts in other parts of the world show that steps taken to achieve a healthy environment also contribute much to employment, social and economic empowerment, and reducing poverty.

137. Africa will host the World Summit on Sustainable Development in September 2002. Environmental management is the key theme of the summit. We propose that NEPAD's environmental themes and actions are emphasised at this summit.

### 138. Priority environmental actions

The Environment Initiative has targeted these 8 priority areas:

- a) *Combating desertification:*  
We need to rehabilitate degraded land and deal with the factors that caused the land to be damaged. Initial steps can include public works programmes that will also help social development needs. These initial actions can be models for other future actions.
- b) *Wetland conservation:*  
We need to implement African best practices on wetland conservation, where private sector investment can lead to social and ecological benefits.
- c) *Invasive alien species:*  
We need partnerships to prevent and control invasive alien species. These can be major labour-intensive efforts that preserve ecosystems and promote economic well-being.
- d) *Coastal management:*  
We need to protect and use coastal resources most effectively. Wise use of best practices can lead to a broader programme.
- e) *Global warming:*  
We will start by monitoring and regulating the impact of climate change. Labour-intensive efforts are vital in fire management projects.
- f) *Cross-border conservation areas:*  
We need to build on current efforts to set up partnerships across countries to boost conservation and tourism, and create jobs.
- g) *Environmental governance:*  
To help implement all these themes, we need to build capacity in areas such as management, legal, planning and training skills.
- h) *Financing:*  
We need a carefully structured and fair financing system to fund these efforts.

139. Many of the environmental projects can start within short time-frames, and will help to create a social and ecological foundation for other NEPAD projects to benefit from.

## 5.2.5 Culture

140. Culture is a core part of development in Africa. *Indigenous knowledge* is a major feature of Africa's culture. We need to protect and effectively use indigenous knowledge, and share it for the benefit of humanity.

Indigenous knowledge includes:

- Tradition-based literacy
- Artistic and scientific works
- Inventions and scientific discoveries
- Designs, marks, names and symbols
- Genetic resources and knowledge
- All other tradition-based creations from intellectual work in the industrial, scientific, literary and artistic fields.

141. NEPAD's leaders will take urgent steps to protect and develop indigenous knowledge through suitable legislation by working with the World Intellectual Property Organisation.

## **5.2.6 Science and technology**

### **142. Aims: science and technology**

- a) To promote cross-border co-operation by using knowledge currently available in Africa.
- b) To develop and adapt capacity to collect and analyse information to produce and export.
- c) To generate a core of technological expertise in targeted areas with high growth potential, especially in biotechnology and natural sciences.
- d) To integrate and adapt existing technologies to diversify manufacturing.

### **143. Actions: science and technology**

- a) Co-operate regionally on product standards development and distribution, and on geographic information systems.
- b) Develop Internet and other networks between existing centres for cross-border staff exchanges and training programmes, and set up schemes to help displaced African scientists and researchers.
- c) Work with UNESCO, the Food and Agriculture Organisation and other international bodies to use biotechnology to develop Africa's rich bio diversity and indigenous knowledge by improving agricultural productivity and developing medicines.
- d) Expand geoscience research to improve the use of Africa's mineral wealth.
- e) Set up and develop skills-based product engineering and quality control to support diversifying manufacturing.

## 5.3 Mobilising resources

### 5.3.1 The Capital Flows Initiative

144. Africa needs an estimated 7% annual growth rate to meet International Development Goals (IDGs), especially the goal of reducing by 50% the number of Africans living in poverty by 2015. To achieve this, countries need to save and improve public *revenue* collection systems.

However, Africa will have to get the bulk of its necessary resources from abroad. NEPAD thus focuses on:

- Debt reduction and overseas development assistance (ODA), as short- and medium-term methods.
- Private capital flows, as a long-term method.

#### Our basic principle

Improved governance is essential for increased capital flows. Thus, countries participating in the Capital Flows Initiative must also participate in the Economic and Political Governance Initiative.

#### Increasing domestic resource mobilisation

145. Africa needs to mobilise additional *domestic* and foreign resources to achieve higher levels of growth and to reduce poverty more effectively.

To improve domestic resources, we need to:

- Substantially increase national savings by firms and households.
- Collect tax more effectively.
- Improve government spending.

#### Keeping capital in our countries

Many countries lose a lot of domestic savings when capital is taken out of the country. This trend will only stop when African economies become attractive places for residents to keep their wealth.

To address this problem, we need to:

- Create conditions to attract private sector investments by domestic and foreign investors.
- Mobilise other available resources within Africa.
- Request developed countries to commit government revenue to finance investment plans.
- Suggest arranging *special drawing rights* for Africa.

#### Debt relief

##### 146. Aims: debt relief

Currently, debt relief is based on *debt sustainability*, where debt service payments are a big part of the resource gap between developed and developing countries.

NEPAD wants to adapt the concept of debt relief:

- a) As a long-term aim, to link debt relief with achieving poverty reduction targets.

- b) As a short- and medium-term aim, to have debt service limits fixed as a percentage of *fiscal* revenue, with different levels for countries getting development assistance.

Africa needs to ensure that it receives the full commitment of debt relief and overseas development assistance.

#### **147. Actions: debt relief**

- a) NEPAD's Heads of State Forum will negotiate an agreement with the international community to provide further debt relief to countries participating in NEPAD:
  - Before getting help through NEPAD, countries will work through existing debt relief structures (eg the Paris Club, Highly Indebted Poor Countries - HIPC).
  - Countries will need to participate in the Economic Governance Initiative, and have agreed poverty reduction and debt strategies to be able to absorb extra resources.
- b) NEPAD leaders will set up a forum for African countries to share strategies and mobilise for improving debt relief strategies (eg reforming the HIPC process).

### **Overseas development assistance reforms**

#### **148. Aims: overseas development assistance (ODA)**

- a) To increase ODA flows to African countries.
- b) To reform the ODA delivery system to ensure that countries use development assistance more effectively.

#### **149. Actions: ODA**

- a) Set up an ODA forum for developing a common African position on ODA reform – this will be a partner of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.
- b) Through the ODA forum, work with the DAC and other donors to create a charter for the development partnership – this charter will:
  - Establish participation in the Economic Governance Initiative as essential for improving the capacity of African countries to use increased ODA flows.
  - Propose an independent assessment tool for monitoring donor performance.
- c) Support efforts of the Economic Commission for Africa to set up a Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper Learning Group, to work with the IMF and the World Bank.
- d) Set up an independent tool to assess the performance of donors and countries receiving ODA.

## **Private capital flows**

### **150. Aim: private capital flows**

NEPAD aims to increase private capital flows to Africa as an essential part of a long-term approach to reduce the resource gap.

### **151. Priorities: private capital flows**

- a) Change the way investors see Africa:  
Many investors see Africa as 'high risk'. Key parts of NEPAD will help to gradually lower these risks, for example:
  - Our initiatives on peace and security, political and economic governance, infrastructure and poverty reduction.
  - Plans for short-term steps to lower risks, such as credit guarantee schemes and strong regulatory frameworks.
- b) Build capacity:  
NEPAD plans to implement a public-private partnership (PPP) capacity-building programme through the African Development Bank and other regional bodies. This will assist governments to properly regulate contracts for infrastructure and social services.
- c) Improve financial markets:  
We will use a Financial Market Integration Force to promote the spread of financial markets within countries and across borders. At first, this will focus on laws and regulations for the financial system.

### **152. Actions: private capital flows**

- a) Set up a task team to audit laws and regulations on investment, with a special focus on effectively reducing risk in Africa.
- b) Carry out a needs assessment of financial tools to lower risks when doing business in Africa, and a feasibility study on creating these, if needed.
- c) Set up a project to improve the capacity of countries to implement PPPs.
- d) Set up a Financial Market Integration Force to speed up integrating financial markets by creating:
  - A standard international framework for laws and regulations.
  - A single African trading platform.
- e) Take steps to arrange for:
  - Additional ODA - this will help the least developed countries to achieve IDGs, especially for primary education, health and eliminating poverty.
  - Additional debt reduction - many countries receiving HIPC debt relief still carry high debt burdens, and some countries not receiving HIPC relief also need debt relief to free resources for reducing poverty.

## 5.3.2 The Market Access Initiative

### Diversifying production

153. African economies are vulnerable because they depend on *primary production* and resource-based sectors that offer limited export opportunities.

#### Aim: diversifying production

To urgently broaden production, using Africa's natural resource base as a starting point.

#### Actions: diversifying production

- a) Increase the value added in agro-processing and mineral *beneficiation*.
- b) Develop a broader capital goods sector by diversifying economically through links with other sectors.
- c) Support private enterprise – small businesses in the informal sector, and small and medium businesses in the manufacturing sector.
- d) As governments, remove obstacles to business activity and encourage creative African business talent.

### Agriculture

#### 154. Aims: agriculture

- a) To improve productivity in agriculture, especially for women and small-scale farmers.
- b) To ensure food security for all people, including more access to enough food and nutrition by poor people.
- c) To promote steps to stop the degrading of natural resources and to encourage environmentally sustainable production methods.
- d) To integrate the rural poor into the market economy, and give them better access to export markets.
- e) To develop Africa so that it exports more agricultural products than it imports.
- f) To become a strategic source of developing agricultural science and technology.

#### 155. Actions on agriculture in Africa

- a) Increase secure water supply for agriculture by creating small-scale irrigation facilities, improving local water management, and more international exchange of information and skills.
- b) Promote necessary land reform and improve *land tenure security* (under traditional and modern forms of tenure).
- c) Encourage regional, subregional, national and household food security by developing and managing increased production, transport, storage and marketing of food crops, livestock and fisheries. We need to focus on the poor and to develop early warning systems to monitor droughts and crop production.
- d) Improve agricultural credit and financing schemes, including access to credit for women and small-scale farmers.

- e) Transfer resources from urban to rural activities to reduce Africa's emphasis on urban spending.

#### **Actions on agriculture at international level**

- a) Develop new partnerships to respond to donors not wanting to support individual, high-profile agricultural projects.
- b) Request help from developing countries to assist Africa in carrying out and developing capacity in agricultural research and development.
- c) Promote access to international markets by improving the quality of African produce and agricultural products, especially processed products, to meet international standards.
- d) Support African networking with foreign partners on agricultural technology, extension services and rural infrastructure.
- e) Support investment in research on high-yield crops, and on durable preservation and storage methods.
- f) Provide support to build national and regional capacity to negotiate on multilateral trade (eg on food sanitation).

### **Mining**

#### **156. Aims: mining**

- a) To improve the quality of information on mineral resources.
- b) To create a regulatory framework that is suitable for the development of the mining sector.
- c) To develop best practices that will ensure efficient mining of high quality natural resources and minerals.

