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Printed by
Pro-phase Marketing

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The New Partnership for African Development, NEPAD, is a pledge by African leaders based on common vision and shared conviction, to fight the dual maladies of poverty and underdevelopment and place it in the sustained path of economic growth and development. As a reality, Africa’s backwardness stands in stark contrast to the prosperity in the rest of the world.

NEPAD-Kenya is an organization that is established through the initiatives of the Kenya government and Kenya private sector with the responsibility of initiating, promoting or facilitating a home grown sustainable political, economic and social development programmes intended to reverse the worsening poverty trends in the country.

NEPAD Kenya thus provides the much lacking partnership and linkage between the government, civil society organisations, development partners and the private sector. The forum provided by the NEPAD Kenya enables the government and the private sector to jointly identify and prioritise various sectors and sub-sectors that are critical in addressing issues pertinent to poverty. Specific programmes have been developed by NEPAD Kenya for the use by the line ministries. NEPAD therefore provides a well researched data, programmes and projects with their identifiable sources of funding which the line ministries can readily use in their endeavours to tackle various development issues.

NEPAD attributes at both continental and regional levels and the country specifics are many and may appear complex. It is therefore my responsibility to educate the public, stakeholders and partners on the the origin of NEPAD, its Philosophy, and the principles governing its activities and the programmes developed or being developed or implemented. In order to update our readers constantly on the NEPAD activities, the Kenyan secretariat is undertaking to publish a quarterly NEPAD KENYA MAGAZINE to fulfil this purpose.

The first issue of NEPAD Kenya magazine is an introduction to NEPAD Kenya’s activities and features pertinent issues like what NEPAD is, its structure and operations, the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) process in Kenya, and many more. It is our hope that this magazine will create a forum for dialogue with the public and we welcome opinions and comments from you the readers.

Lastly may I take this opportunity to thank our key stakeholders for the support received during our formative period. We value you greatly and look forward to your continued support.

Chief Executive Officer,
NEPAD-KENYA.
The idea of developing a new agenda for African recovery dates back to 1999. Presidents T Mbeki, O Obasanjo and President A Bouteflika, as leaders of three major regional organizations representing the interests of Africa, found themselves in a unique position to put Africa’s case to the global community. They realized that Africa has been reacting for too long to ideas and offers of support from the rest of the world, without developing and articulating its own vision and programme of action. Africa has produced a variety of initiatives and programmes of action in the past, in particular the Lagos Plan of Action and the Abuja Treaty establishing the African Economic Community. However, for a variety of reasons, including timing, a lack of capacity and resources, a lack of political will and the interference of outside interests in the Cold War era, the plans failed in their implementation.

A convergence of favourable circumstances within the continent and internationally provided the ideal opportunity to take the existing plans, e.g. for economic integration, forward within the context of a new initiative developed by Africans for Africans.

Faced with the challenge of addressing poverty and underdevelopment, both in their respective countries and on the continent, and with demands to address world forums on African issues, the Presidents resolved to request the then OAU to mandate them to prepare a comprehensive development programme.

The initiative is anchored on the determination of Africans to disentangle themselves and the continent from the depression of underdevelopment and exclusion in a globalizing world. It is a call for a new relationship of partnership between Africa and the international community to overcome the development chasm. The partnership is founded on a realization of common interest, obligations, commitments, benefits and equality.

The initiative is premised on African states making commitments to good governance, democracy and human rights, while endeavoring to prevent and resolve situations of conflict and instability on the continent. Coupled to these are efforts to create conditions conducive for investment, growth and development initiatives to raise the necessary resources to address the development chasm in critical sectors, such as infrastructure, education, health, agriculture and ICT. The resources will be mobilized by way of increased savings and capital inflows via further debt reliefs, increased targeted ODA flows and the private capital. There will be an emphasis on the better management of public revenue and expenditure.

NEPAD offers a historic opportunity for the advanced countries of the world to enter into a genuine partnership with Africa, based on mutual interests and benefit, shared commitment and binding agreement, under the African leadership. In proposing the partnership, Africa recognizes that it holds the key to its own development. The adoption of a development strategy, together with a detailed programmes of action mark the beginning of a new era in the partnership and cooperation between Africa and the developed world, including multilateral organizations.

Faced with the challenge of addressing poverty and underdevelopment, both in their respective countries and on the continent, and with demands to address world forums on African issues, the Presidents resolved to request the then OAU to mandate them to prepare a comprehensive development programme that could serve as a blueprint for the re-engineering of the continent and forging of a new partnership with the rest of the world, more specifically the industrialized countries and multilateral organizations.

This would be a programme that went beyond debt reduction, which was the immediate trigger for the initiative. The end result was the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD).
The African Unity established NEPAD as a body and the instrument of actualising the African Unity (AU) vision of "...an African Integrated, progress and peaceful, an African driven by its own citizens, A dynamic future in the global Arena...". The NEPAD philosophy advocated since its inception in 2000 is that Africans have decided it is an opportune time to take charge of their own destiny by determining a development path and agenda for the continent in the 21st century.

To guide in its endeavour, NEPAD developed strategic framework document that integrates the socio-economic development strategies for Africa. This document was adopted by the 37th Summit of the OAU in July 2001. The document addresses the challenges facing the African continent. Issues such as the escalating poverty levels, under-development and the continued marginalisation of Africa have been given a new radical intervention leading to refocussed vision /principles and mandates of Africa for renewed Africa.