#### **157. Actions: mining**

- a) Harmonise policies and regulations to ensure that mining follows minimum standards.
- b) Combine commitments to reduce possible investment risks in Africa.
- c) Share information sources on business opportunities for investments.
- d) Improve co-operation to share knowledge and add value to natural resources.
- e) Enforce principles of adding value (beneficiation) for investments in the African mining sector.
- f) Co-operate with existing schools to set up an African School of Mining to develop education, skills and training at all levels.

### **Manufacturing**

#### **158. Aims: manufacturing**

- a) To increase production, competitiveness and diversification in the domestic private sector, especially in agro-industry, mining and manufacturing.
- b) To set up organisations to deal with national standards in African countries.
- c) To harmonise technical regulatory frameworks used by African countries.

### 159. Actions: manufacturing in Africa

- a) Develop new industries or upgrade existing industries, including agro-based industries, and energy and mineral resource-based industries.
- b) Become members of relevant international standards organisations. Active membership will:
  - Give Africa a stronger voice in these bodies.
  - Enable African industry to help develop international standards.
  - Allow international standards to be used by national associations.
- c) Set up national measurement bodies to ensure that countries fit in with the international metrology system.
- d) Ensure that testing laboratories and certification bodies are set up to support the relevant national technical regulations.
- e) Set up an accreditation infrastructure that is internationally acceptable, such as the International Standards Organisation system. This can be done nationally, where industry is strong, or regionally. Funding should be made available for membership of international structures (eg the International Accreditation Forum).
- f) Try to arrange recognition of test and certification results with Africa's major trading partners. This is usually only possible when frameworks for things like standards, technical regulations and accreditation meet international standards.

### Actions: manufacturing at international level

- a) Facilitate partnerships by developing structures such as joint business councils for sharing information, joint ventures and subcontracting.
- b) Help strengthen African training bodies for industrial development, especially by promoting networking with international partners.
- c) Promote the transfer of new and appropriate technologies to African countries.
- d) Develop and accept a best practice framework for technical regulations that suits the needs of African countries and meets the standards of the WTO Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade.
- e) Set up standards bodies that will give industry and government information on international, regional and national standards, and thus access to markets. These bodies should link with international, regional and national standards information centres.
- f) Ensure the development of suitable regional and national standards by setting up technical committee structures that represent stakeholders of countries and are managed in line with international standards.

## Tourism

### 160. Aims: tourism

- a) To identify key national and subregional projects (called 'anchor projects') that will bring benefits like employment, and help to promote economic integration between African regions.
- b) To develop a regional marketing strategy.

- c) To develop research capacity in tourism.
- d) To promote partnerships, eg in subregional bodies such as:
  - The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)
  - The Regional Tourism Organisation of Southern Africa (RETOSA).

**161. Actions: tourism**

- a) Develop co-operative partnerships to share knowledge and involve more countries in tourist-related activities.
- b) Build community capacity to be actively involved in sustainable tourism projects.
- c) Prioritise consumer safety and security issues.
- d) Market African tourism products, especially in adventure tourism, *ecotourism* and cultural tourism.
- e) Increase African regional co-ordination of tourism to expand and diversify products.
- f) Develop specialised consumer-targeted marketing campaigns to benefit from the strong interregional demand for tourism activities.

**Services**

162. Services are a vital activity area for African countries. This is especially important for countries that are well-equipped in ICT, for example in teleservices.

The NEPAD programme does not give any more information on the service sector.

**Promoting the private sector**

**163. Aims: promoting the private sector**

- a) To ensure a user-friendly environment for private sector activities, especially domestic *entrepreneurs*.
- b) To promote foreign direct investment and trade, emphasising exports.
- c) To develop micro-, small and medium enterprises, including the *informal sector*.

**164. Actions: promoting the private sector in Africa**

- a) Support buying new technology, improving production, and training and skills development to increase the entrepreneurial, managerial and technical capacities of the private sector.
- b) Strengthen chambers of commerce, trade and professional organisations, and their regional networks.
- c) Organise government-private sector talks to develop a shared vision for economic development and to allow a free environment for private sector development.
- d) Strengthen micro-, small and medium-scale industries through technical support by technical bodies and civil society.
- e) Improve access to capital by strengthening microfinancing schemes, especially for women entrepreneurs.

**Actions: promoting the private sector at international level**

- a) Promote entrepreneurial development programmes for training managers of African firms.
- b) Give technical assistance to develop a regulatory environment that:
  - Promotes small, medium and micro-enterprises.
  - Sets up microfinancing schemes for the African private sector.

**Promoting African exports**

**165. Aims: promoting African exports**

- a) To improve procedures for customs and *rebates*.
- b) To overcome international trade barriers by improving trade.
- c) To increase trade within African regions by promoting cross-border co-operation between African businesses.
- d) To counter Africa's negative image by marketing the continent and resolving conflicts.
- e) To deal with skills shortages by incentives and training within businesses.

**166. Actions: promoting African exports in Africa**

- a) Promote trade within Africa to find African sources for imports from the rest of the world.
- b) Create marketing tools and bodies to develop marketing strategies for African products.
- c) Publicise African export and import companies and products through trade fairs.
- d) Reduce the cost of business transactions and operations.
- e) Promote and improve regional trade agreements, and encourage inter regional trade by harmonising rules, tariffs and product standards.
- f) Reduce export taxes.

**Actions: promoting African exports at international level**

- a) Negotiate agreements and tools to allow African products to access world markets.
- b) Encourage foreign direct investment.
- c) Assist in building capacity in the private sector, and in government and the subregion to:
  - Implement rules and regulations of the WTO.
  - Identify and use new trading opportunities in the developing multilateral trading system.
- d) Ensure that Africa participates actively in the world trading system, run under the WTO since 1995.
- e) Ensure that any new multilateral trade negotiations cover Africa's needs and interests in future WTO rules.

### 167. Africa's needs in world trade

Africa's participation in the world trading system must lead to:

- a) Open, certain and geographically spread market access for African exports.
- b) A forum for developing countries to call for structural adjustment by developed countries in industries where the developing world has a natural competitive advantage.
- c) Transparency and certainty as conditions for increased investment, in return for improving supply capacity and gains from existing access to markets.
- d) Technical assistance and support to increase the institutional capacity of African states to use the WTO and negotiate multilateral trade.

### 168. Strategic action to assist Africa

African leaders must identify strategic ways of strengthening trade to aid Africa's recovery, together with the international community, for example to:

- a) Identify key areas in export production where there are weaknesses with supplies.
- b) Diversify production and exports to move to higher value-added production, especially in areas where Africa has a competitive advantage.
- c) Assess lifting restrictions in manufacturing, where there is lots of access in low value-added sectors and limited access in high value-added activities (with much economic and growth potential).
- d) Intensify and deepen efforts to integrate and increase trade in Africa through:
  - A voluntary *preferential trade system* for trade within Africa.
  - Harmonising domestic and regional trade and industrial policy aims to boost sustainable regional economic trade.

### 169. Action on preferential treatment

African leaders must act to:

- a) Secure and stabilise preferential treatment by key developed country partners, eg through the General System of Preferences and the 'Everything but Arms' initiative.
- b) Ensure that changes through multilateral talks do not take away preferential gains in existing agreements.
- c) Identify and correct weaknesses in the way preferential treatment is designed and used.

## Removing non-tariff barriers

170. Africa needs to have improved access to markets where Africa has a competitive advantage. While tariffs have lowered in recent years, *non-tariff barriers* still block Africa.

Removing non-tariff barriers will greatly assist to:

- Increase economic growth and diversify African products and exports.
- Make Africa less dependent on ODA.
- Improve infrastructure projects through increased economic activity.

The NEPAD programme does not give any further detail on non-tariff barriers.
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**A new global  
partnership**

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# 6 A new global partnership

## 6.1 What Africa can offer

171. Africa recognises the need to correct historical injustices. We need to work with our partners to urgently improve the quality of life of Africa's people. In doing this, there will be shared duties and benefits.

172. The global technological revolution needs more resources, wider markets, new science, joint human wisdom and a well-managed ecological system. Many of Africa's minerals and other resources contribute vitally to production in developed countries.

173. Africa also offers a large and growing market for producers world-wide. A developing Africa, with more employed and skilled workers, and a bigger middle class, will be an expanding market for world products, goods and services.

174. Africa is a great opportunity for investment. NEPAD creates opportunities for joint international efforts to develop infrastructure, especially in ICT and transport.

175. Africa encourages creative public-private partnerships in beneficiation, agro-industries, tourism, human resource development, and urban renewal and development.

176. Africa's biodiversity, including its rainforests and rich flora and fauna, is a key global resource that can stop environmental damage caused by factors such as climate change and pollution of the air and water.

177. Modern science recognises Africa as the cradle of humanity. African fossils, artefacts, artistic works and ancient human settlements illustrate the progression of humankind. Expanding educational and other opportunities in Africa will further increase our contribution to world science, technology and culture.

178. Our status as the birthplace of humanity should be valued by all Africans and by the whole world.

179. Our literature, philosophies, art and music also show our rich cultural legacy. This enriches our African pride and the common humanity of all people.

180. NEPAD aims to expand democracy and deepen a culture of human rights to:

- Make Africa a pillar of world democracy, human rights and tolerance.
- Free world resources for resolving conflict to be used for human development.

181. The collapse of more African states would be a threat to Africa and to world peace and security. For industrialised countries, African development will reduce social exclusion and lower global social instability.

182. Africa is committed to building *South-South partnerships*.

## 6.2 A new relationship with development partners

183. In taking responsibility for its own destiny, Africa needs to negotiate a new relationship with development partners.

Current problems with development assistance include:

- The need to negotiate with, and report separately to, donors supporting the same sector or programme.
- Restrictions on development assistance.
- Poor performance by some recipients.
- Bad advice by some donors.

The new relationship should:

- Be based on country programmes.
- Set out agreed performance targets and standards for recipients and donors.

184. We will maintain existing partnerships with industrialised countries and multilateral organisations. We need to harmonise these partnerships to ensure that real benefits flow from them.

Examples of partnerships:

- The UN's New Agenda for the Development of Africa (in the 1990s)
- The Africa-Europe Summit's Cairo Plan of Action
- The World Bank-led Strategic partnership with Africa
- The Japan-led Tokyo Agenda for Action.

### 185. The role of development partners

African leaders expect developed countries and multilateral organisations to take on these responsibilities and duties:

- a) To materially support peacekeeping efforts, and preventing, managing and resolving conflict in Africa.
- b) To speed up debt reduction for heavily indebted African countries, and assist with more effective programmes for reducing poverty.
- c) To improve debt relief strategies for middle-income countries.
- d) To reverse the drop in ODA flows to Africa, and to meet the target of ODA flows of 0.7% of each country's *gross national product* (GNP) within an agreed period. Increase aid flows will add to funds released by debt reduction to fight poverty.
- e) To translate international education and health strategies into practical commitments to Africa.
- f) To facilitate partnerships between countries, international drug companies and civil society organisations to urgently open up African peoples' access to existing medicines.

- g) To allow goods into markets through joint efforts, and to negotiate fairer trade for African countries within the WTO.
- h) To work with African leaders to encourage private sector investment in Africa by developed countries, including insurance schemes and financial tools to lower risk premiums.
- i) To increase consumer protection standards for exports to developing countries (to be equal to domestic standards of developed countries).
- j) To ensure that the World Bank and other multilateral development finance bodies encourage private sector participation by investing in key economic infrastructure projects.
- k) To give technical support to speed up implementing NEPAD's programme of action, for example by strengthening Africa's capacity for:
  - Managing planning and development
  - Regulating finances and infrastructure
  - Accounting and auditing
  - Developing, building and managing infrastructure.
- l) To support reforms in running multilateral financial bodies to better meet African needs and interests.
- m) To set up co-ordinated efforts to fight corruption, and to ensure that any development money belonging to Africa is returned after exposing corruption.

**Implementing  
NEPAD**

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# 7 Implementing NEPAD

## 7.1 Priority programmes

186. These are NEPAD's *priority programmes* that we aim to implement first, together with development partners:

- a) HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis
- b) Information and communications technology
- c) Debt reduction
- d) Market access.

187. While work on these programmes is already being done through other international programmes and bodies, we believe:

- We must strengthen Africa's involvement for better results.
- We can speed up Africa's renewal by implementing these programmes.

## 7.2 Examples of projects

188. NEPAD leaders propose key projects that will:

- Strengthen country and integrated regional development.
- Make a big impact in driving Africa's recovery.

189. We now list some examples of NEPAD projects.

### **Agriculture**

190. A project aims to expand the integrated action plan for land and water management in Africa. This project:

- Focuses on maintaining and upgrading Africa's fragile agricultural natural resource base.
- Recognises that many African governments are already working on these issues, together with partners such as the Global Environment Facility, the World Bank and the African Development Bank.

191. A project aims to strengthen and redirect the capacity of Africa's agricultural research and extension systems. This project:

- Focuses on upgrading the physical and institutional structure that supports Africa's agriculture.
- Recognises Africa's need to develop research capacity to bring technological breakthroughs to speed up agricultural output and productivity – partners include the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa and the Food and Agriculture Organisation.

### **Promoting the private sector**

192. A project aims to establish business promotion centres to promote enterprises in new and creative business areas. This project:

- Will develop guidelines and policies to set up centres at national level.
- Will adapt international experience and best practices to Africa's needs and conditions.

### **Infrastructure and regional integration**

193. NEPAD has identified many energy, transport, telecommunications and water projects that will shape Africa's integrated development. These projects need to be developed further with funding from the African Development Bank, the World Bank and other partners.

194. NEPAD leaders believe that Africa's renewal will only happen if there is planned infrastructure development. We therefore call on the international community to support Africa in developing its infrastructure.

## **7.3 Assessing needs**

195. NEPAD will do a needs assessment to assess structures and staff, and action needed in the 5 priority sectors. Needs assessments will progress from national to regional and subregional level.

196. The national needs assessment will guide subregional sectoral needs:

- Experts and ministers in each subsector will meet in a subregional capital.
- Each sector's national data will feed into a subregional sectoral plan.
- Subregional sectoral needs will merge in an overall regional plan.

197. We will develop a subregional perspective including:

- Subregional sectoral needs.
- Specific needs of the subregion seen as a combined space, eg seeing roads and railways fitting into subregional, not just national needs.
- Needs that should be shared subregionally, eg distributing universities more evenly.

We will also consider global subregional plans in assessing Africa's needs in these 5 priority sectors.

## 7.4 Managing NEPAD

198. The heads of state promoting NEPAD will advise the African Union on the appropriate structures for implementing NEPAD.

199. NEPAD's implementing structures will need technical support for research and developing policy.

## 7.5 Heads of State Implementation Committee

200. There will be a Heads of State Implementation Committee made up of:

- The 5 heads of state promoting NEPAD, and
- 10 other heads of state (2 from each region).

201. The role of the Implementation Committee will be to:

- Identify strategic issues to research, plan and manage at continental level.
- Set up tools to review progress, based on agreed targets and standards.
- Review progress in implementing past decisions.
- Take appropriate steps to deal with problems and delays.

Please see NEPAD'S website ([www.nepad.org](http://www.nepad.org)) for details and updates on NEPAD programmes, projects and structures.

# Conclusion

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# 8

## Conclusion

202. NEPAD aims to consolidate democracy and good economic management in Africa.

Through the NEPAD programme, African leaders are making a commitment to Africa's people and the world to:

- Work together to rebuild Africa.
- Promote peace, stability and people-centred development, together with democracy and good economic management.
- Hold each other accountable for what has been agreed in NEPAD's Programme of Action.

203. Africa recognises that it holds the key to its own development. NEPAD is an historic opportunity for developed countries to form a genuine partnership with Africa, based on:

- Our shared interests and commitments, and
- Binding agreements.

204. NEPAD's development strategy and detailed Programme of Action starts a new chapter in the partnership and co-operation between Africa and the developed world.

205. In carrying out its promise, NEPAD must give hope to every poor and thin African child that the 21st century is really Africa's century.

**NEPAD was adopted in Abuja, Nigeria, in October 2001.**



**The  
New Partnership  
for  
Africa's Development  
(NEPAD)**

**SUMMARY  
PLAIN LANGUAGE VERSION  
A resource for organisations**

APRIL 2003



OPEN SOCIETY FOUNDATION FOR SOUTH AFRICA

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# How to use this summary plain language version

This is a summary plain language version of the full NEPAD document – in other words, we have summarised the spirit and main ideas of the NEPAD document in a version that is easier to understand and use.

Here are some tools to help you use this summary effectively in your organisation and community:

- **Detailed contents pages:**  
Look up the section and page number you need on pages 70-71.
- **A list of abbreviations:**  
Check on the meaning of abbreviations (➔ please see page 73).
- **Key questions as headings:**  
Go to these to answer questions and to find information about NEPAD.
- **Introductory boxes:**  
Use these to follow the strategy behind the 3 parts of NEPAD's Programme of Action (➔ please see pages 93, 96 and 104).
- **Cross-references:**  
Follow the ➔ symbol to other parts of this summary.
- **Questions for discussion:**  
Use these questions to think about NEPAD and its issues, programmes and projects (➔ please see page 116).
- **Useful words:**  
Look up the meaning of words we put in italics the first time we use them in the summary (➔ please see this A to Z list of words from page 117 onwards).
- **Useful contacts:**  
Discover where to find more information on NEPAD and NEPAD issues (➔ please see pages 123-124).

## **The use of 'we' and 'our'**

NEPAD leaders use the words 'we' and 'our' in the text of the original NEPAD document. This summary version also uses 'we' and 'our' in its text to capture the spirit of this direct call made by NEPAD leaders to readers.

# Abbreviations and acronyms

<b>AIDS</b>	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
<b>AU</b>	African Union
<b>DAC</b>	Development Assistance Committee
<b>eg</b>	For example
<b>GDP</b>	Gross domestic product
<b>GNP</b>	Gross national product
<b>HIPC</b>	Highly Indebted Poor Country
<b>HIV</b>	Human Immuno-deficiency Virus
<b>HSIC</b>	Heads of State Implementation Committee
<b>ICT</b>	Information and communications technology
<b>IDG</b>	International Development Goal
<b>IMF</b>	International Monetary Fund
<b>NEPAD</b>	The New Partnership for Africa's Development
<b>ODA</b>	Overseas development assistance
<b>PPP</b>	Public-private partnership
<b>TB</b>	Tuberculosis
<b>UN</b>	United Nations
<b>UNESCO</b>	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
<b>US</b>	United States
<b>WHO</b>	World Health Organisation
<b>WTO</b>	World Trade Organisation



A large, light gray, stylized number '9' is positioned in the background of the page, partially overlapping the title.

# What is NEPAD?

# 1

# What is NEPAD?

## Where NEPAD came from

African leaders formed the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) in Abuja, Nigeria in October 2001.

NEPAD is a promise by African leaders, based on shared vision and beliefs, to urgently:

- Get rid of poverty.
- Work towards the *sustainable growth* and *sustainable development* of every country and Africa as a continent.
- Participate actively in the world economy and political structures.

## Why we need NEPAD

As Africans, we are determined to move ourselves away from being *underdeveloped* and excluded in a *globalising* world.

There is a big difference between Africa's poverty and the wealth of the *developed world*. For example, in Africa:

- 340 million people (50% of the population) live on less than US\$1 a day.
- The death rate of children under 5 is 140 for every 1000.
- Only 58% of the population have access to safe water.
- The rate of illiteracy for people over 15 is 41%.

While the international community has given Africa credit and aid, this has led to African countries building up big debts and becoming dependent on foreign support.

## What NEPAD aims to do

NEPAD wants to reverse this abnormal situation by changing the relationship leading to the current position. Africans want to end this *dependency* by using capital, technology and human skills, to launch a global war on poverty and underdevelopment.

As Africans, we declare that we will no longer accept things as they are. We say we will decide our own destiny, and call on the rest of the world to support our efforts.

We call for a new global partnership between Africa and the international community to:

- Build democracy, human rights, development and strong economies in Africa.
- Work together to fight poverty and overcome the development gap between Africa and the developed world.



# How was Africa made poor?

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# 2

## How was Africa made poor?

The main reasons that lead to Africa becoming poor were:

- Africa's *exploitation* by the international economic system.
- The legacy of colonialism.
- Weaknesses in many African countries after independence.

### How Africa was exploited

For centuries, the world economy has mainly used Africa as a supplier of cheap labour and raw materials. This drained Africa's resources instead of using minerals and raw materials to develop the continent's manufacturing industries and labour force to sustain growth and development. So Africa remains the poorest continent even though we have very rich resources.

### The negative effects of colonialism on Africa

Colonialism:

- Did not respect traditional structures, institutions and values.
- Made traditional structures, institutions and values serve the economic and political needs of imperial powers.
- Slowed the development of an *entrepreneurial* class, and a middle class with skills and managerial capacity.

### The results of weak African states after colonialism and independence

Newly independent African states inherited a shortage of skilled professionals, a weak capitalist class and poorly functioning economies. This was made worse by poor leadership, corruption and bad administration in many countries.

Many African governments did not empower their people to realise their creative potential. Weak states are a major block to sustainable development, for example: they do not have the capacity to:

- Develop long-term policies.
- Implement far-reaching programmes and reforms.

The rate of building up capital in post-colonial years has not been enough to rebuild African societies after colonial underdevelopment, or to sustain improvements in the standard of living. Economic decline, reduced capacity and poor government have led to Africa having a *marginalised* role in the world economy.

**How has the  
global revolution  
affected Africa?**

# 3 How has the global revolution affected Africa?

## What is the global revolution?

The world has entered the new millennium during a technological and economic revolution.

Advances in information and communications technology (ICT) have:

- Reduced the cost of and increased the speed of global communication.
- Abolished previous barriers of time and space.
- Affected all areas of social and economic life, such as *integrating* national systems of production and finance, and leading to massive growth in cross-border flows of goods, services and capital.

The greater movement of capital means that borrowers (governments or private bodies) compete for capital in global not national markets. This has increased the costs for countries, including many African countries that are unable to compete effectively.

## How globalisation has led to big gaps

The highly industrialised countries are the drivers of the world economy, with only a few countries of the developing world playing a substantial role. Most *developing countries*, especially from Africa, contribute passively through environmental and other resources.

The biggest inequality is in the distribution of benefits. Opportunities have increased to improve the quality of life, for example to create wealth, gain skills or improve access to goods and services.

A more open *global economy* has created opportunities to lift people out of poverty in some countries, but for most marginalised countries, *globalisation* has:

- Increased the ability of the strong to push their interests at the expense of the weak, especially in trade, finance and technology.
- Limited the space for developing countries to control their own development, as there is no compensation for the weak.
- Worsened the conditions of marginalised countries and thus created a split between included and excluded nations.

## Africa's barriers to being an effective part of the global revolution

Africa has been largely left out of globalisation through factors such as:

- The outflow of resources and unfavourable trade terms.
- Poor political and economic leadership leading to low investment.
- Deep and worsening levels of poverty, social instability and conflict.

**What are Africa's challenges?**

# 4

## What are Africa's challenges?

### How we can respond to the challenge of poverty and underdevelopment

NEPAD aims to take up these challenges by saying:

- For African peoples and governments, development is a process of *empowerment* and self-reliance.
- As Africans we must be the architects of our own sustained upliftment, not the servers of kind guardians.

Effectively integrating Africa into the global economy is our best chance of achieving future economic prosperity and reducing poverty. We say this because improving the living standards of marginalised people can lead to:

- Massive international economic growth through creating new markets and using increased economic *capacity*.
- Greater global stability, and economic and social well-being.

### How we can respond to the challenges of globalisation

The need for development thus challenges moral conscience and is the key to sustaining globalisation. Globalisation has resulted from scientific and technological advances, and many of these have been market-driven and shaped by governments of the developed world. Yet globalisation has not spread benefits equally.

Governments, the private sector and *civil society* organisations must commit themselves to real *integration* of all nations into the global economy and political system. For example, they should:

- Respect the environmental base that sustains our planet.
- Allow cross-border migration.
- Recognise partnership among all peoples as part of government globally.

We declare that the international community has the capacity to create fair and just conditions for Africa to participate effectively in the global economy and political system.



# What can Africa's leaders do?

# 5

## What can Africa's leaders do?

### New political conditions in Africa

The new international political climate has been shaped by key factors like:

- New ideas of security and self-interest, such as the right to development and the need to eliminate poverty.
- Defining democracy and state *legitimacy* to include *accountable* government, a human rights culture and popular participation.

Democracy is spreading across Africa:

- There are now more democratically elected African leaders.
- The African Union (AU) is determined to deal with conflicts and to speak out against undemocratic actions.
- The voice of civil society is growing stronger, for example through women's, youth and independent media organisations.

The United Nations (UN) Millennium Declaration of 2000 recognises these developments and confirms the global community's commitments, for example, to support preventing conflict, establishing stability and democracy, and eliminating poverty and disease in Africa.

### The responsibilities of African leaders

Yet Africa's renewal depends on Africa setting its own agenda, through its mandated leaders, by taking joint responsibility, for example, to:

- Strengthen tools for preventing, managing and resolving conflict, and for restoring and maintain peace.
- Promote and respect democracy and human rights through clear national and subnational standards of accountability, *transparency* and participatory government.
- Restore and maintain *macro-economic* stability by developing suitable standards for financial policies, and structures to achieve these standards.
- Revitalise and extend education, technical training and health services, with an urgent focus on the Human Immuno-deficiency Virus (HIV), the Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), malaria and tuberculosis (TB).
- Promote the role of women in social and economic development by:
  - Strengthening their education and training capacity.
  - Developing revenue-generating activities by giving access to credit.
  - Ensuring that women participate in political and economic life.

**What can Africa's  
people do?**

# 6

## What can Africa's people do?

### Why we need to join hands

Africa has been made poor by slavery, corruption and bad economic management. Yet, if we use our enormous natural and human resources properly, Africa can achieve *equitable* and sustainable growth, and quicker integration into the world economy.

NEPAD will be successful if:

- Its aims and programmes are owned by all Africa's peoples, united in our diversity.
- Our people are in control of their own destiny.

To achieve this, our people need to regain confidence in their ability to overcome obstacles and to participate in building a new Africa.

### NEPAD's appeal to all African people

This is why African political leaders appeal to all our different peoples to recognise the serious need to mobilise ourselves to:

- End the further marginalisation of Africa, and
- Ensure development by bridging the gap between Africa and the developed countries.

We therefore call on African people to boldly take up the challenge of implementing NEPAD by setting up, at all levels, structures to mobilise, organise and take action to achieve these aims.

We must not give up in implementing NEPAD's ambitious programme of building strong economies and democratic societies. African leaders believe that we will succeed in these development efforts, and put the false starts and failures of the past behind us.

**What can Africa  
offer a new global  
partnership?**

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# 7 What can Africa offer a new global partnership?

Africa needs to work with its international partners to urgently improve the quality of life of our people. In doing this, there will be shared duties and benefits.

## **Africa as a resource and a market**

Africa is a vital resource base that has served all humanity for many centuries. We have a large store of mineral, oil and gas deposits, rich flora and fauna, and a wide unspoiled natural environment that are the key to mining, agriculture, tourism and industrial development.

Africa's role is crucial in protecting the environment, with key resources such as our rainforests and an almost carbon dioxide-free atmosphere.

NEPAD has a strategy to nurture these resources, to use them for Africa's development and to preserve them for all humanity, for example: ensuring that tropical forest communities have a sustainable way of earning a living.

In the world economy, a developing Africa offers:

- Minerals and resources for production in developed countries.
- An expanding market for world products, goods and services.
- A great investment opportunity, eg developing ICT infrastructure.

## **Africa as the cradle of humanity**

Modern science recognises Africa as the cradle of humanity. African fossils, artefacts, artistic works and ancient human settlements illustrate human progress. Africa's status as the birthplace of humanity should be valued by all Africans and by the whole world.

Africa has a major role in keeping the strong link between human beings and the natural world. Our open uninhabited spaces, flora and fauna, and unique animal species give all people a chance to maintain a link with nature.

Africa already makes a significant contribution to world culture through literature, music, visual arts and other examples of our culture. Our real potential is untapped because of our limited integration into the world economy.

**NEPAD aims to:**

- Preserve our common heritage.
- Ensure that we create opportunities to further increase our contribution to world culture, science and technology.

**What can our  
development  
partners do?**

# 8

## What can our development partners do?

In taking responsibility for its own destiny, Africa needs to negotiate a new relationship with development partners.

### Meeting the challenges of development assistance

Current problems with development assistance include:

- The need to negotiate with, and report separately to, donors supporting the same sector or programme.
- Restrictions on development assistance.
- Poor performance by some recipients.
- Bad advice by some donors.

Our new relationship should be based on country programmes, and set out agreed performance targets and standards for recipients and donors.

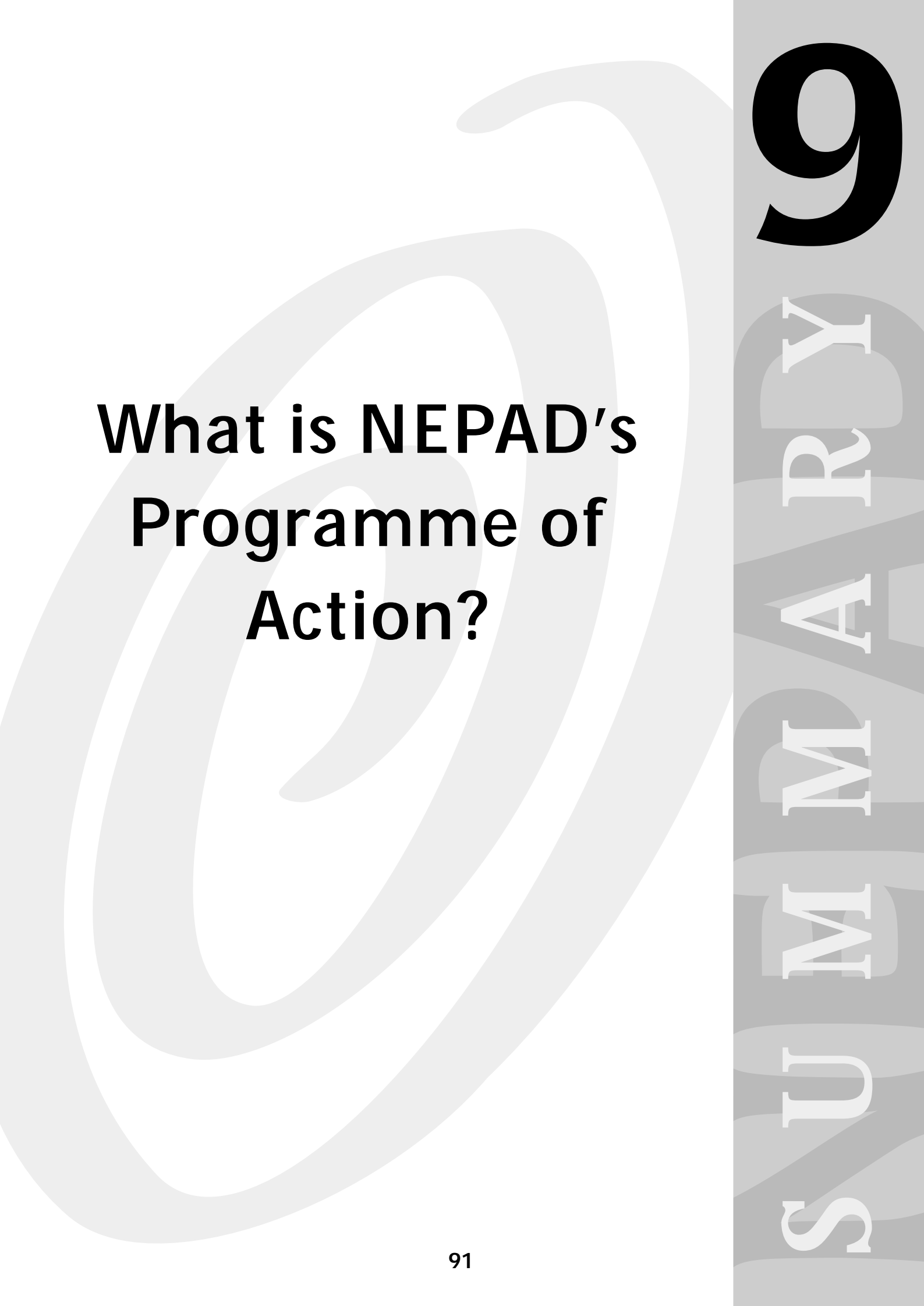
We will maintain and improve existing partnerships with industrialised countries and *multilateral organisations*, for example, partnerships such as:

- The Africa-Europe Summit's Cairo Plan of Action
- The World Bank-led Strategic partnership with Africa
- The Japan-led Tokyo Agenda for Action.

### The role of development partners

African leaders expect developed countries and multilateral organisations to take on responsibilities and duties, such as to:

- Speed up debt reduction for heavily indebted African countries, and assist with more effective programmes for reducing poverty.
- Reverse the drop in overseas development assistance (ODA) flows to Africa, and to meet the target of ODA flows of 0.7% of each country's *gross national product* (GNP) within an agreed period.
- Facilitate partnerships between countries, international drug companies and civil society organisations to urgently open up African peoples' access to existing drugs.
- Allow goods into markets through joint efforts, and to negotiate fairer trade for African countries within the World Trade Organisation (WTO).
- Give technical support to speed up implementing NEPAD's programme of action (eg by strengthening Africa's capacity for managing planning and development, accounting, and building infrastructure).
- Set up co-ordinated efforts to fight corruption and to recover any development money belonging to Africa.



# What is NEPAD's Programme of Action?

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# 9

## What is NEPAD's Programme of Action?

NEPAD is a long-term African-owned and African-led development programme that aims to meet Africa's key challenge:

- To develop the capacity to sustain growth at the level necessary to reduce poverty and sustain development.

This NEPAD *Programme of Action* lists top priorities and covers what needs to be done as short-term actions. NEPAD aims to advance Africa's development by bridging existing gaps in *priority sectors*, thus helping Africa to catch up with the developed world.

### NEPAD's long-term aims:

- a) To eliminate poverty in Africa and to place African countries, individually and together, on a path of sustainable growth and development (and thus stop Africa being marginalised during globalisation).
- b) To promote the role of women in all activities.

### NEPAD's specific goals:

- a) To achieve and sustain an average *gross domestic product* (GDP) growth rate of over 7% a year for the next 15 years.
- b) To ensure that Africa achieves agreed *International Development Goals* (IDGs), for example:
  - Reduce the number of people living in extreme poverty by 50% between 1990 and 2015.
  - Enrol all children of school age in primary schools by 2015.
  - Reduce infant and child death rates by 66% between 1990 and 2015.
  - Provide access to all people needing reproductive health services by 2015.

### NEPAD's 3-step strategy:

1. Conditions for sustainable development (➔ please see page 93 onwards)
2. Sectoral priorities (➔ please see page 96 onwards)
3. Mobilising resources (➔ please see page 104 onwards).

### Expected outcomes of NEPAD's strategy:

- Economic growth and development, and increased employment.
- Reduced poverty and inequality.
- *Diversified* productive activities, and increased international competitiveness and exports.
- Increased African integration into the world economy.

## 9.1 How can we create conditions for sustainable development?

The conditions for sustainable development are peace, security, democracy, good *governance*, human rights and good economic management. The first part of NEPAD's strategy is based on the idea that creating these conditions will help sustain effective states, strengthen regional co-operation and lead to increased international competitiveness.

### 9.1.1 The Peace and Security Initiative

#### Aims:

- a) To promote long-term conditions for development and security.
- b) To build the capacity of African bodies to pick up early signs of conflict, and to prevent, manage and resolve conflicts.
- c) To inspire commitment to NEPAD's core values in all structures through strong leadership.

To achieve long-term peace and security, Africa needs policies that deal with the political and social pressures leading to conflict. We cover these policies in:

- The Democracy and Political Governance Initiative (→ please see page 94).
- The Economic and Corporate Governance Initiative (→ please see page 95).
- The Human Resource Development Initiative (→ please see page 99).
- The Capital Flows Initiative (→ please see page 104).
- The Market Access Initiative (→ please see page 107).

#### Examples of action

- a) NEPAD's leaders will by April 2002 explore detailed actions, costs and funding for strengthening existing capacity in:
  - Preventing, managing and resolving conflict.
  - Making, keeping and enforcing peace.
  - Reconciling, rehabilitating and rebuilding after conflict.
  - Stopping the illegal growth of small arms, light weapons and landmines.
- b) A NEPAD *Heads of State Forum* will:
  - Enable NEPAD's leaders to help build the capacity of African bodies to promote peace and security, to share experience and to mobilise action.
  - Ensure that the principles and commitments of the Peace and Security Initiative are carried out.

## 9.1.2 The Democracy and Political Governance Initiative

Development is not possible without democracy, respect for human rights, peace and good governance. In NEPAD, Africa promises to respect global standards of democracy, including allowing:

- Different kinds of political systems.
- Political parties and workers' unions to exist freely.
- Fair, open, democratic and regular elections to choose leaders freely.

### Aim:

The Democracy and Political Governance Initiative aims to help strengthen political and administrative structures, in line with these principles:

- Democracy
- Transparency
- Accountability
- Integrity
- Respect for human rights
- Promoting the *rule of law*.

### Examples of action

- a) NEPAD participating countries will commit themselves to meet basic standards of good governance and democratic behaviour, and to support each other. By April 2002, NEPAD's leaders will identify:
  - Recommendations on suitable tools to assess how countries are meeting good governance standards.
  - Weaknesses in structures and ways of correcting these.
- b) Participating countries will:
  - Support and build structures and efforts that protect the commitments of the Democracy and Political Governance Initiative.
  - Work to create and strengthen national, subregional and continental structures that support good governance.
- c) A NEPAD Heads of State Forum will:
  - Monitor and assess progress made by African countries in achieving good governance and social reforms.
  - Be a platform for countries to share experiences that can encourage good governance and democratic practices.

This monitoring role is an example of *peer review* where countries keep a check on each other's performance.

### 9.1.3 The Economic and Corporate Governance Initiative

Many African governments do not have the capacity to create conditions for development. They often need targeted capacity-building to enable them to:

- Develop policies and laws to encourage private sector-led growth.
- Manage and implement programmes.

#### Aim:

To promote in all participating countries concrete programmes and time-frames to increase the quality of:

- Economic and public financial management.
- *Corporate* governance.

#### Examples of action

- a) The *Heads of State Implementation Committee* (HSIC) will consider a report from a Task Force from the Ministries of Finance and Central Banks by April 2002. The Task Force will:
  - Review economic and corporate governance practices in various countries and regions.
  - Recommend suitable standards and codes of practice.
- b) The HSIC will prioritise public financial management. Countries will develop a programme for improving public financial management and targets, and will set up assessment tools to measure progress.

#### Subregional and regional approaches to development

To improve their international competitiveness, African countries should share their resources, and improve regional development and economic integration. We must therefore strengthen Africa's 5 subregional economic groupings.

#### NEPAD's focus will include aiming to:

- Provide essential regional resources (eg transport, eliminating disease).
- Develop a structure for economic integration by identifying common projects that fit into country and regional development programmes.
- Prioritise capacity-building to make existing regional structures more effective and to streamline existing regional organisations.

#### NEPAD's current priority sectors:

- Infrastructure, especially ICT and energy
- Human resources (eg education, skills development)
- Health
- Agriculture
- Access to the markets of developed countries for African exports.

## 9.2 What are our sectoral priorities?

In this section, we cover the second part of NEPAD's strategy: detailing NEPAD's sectoral priorities that can help reverse the marginalisation of Africa and lay the basis for its sustainable long-term development.

### 9.2.1 The Infrastructure Initiative

#### All infrastructure sectors

Here we focus on elements common to all *infrastructure* sectors.

➔ Please pages 97-98 for plans on these specific sectors: information and communication technologies, energy, transport, and water and sanitation.

With the same basic infrastructure as developed countries, Africa could produce more for *domestic* use and international competition. The infrastructure gap is a serious obstacle to economic growth and reducing poverty.

Improved infrastructure, including the cost and reliability of services, would benefit Africa and the international community. International trading partners would be able to get African goods and services more cheaply.

#### Some of our aims:

- a) To improve access to, and the affordability and reliability of, infrastructure services for businesses and households.
- b) To increase regional co-operation and trade through expanded cross-border development of infrastructure.
- c) To build the knowledge and skills needed in technology and engineering for installing, operating and maintaining infrastructure networks in Africa.

#### Examples of action:

- a) With the help of sector-specialised agencies:
  - Establish policy and legal frameworks to encourage competition.
  - Build capacity to harmonise policies and regulations for trading across borders and enlarging markets.
- b) Promote community and user involvement in building, maintaining and managing infrastructure, especially in poor urban and rural areas.
- c) Promote *public-private partnerships* (PPPs) to attract private investors and focus public funding on the urgent needs of the poor, by building capacity to implement and monitor agreements.

## **Information and communication technologies**

Information and communication technologies (ICTs) are a key to the knowledge-based economy of the future. ICT developments can encourage trade between African regions and speed up Africa's integration into the world economy.

Yet in Africa, people have had limited access to affordable telephones, broadcasting, computers and the Internet because of poor ICT infrastructure, weak policy and regulation, and limited human resources. As a result, Africa has been unable to effectively use ICT as a tool in improving peoples' lives and creating new business opportunities.

This is why we speak of *bridging the digital divide* – in other words, the need to invest in ICT so that Africa can connect with and benefit from advances in ICT.

### **Some of our aims:**

- a) To double the number of lines to 2 lines for every 100 people by 2005, with an adequate level of access for households.
- b) To lower the cost and improve the reliability of service.
- c) To develop a pool of ICT-competent youth and students for Africa to draw on as trainee engineers, programmers and software developers.

### **Examples of action:**

- a) Work with regional agencies to design model policy and laws for telecommunications reform, and to build the capacity to regulate ICT.
- b) Set up a network of training and research bodies to help build high-level competency in ICT.
- c) Promote existing projects to connect schools and youth centres.

## **Energy**

### **Some of our aims:**

- a) To distribute existing energy resources more evenly throughout Africa.
- b) To develop Africa's plentiful solar energy resources.
- c) To integrate transmission grids and gas pipelines to help the flow of energy across borders.

### **Examples of action:**

- a) Set up an African Forum for Utility Regulation and establish national regulatory bodies.
- b) Set up a task force to recommend priorities and strategies to implement regional projects, eg on hydropower generation and gas pipelines.
- c) Set up a task team to speed up energy supply to low-income housing.

## **Transport**

### **Some of our aims:**

- a) To reduce delays in cross-border movement of people, goods and services.
- b) To promote economic activity and cross-border trade through improved land transport links.
- c) To increase air passenger and freight links across Africa's subregions.

### **Examples of action:**

- a) Establish customs and immigration task teams to *harmonise* border crossing and visa procedures.
- b) Set up and develop PPPs, and give concessions for constructing, developing and maintaining ports, roads, railways and sea transport.
- c) Promote the harmonising of standards and regulations for different types of transport.

## **Water and sanitation**

### **Some of our aims:**

- a) To ensure sustainable access to safe and adequate clean water supply and sanitation, especially for the poor.
- b) To manage and sustain ecosystems, *biodiversity* and wildlife.
- c) To ensure better irrigation and rain-fed agriculture to improve agricultural production and access to enough healthy food.

### **Examples of action:**

- a) Speed up work on multipurpose water projects, eg the Nile Basin Initiative.
- b) Work with the Global Environmental Sanitation Initiative to promote sanitary waste disposal methods and projects.
- c) Support the UN Habitat programme on water conservation in African cities.

## 9.2.2 Human Resource Development Initiative

### Reducing poverty

#### Aims:

- a) To take the lead by prioritising reducing poverty in NEPAD's programmes, and in national macro-economic and sectoral policies.
- b) To focus specifically on reducing poverty among women.
- c) To ensure empowerment of the poor in strategies to reduce poverty.
- d) To support existing multilateral efforts to reduce poverty.

#### Examples of action:

- a) Ensure that countries assess their poverty reduction impact in country plans prepared as part of NEPAD's Programme of Action.
- b) Work with the African Development Bank and multilateral organisations to adopt and speedily implement plans such as the Comprehensive Development Framework of the World Bank, and the Poverty Reduction Strategy in the debt relief plan for Highly Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC).
- c) Set up a gender task team to ensure that NEPAD's poverty reduction strategies deal with the specific issues faced by poor women.

### Bridging the education gap

Poor facilities and systems are the key problems facing Africans receiving education in Africa. Africans trained elsewhere in the world have shown their ability to compete successfully.

#### Some of our aims:

- a) To work with donors and multilateral organisations to reach the IDG of universal primary education by 2015.
- b) To work to improve curriculum development, educational quality and access to ICT.
- c) To expand access to secondary education and make it more relevant to Africa's development.

#### Examples of action:

- a) Review current efforts jointly with the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) and other major international donors.
- b) Review what African countries spend on education, and lead the development of standards for government spending on education.
- c) Set up a task force to speed up introducing ICT in primary schools.

### Reversing the brain drain

*Reversing the brain drain* means stopping the loss of knowledge and skills when professionals leave Africa.

#### Some of our aims:

- a) To build and keep in Africa vital human capacities for Africa's development.
- b) To develop strategies for using the scientific and technological knowledge and skills of Africans living abroad for the development of Africa.

### **Examples of action:**

- a) Create the necessary political, social and economic conditions in Africa that would help to stop the brain drain and attract investment.
- b) Develop scientific and technical networks to facilitate co-operation and to return scientific knowledge to home countries.
- c) Ensure that the expertise of Africans living in developed countries is used to carry out some of NEPAD's projects.

## **Health**

### **Taking up the challenge of Africa's health crisis**

The World Health Organisation (WHO) defines health as "a state of complete physical and mental well-being". In the health sector, Africa compares poorly with the rest of the world, for example:

- In 1997, child deaths were 105 for every 1000, compared to 6 for every 1000 in developed countries.
- Only 16 doctors are available for every 100 000 people, compared to 253 in developed countries.

Epidemics of *communicable diseases*, especially HIV, tuberculosis and malaria, seriously limit human development in Africa. There is a clear link between health, nutrition (our daily intake of calories) and reducing poverty (as shown in the low average incomes of most of our people).

### **Some of our aims:**

- a) To strengthen programmes for containing communicable diseases, and to reduce the number of people affected by diseases among the poorest people in Africa.
- b) To have a secure health system that meets needs and controls diseases effectively.
- c) To ensure the necessary support capacity for the sustainable development of an effective health care delivery system.
- d) To empower the people of Africa to improve their own health and to achieve *health literacy*.

### **Examples of action:**

- a) Strengthen Africa's efforts to get affordable drugs, and explore alternative delivery systems for essential drugs and supplies.
- b) Lead the campaign for increased international financial support for the struggle to deal with HIV, AIDS and all communicable diseases.
- c) Join forces with donors and international bodies (eg the WHO), to ensure that support for Africa is increased by at least US\$10 billion a year.
- d) Encourage African countries to give more priority to health in their budgets, and to phase in increases in health spending.
- e) Jointly mobilise resources for building capacity to enable all African countries to improve their health infrastructure and management.

### 9.2.3 The Environment Initiative

A healthy and productive environment is essential for sustainable development. NEPAD thus needs to:

- Combine our efforts to develop a clear environmental programme.
- Choose and prioritise key issues for short-term action.

**Aim:**

- To achieve a healthy and sustainable environment, and through this to help fight poverty and contribute to social and economic development in Africa.

**Examples of action:**

- a) Emphasise NEPAD's environmental themes and actions at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg in September 2002.
- b) Target these priority areas for environmental action:
  - Combat *desertification* by rehabilitating degraded land and dealing with the factors that caused the land to be damaged.
  - Conserve wetlands, using private sector investment.
  - Prevent and control invasive alien species.
  - Protect, use and manage coastal resources.
  - Monitor and regulate the impact of climate change and *global warming*.
  - Set up cross-border partnerships to boost conservation and tourism, and create jobs.
  - Build capacity in areas such as environmental management, legal, planning and training skills.
  - Develop a carefully structured and fair financing system to fund these environmental efforts.

## 9.2.4 Agriculture

70% of Africa's poor people live in rural areas, where farming systems are often weak and unproductive. As a result, agricultural supplies and income are low in many rural areas, leading to poverty.

### Aims:

- a) To achieve the urgent need for *food security* in Africa by improving farming systems to increase food production and raise nutritional standards.
- b) To improve agricultural performance and thus promote African economic development.
- c) To remove a number of structural obstacles to improve productivity in agriculture.

### Examples of action:

- a) Governments should help to provide irrigation equipment and improve rural infrastructure (eg roads, electricity).
- b) Encourage local community leadership in rural areas, and participation in developing agricultural policy.
- c) Mobilise donors and multilateral organisations to give much more support to the agricultural sector and rural development.

## 9.2.5 Culture, science and technology

### Culture

Culture is a vital part of development in Africa. A major feature of Africa's culture is *indigenous knowledge*, including tradition-based literacy, artistic works, and inventions and scientific discoveries.

#### Aim:

- a) To promote Africa's rich cultural heritage.
- b) To protect and effectively use indigenous knowledge, and share it for the benefit of humanity.

#### Examples of action:

- a) Co-operate and jointly promote Africa's cultures and traditions.
- b) Through NEPAD leaders, take urgent steps to protect and develop indigenous knowledge through suitable legislation by working with the World Intellectual Property Organisation.

### Science and technology

#### Some of our aims:

- a) To promote cross-border co-operation by using knowledge currently available in Africa.
- b) To develop and adapt capacity to collect and analyse information to support production and export.
- c) To integrate and adapt existing technologies to diversify manufacturing.

#### Examples of action:

- a) Co-operate regionally on product standards development and distribution, and on geographic information systems.
- b) Work with bodies such as UNESCO and the Food and Agriculture Organisation to use biotechnology to develop Africa's rich biodiversity and indigenous knowledge by improving agricultural productivity and developing medicines.
- c) Expand geoscience research to improve the use of Africa's mineral wealth.

## 9.3 How can we mobilise resources?

This section focuses on the third part of NEPAD's strategy: mobilising resources within and outside Africa to effectively implement NEPAD policies, programmes and projects.

### 9.3.1 The Capital Flows Initiative

Africa needs an estimated 7% annual growth rate to meet International Development Goals (IDGs), especially the goal of reducing by 50% the number of Africans living in poverty by 2015. To do this, we can increase domestic savings, although we will need to get most resources from abroad.

NEPAD thus focuses on:

- Debt reduction and overseas development assistance (ODA), as short- and medium-term methods.
- Private capital flows, as a long-term method.

Improved governance is essential for increased capital flows. Thus, countries participating in the Capital Flows Initiative must also participate in the Economic and Political Governance Initiative.

#### Increasing domestic resource mobilisation

**Aims:**

- a) To mobilise additional domestic and foreign resources to achieve higher levels of growth and to reduce poverty more effectively.
- b) To prevent the loss of domestic savings when capital is taken out of countries.

**Examples of action:**

- a) Collect tax more effectively.
- b) Improve government spending.
- c) Create conditions to attract private sector investments by domestic and foreign investors.
- d) Mobilise other available resources within Africa.

## **Debt relief**

Currently, debt relief is based on *debt sustainability*, where debt service payments are a big part of the resource gap. NEPAD wants to adapt this concept of debt relief.

### **Aims:**

- a) As a long-term aim, to link debt relief with achieving poverty reduction targets.
- b) As a short- and medium-term aim, to have debt service limits fixed as a percentage of fiscal revenue, with different levels for countries getting development assistance.

### **Examples of action**

- a) A NEPAD Heads of State Forum will negotiate a further debt relief agreement for countries participating in NEPAD:
  - Before getting help through NEPAD, countries will use existing debt relief structures (eg for Highly Indebted Poor Countries - HIPC).
  - Countries will need to have agreed poverty reduction and debt strategies to be able to absorb extra resources.
- b) NEPAD leaders will set up a forum for African countries to share strategies and mobilise for improving debt relief strategies.

## **Overseas development assistance reforms**

### **Aims:**

- a) To increase overseas development assistance (ODA) flows to African countries.
- b) To reform the ODA delivery system to ensure that countries use development assistance more effectively.

### **Examples of action:**

- a) Set up an ODA forum for developing a common African position on ODA reform – this will be a partner of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.
- b) Through the ODA forum, work with the DAC and other donors to create a charter to guide the development partnership.
- c) Set up an independent tool to assess the performance of donors and countries receiving ODA.

## **Private capital flows**

Many investors see Africa as 'high risk'. NEPAD hopes to gradually lower these risks through its initiatives on peace and security, political and economic governance, infrastructure and poverty reduction.

### **Aim:**

- To increase private capital flows to Africa as an essential part of a long-term approach to reduce the resource gap.

### **Examples of action:**

- a) Carry out a needs assessment of financial tools to lower risks when doing business in Africa, and a feasibility study on creating these, if needed.
- b) Implement a public-private partnership (PPP) capacity-building programme through the African Development Bank and other regional bodies. This will assist governments to properly regulate contracts for infrastructure and social services.
- c) Set up a Financial Market Integration Force to promote the spread of financial markets within countries and across borders, and to develop a standard *regulatory framework* to guide this.

## 9.3.2 The Market Access Initiative

### Diversifying production

African economies are vulnerable because they depend on *primary production* and resource-based sectors that offer limited export opportunities.

**Aim:**

- To urgently broaden production, using Africa's natural resource base as a starting point.

**Examples of action:**

- a) Develop a broader capital goods sector by diversifying economically through links with other sectors.
- b) Support private enterprise – small businesses in the informal sector, and small and medium businesses in the manufacturing sector.
- c) Remove regulations blocking business activity and encourage creative African business talent.

### Agriculture

**Some of our aims:**

- a) To improve productivity in agriculture, especially for women and small-scale farmers.
- b) To ensure food security for all people, including more access to enough food and nutrition by poor people.
- c) To promote steps to stop the degrading of natural resources and to encourage environmentally sustainable production methods.
- d) To integrate the rural poor into the market economy, and give them better access to export markets.

**Examples of action in Africa:**

- a) Increase secure water supply for agriculture by creating small-scale irrigation facilities and improving local water management.
- b) Promote necessary land reform and improve *land tenure security* (under traditional and modern forms of tenure).
- c) Focus on the poor by developing systems to monitor droughts and crop production.
- d) Improve agricultural credit and financing schemes, including access to credit for women and small-scale farmers.

**Examples of action at international level:**

- a) Promote access to international markets by improving the quality of African produce and agricultural products to meet international standards.
- b) Support African networking with foreign partners on agricultural technology, extension services and rural infrastructure.
- c) Support investment in research on high-yield crops, and on durable preservation and storage methods.

## **Mining**

### **Aims:**

- a) To improve the quality of information on mineral resources.
- b) To create a regulatory framework that is suitable for the development of the mining sector.
- c) To develop *best practices* that will ensure efficient mining of high quality natural resources and minerals.

### **Examples of action:**

- a) Harmonise policies and regulations to ensure that mining follows minimum standards.
- b) Combine commitments to reduce possible investment risks in Africa.
- c) Share information sources on business opportunities for investments.
- d) Improve co-operation to share knowledge and add value to natural resources.

## **Manufacturing**

### **Aims: manufacturing**

- a) To increase production, competitiveness and *diversification* in the domestic private sector, especially in *agro-industry*, mining and manufacturing.
- b) To set up organisations to deal with national standards in African countries.
- c) To harmonise technical regulatory frameworks used by African countries.

### **Examples of action in Africa:**

- a) Develop new industries or upgrade existing industries, including agro- based industries, and energy and mineral resource-based industries.
- b) Become active members of relevant international standards organisations to give Africa a stronger voice and to help in developing international standards.
- c) Ensure that testing laboratories and certification bodies are set up to support the relevant national technical regulations.
- d) Set up a national or regional accreditation infrastructure that is internationally acceptable, such as the International Standards Organisation system.

### **Examples of action at international level:**

- a) Facilitate partnerships by developing structures such as joint business councils for sharing information, joint ventures and subcontracting.
- b) Help strengthen African training bodies for industrial development, especially by promoting networking with international partners.
- c) Promote the transfer of new and appropriate technologies to African countries.

## Tourism

### Aims:

- a) To identify key national and subregional projects that will promote employment and economic integration.
- b) To develop a regional marketing strategy.
- c) To develop research capacity in tourism.
- d) To promote regional and subregional partnerships.

### Examples of action:

- a) Develop co-operative partnerships to share knowledge and involve more countries in tourist-related activities.
- b) Build community capacity to be actively involved in sustainable tourism projects.
- c) Prioritise consumer safety and security issues.
- d) Market African tourism products, especially in adventure tourism, *ecotourism* and cultural tourism.

## Services

Services are a vital activity area for African countries. This is especially important for countries that are well-equipped in ICT, for example in teleservices.

The NEPAD programme does not give any more information on the service sector.

## Promoting the private sector

### Aims:

- a) To ensure a user-friendly environment for private sector activities, especially domestic *entrepreneurs*.
- b) To promote foreign direct investment and trade, emphasising exports.
- c) To develop micro-, small and medium enterprises, including the informal sector.

### Examples of action in Africa:

- a) Support training and skills development to increase the entrepreneurial, managerial and technical capacities of the private sector.
- b) Strengthen chambers of commerce, trade and professional organisations, and their regional networks.
- c) Strengthen micro-, small and medium-scale industries through support from technical bodies and civil society.
- d) Improve access to capital by strengthening microfinancing schemes, especially for women entrepreneurs.

### Examples of action at international level:

- a) Promote entrepreneurial development programmes for training managers of African firms.
- b) Give technical assistance to develop a regulatory environment to promote small, medium and micro-enterprises.

## **Promoting African exports**

### **Africa's needs in world trade**

NEPAD expects Africa's participation in the world trading system to lead to results such as:

- Open, certain and geographically spread market access for African exports.
- Technical assistance and support to increase the institutional capacity of African states to use the World Trade Organisation (WTO) and to negotiate multilateral trade.

### **Some of our aims:**

- a) To overcome international trade barriers by improving trade.
- b) To increase trade within African regions by promoting cross-border co-operation between African businesses.
- c) To counter Africa's negative image by marketing the continent and resolving conflicts.

### **Examples of action in Africa:**

- a) Promote trade within Africa to find African sources for imports from the rest of the world.
- b) Create marketing tools and bodies to develop marketing strategies for African products.
- c) Publicise African export and import companies and products through trade fairs.
- d) Reduce export taxes.

### **Examples of action at international level:**

- a) Negotiate agreements and tools to allow African products to access world markets.
- b) Encourage foreign direct investment.
- c) Assist in building capacity to implement the rules and regulations of the WTO.
- d) Ensure that any new multilateral trade negotiations cover Africa's needs and interests in future WTO rules.

### **Examples of further strategic action to strengthen trade**

Together with the international community, African leaders should:

- a) Identify key areas in export production where there are weaknesses with supplies.
- b) Deepen efforts to integrate and increase trade in Africa through:
  - A voluntary *preferential trade* system for trade within Africa.
  - Harmonising domestic and regional trade and industrial policy to boost sustainable regional economic trade.

### **Examples of further strategic action on preferential treatment**

African leaders should act to:

- a) Secure and stabilise preferential treatment by key developed country partners.
- b) Ensure that changes through multilateral talks do not take away preferential gains in existing agreements.

## **Removing non-tariff barriers**

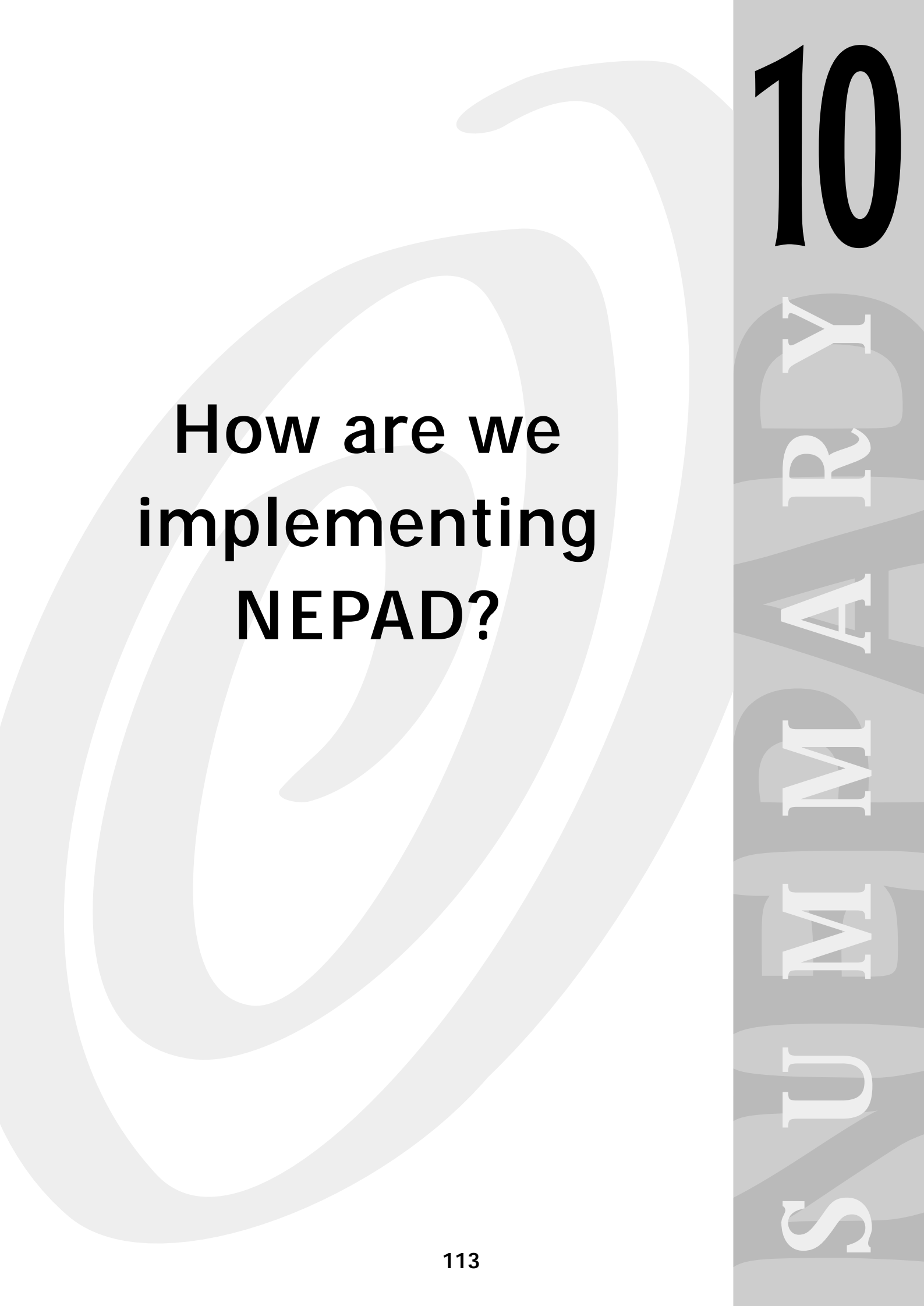
Africa needs to have improved access to markets where Africa has a competitive advantage. While tariffs have lowered in recent years, *non-tariff barriers* still block Africa.

Removing non-tariff barriers will greatly assist to:

- Increase economic growth and diversify African products and exports.
- Make Africa less dependent on ODA.
- Improve infrastructure projects through increased economic activity.

The NEPAD programme does not give any further detail on non-tariff barriers.
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**How are we  
implementing  
NEPAD?**

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# 10

## How are we implementing NEPAD?

### 10.1 Priority programmes

These are NEPAD's *priority programmes* that we aim to implement first, together with our development partners:

- a) HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis
- b) Information and communications technology
- c) Debt reduction
- d) Market access.

While work on these programmes is already being done through other international programmes and bodies, we believe:

- We must strengthen Africa's involvement for better results.
- We can speed up Africa's renewal by implementing these programmes.

NEPAD leaders have also proposed key projects to strengthen country and regional development, for example in:

- Agriculture
- Promoting the private sector
- Infrastructure and regional integration.

### 10.2 Assessing and managing our progress

#### Assessing needs

NEPAD will do a needs assessment to assess structures and staff, and action needed in the 5 priority sectors. Needs assessments will progress from national to subregional and regional level, with national needs guiding subregional sectoral needs.

#### Heads of State Implementation Committee

The heads of state promoting NEPAD will advise the African Union on the appropriate structures for implementing NEPAD. NEPAD's implementing structures will need technical support for research and developing policy.

There will be a Heads of State Implementation Committee (HSIC) made up of:

- The 5 heads of state promoting NEPAD, and
- 10 other heads of state (2 from each region).

The role of the HSIC is to:

- Identify strategic issues to research, plan and manage at continental level.
- Set up tools to review progress, based on agreed targets and standards.
- Review progress in implementing past decisions.
- Take appropriate steps to deal with problems and delays.

### **The key to success**

Through the NEPAD programme, African leaders are making a commitment to Africa's people and the world to:

- Work together to rebuild Africa.
- Promote peace, stability and people-centred development, together with democracy and good economic management.
- Hold each other accountable for what has been agreed in NEPAD's Programme of Action.

Africa recognises that it holds the key to its own development. NEPAD's development strategy and detailed Programme of Action starts a new chapter in the partnership and co-operation between Africa and the developed world.

The key to NEPAD's success is in our hands. In carrying out its promise, NEPAD must give hope to every poor and thin African child that the 21st century is really Africa's century.

Please see NEPAD's website ( <a href="http://www.nepad.org">www.nepad.org</a> ) for updated information on NEPAD programmes, projects and structures.
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# Questions for discussion

These are a few questions to encourage discussion and action in your organisation and community around NEPAD and NEPAD issues. Please add your own questions and concerns.

1. What does the spirit of NEPAD and its Programme of Action mean for your organisation or community?
2. What do you feel are NEPAD's main strengths and weaknesses?
3. Are you aware of NEPAD's main strategies and priority sectors?
4. Do you know of any NEPAD projects and have they had an impact on your region, country or community?
5. What are the key issues affecting development in your region, country or community? Do you feel that NEPAD sufficiently deals with these issues? For example, does NEPAD meaningfully address HIV/AIDS challenges?
6. Do you think the launch of the African Union has assisted in taking forward NEPAD and the addressing of development issues?
7. Do you think the World Summit on Sustainable Development and its outcomes will meaningfully advance NEPAD and African development?
8. What do you feel about the NEPAD process so far? For example, do you feel there was enough consultation with civil society organisations?
9. Do you feel civil society organisations should get involved with NEPAD? If you support involvement:
  - How do you feel civil society organisations can get involved and meaningfully contribute to NEPAD programmes and projects?
  - What practical steps can your organisation take to meaningfully get involved in the process of implementing NEPAD?
10. What else should NEPAD and its implementing structures be doing to consult and involve people in urban and rural areas?

# Useful words and concepts

This is a selected A to Z list of key words and concepts we put in italics the first time we used them in the full or summary versions.

## **Access**

Able to get, have or use, eg access to health care.

## **Accountable**

Having to report and be answerable for your actions.

## **African Renaissance**

A project for Africa's renewal and recovery that helped to inspire NEPAD.

## **Agro-industry**

Industries based on agriculture.

## **Beneficiation**

Adding value to something, eg mineral beneficiation.

## **Best practices**

Good examples or standards that serve as a model.

## **Biodiversity**

The rich variety of plants and animals that live in their own environment.

## **Biomass**

Total amount of living animals or plants in an area measured by weight.

## **Bridging the digital divide**

Making up the gap in information and communications technology between developed and developing countries.

## **Capacity**

Being able to do something, eg the capacity to start a small business.

## **Capital accumulation**

Building up of capital.

## **Civil society**

The non-government part of our society, eg non-governmental organisations, community organisations, religious bodies and trade unions.

## **Cold War**

The diplomatic and political war between super-powers from the 1950s onwards, led by Russia and the United States.

## **Common Market**

A possible future shared economy between African countries, as has happened in Europe.

## **Communicable diseases**

Diseases that can be spread by human contact, eg TB, HIV, malaria.

**Corporate**

To do with companies.

**Debt deadlock**

When countries that have been given credit are unable to repay their debts.

**Debt sustainability**

Keeping debts at a level so that countries can afford to pay them back.

**Dependency**

Relying on donors or other countries financially.

**Desertification**

When fertile land gradually turns into desert.

**Developed countries / world**

The industrialised, richer countries of the world.

**Developing countries / world**

The less developed, poorer countries of the world.

**Diversified / Diversification**

Spreading and expanding by taking on new activities, eg diversifying by making a new product.

**Domestic**

To do with a country, within a country, eg domestic policies.

**Economies of scale**

When the more you produce, the less it costs.

**Ecotourism**

Tourism activities that are sensitive to the environment.

**Empowerment**

Training, building capacity and giving people the power to do something, eg economic empowerment.

**Embezzlement**

Using money for yourself when you have been put in a position of trust, eg in business or government.

**Endemic**

Found all over in a particular region, country or area, eg an endemic disease, endemic plants.

**Entrepreneurs / Entrepreneurial**

Describing owners or managers of businesses that aim to make a profit.

**Equitable**

Fair and reasonable.

**E-readiness**

Ready to do business on or use the Internet.

**Exploitation**

Being used in an unfair way, eg exploiting Africa's labour and minerals.

**Fiscal**

To do with government-controlled finances.

**Food security**

Access to enough of the right kind and quality of food to live a healthy life.

**Globalising / Globalisation**

Becoming part of the world economy, and thus affected by world market forces and pressures.

**Global warming**

The gradual rise in temperature on Earth because the sun's heat cannot escape the build-up of gases in the atmosphere.

**Governance**

Way of running, governing or managing, eg corporate governance, environmental governance.

**Gross domestic product**

Total value of all goods produced and services given in a country, usually measured over one year (often called 'GDP').

**Gross national product**

Total value of all goods produced and services given in a country, plus its income from overseas, usually measured over one year (often called 'GNP').

**Harmonise**

Bring together to co-operate or support each other.

**Heads of State Forums**

Structures of NEPAD that will carry out monitoring and other tasks to ensure that NEPAD's initiatives and action plans are carried out.

**Heads of State Implementation Committee**

The NEPAD committee with the overall responsibility of ensuring that NEPAD programmes, projects and commitments are carried out and reviewed.

**Health literacy**

Being educated and aware of health rights, duties and issues.

**Indigenous knowledge**

Knowledge that belongs to and is part of African culture, eg tradition-based literacy, artistic works, scientific discoveries.

**Informal sector**

Part of the economy where people are self-employed and earn a living through activities like street-trading.

**Infrastructure**

The structure that enables a country to function effectively, eg public services, communications, transport network.

**Integrating / Integration**

Fitting into, merging, or combining with, eg integrating into the world economy.

**Interdependence**

Depending on each other.

**International Development Goals**

Internationally set development targets to measure progress.

**Land tenure security**

Having legally secure rights to live on and use land.

**Legitimacy**

Having moral and legal authority, eg the legitimacy of a government after free and fair elections.

**Macro-economic**

To do with the economy of a country or group of countries.

**Marginalised / Marginalisation**

Being sidelined, left out or given a very small role, eg the marginalisation of Africa in the world economy.

**Multilateral organisations**

International organisations with members or partners from different countries.

**Non-tariff barriers**

Obstacles blocking African access to trade that have nothing to do with export taxes, eg poor transport facilities.

**Pandemic**

A disease affecting people over a very wide area, eg the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

**Patronage**

Giving positions to supporters (who may be unqualified) in return for their loyalty.

**Peer review**

When countries monitor and assess each other's performance, eg in carrying out commitments under NEPAD's Democracy and Political Governance Initiative.

**Preferential trade system**

Giving incentives or advantages to encourage trade.

**Primary production**

Producing natural raw, unmanufactured materials, eg gold, oil, coffee.

**Priority programmes**

NEPAD has prioritised these 4 programmes: a) HIV/AIDS, malaria and TB; b) ICT; c) debt reduction; d) market access.

**Priority sectors**

NEPAD highlights these 5 priority sectors: a) Infrastructure; b) Human resources; c) Health; d) Agriculture; e) Market access for African exports.

**Programme of Action**

NEPAD's action strategy that covers these 3 broad areas:

- a) Conditions for sustainable development;
- b) Sectoral priorities;
- c) Mobilising resources.

**Public - private partnerships**

Partnerships between government and business (usually called 'PPPs').

**Rebate**

Discount or amount you get back, eg when you buy goods in big quantities.

**Regulations / Regulatory framework**

Legal rules and controls that govern different sectors.

**Rescheduling**

Method for setting a new time limit for the repayment of debts.

**Revenue**

Government money from collecting taxes.

Reversing the brain drain

Stopping the loss of knowledge and skills when professionals leave Africa.

**Reversing the brain drain**

Stopping the loss of knowledge and skills when professionals leave Africa.

**Rule of law**

When a country respects internationally accepted legal principles, standards and procedures.

**South-South partnerships**

Partnerships between countries, donors or organisations from the developing world.

**Special drawing rights**

Making special rules and concessions for African countries to get access to development funds.

**Structural adjustment programmes**

Financial aid programmes linked to countries having to take steps to reform their economies.

**Sustainability**

When something is able to survive and continue in a productive and safe way.

**Sustainable development**

Development that is planned to meet the needs of present and future generations, eg the need for basic social services. Sustainable development includes using resources responsibly and ensuring that the environment is protected.

**Sustainable growth**

Economic growth that can be maintained over time.

**Transparency**

Openness, eg transparency in government.

**Transport development corridors**

Areas for transport development and co-operation between countries.

**Underdevelopment**

Historical exploitation leading to Africa being poor and less developed, eg Africa's underdevelopment compared to Europe.

**Value-added products**

When value is added to a natural resource in production and then exported at a profit.

# Useful contacts

## Open Society contacts

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## **Websites and links**

[www.nepad.org](http://www.nepad.org)

[www.nepadsn.org/entry.html](http://www.nepadsn.org/entry.html)

[www.dfa.gov.za/events/nepad.pdf](http://www.dfa.gov.za/events/nepad.pdf)

[www.gov.za/issues/nepad\\_pres.pdf](http://www.gov.za/issues/nepad_pres.pdf)

[www.allafrica.com](http://www.allafrica.com)



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