**PRINCIPLES**

The principles of NEPAD are developed fundamentally to assist the continent to realize its desire of the dynamic, integrated, progressive and powerful African continent driven and managed by its own citizens. The architects of NEPAD developed elaborate principles that have become the beacon for policy formulation and framework of development activities. The principles basically advocate for:

- African ownership and responsibility for the continent.
- The promotion and advancement of democracy, human rights, good governance and accountable leadership.
- Self-reliant development to reduce aid-dependency.
- Building capacity in African institutions.
- Promoting intra-African trade and investment.
- Accelerating regional economic integration.
- Advancement of women cause.
- Strengthening Africa’s voice in the internationals forms.
- Forging partnership with Africa’s civil society, the private sector, other African countries and the international community.

**MANDATE**

Taking charge means ownership and responsibility in addressing core challenges surrounding the continents such as of conflicts, poverty redemption, fighting corruption, eliminating the burden of diseases and strengthening the capacities of African states. In pursuit of these, NEPAD is committing the African Unity (A.U) members states to shoulder certain specific responsibilities such as:

- Eradicating poverty.
- Placing African countries, both individually and collectively, on a path of sustainable growth and development.
- Halting the marginalisation of Africa in the globalisation process and enhancing its full and beneficial integration into the global economy.
- Accelerating the empowerment of women.
- Practicing good governance as a basic requirement for peace, security and sustainable political and socio-economic development.
- Inclusive participation all sectors of societies in initiating and implementing development programmes.
- Anchoring the development of Africa on its resources and resourcefulness of its people.
- Partnership between and amongst African peoples.
- Acceleration of regional and continental integration.
- Building Africa’s competitiveness in terms of resources and market access.
- Forging a new international partnership that changes the unequal relationship between Africa and the developed world.
- Ensuring that all Partnerships with NEPAD are linked to the Millennium Development Goals and other agreed development goals and targets.
### NEPAD STRATEGIES AND DESIRED OUTCOMES

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<tr>
<th>STRATEGIES</th>
<th>DESIRED OUTCOME</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>i) Establish condition necessary for sustainable development by enhancing:</strong></td>
<td>• Reduced conflicts in the continents by making African leaders more involved in peace building and conflict resolution.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Peace and Security</td>
<td>• Africa adopts and implements the principles of democracy and good corporate governance.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Democracy and good Governance</td>
<td>• Protection of human rights.</td>
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<td>• Regional co-operation and integration</td>
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<td>• Capacity building</td>
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<td><strong>ii) Policy reforms and increased investment in:</strong></td>
<td>• Africa develops and implements effective poverty eradication programmes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Agriculture, health and environmental management.</td>
<td>• Africa achieves increased levels of savings and investments generated locally and internationally.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Education, science and technology</td>
<td>• Increased levels of Overseas Development Assistant (ODA) to the continent and maximization in use of resources.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Building and infrastructure</td>
<td>• Engagement in the global trade economy.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Promotion and diversification of production, trade, processing, and tourism.</td>
<td>• Conservation of environment for future prosperity.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Acceleration of intra Africa trade and access to overseas market.</td>
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<tr>
<td>**iii) Resource and Mobilisation;</td>
<td>• Africa achieves increased levels of savings and investments generated locally and internationally.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Increasing domestic savings and investment</td>
<td>• Increased funds for investment and ODA.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Improving management of public revenue and expenditure.</td>
<td>• Effective utilisation of resources.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Improving Africa share in global trade.</td>
<td>• Genuine partnership are established between Africa and developed countries based on mutual relationship.</td>
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<td>• Attracting foreign direct investment.</td>
<td>• Regional integration accelerated for higher levels of sustained economic growth in Africa.</td>
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<td>• Increasing capital inflows through debt reduction and ODA.</td>
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COUNTRY PARTICIPATION IN NEPAD ACTIVITIES

The integrated socio economic development and policy framework document of October 2001, does not attempt to dictate how the various African countries should organize themselves to participate in NEPAD programmes. It does however, lay out a guidelines and an appeal to all Africans to rise up to the challenge of becoming aware of the seriousness of the situation and therefore the need to mobilize themselves in order to put an end to further marginalization of the continent.

The government of Kenya responded to this challenge by establishing a national NEPAD Steering Committee, (NSC) comprising a combination of senior government officials and prominent captains of industry from the private sector as well as distinguished leaders from the civil society and academia. This is the NEPAD Kenya forum that is a broad based, inclusive platform for debating and setting national priorities within NEPAD framework. It is the vehicle for promoting genuine partnership between the government and the private sector and civil society. It also provides a mechanism for constructive engagement with development partners, especially in the harmonization of aid flows procedures. It further provides a prominent platform for coordinating Kenya’s participation in the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM).

The Kenyan NSC provides oversight to a national NEPAD Secretariat that was established to implement its decisions and to serve as the national focal point for NEPAD in Kenya.
NEPAD- Kenya is an organization established through the initiative of Government of Kenya and Kenya’s private sector to take charge of NEPAD affairs in Kenya. NEPAD – Kenya develops programmes and projects based on the AU-NEPAD principles and objectives while taking into account the country’s and its regional interests.

NEPAD –Kenya programmes of action is contained in a five year strategic plan (2006-2011) in which the organisation has identified specific sectors in the Kenya political, economic and social landscape with specific strategies that if implemented by the line government ministries in partnership with the private sector and other partners would lead to Kenya addressing itself adequately in areas of concern.

The strategic plan details sectors specifics and their priorities. It further provides implementation guidelines on each programme such as funding services proposal, logical frameworks of each programme/project and target outputs and indicators in order to achieve sustainable development.

The sectors that are comprehensively covered in the NEPAD- Kenya strategic plan are as follows:

- Infrastructure: roads, transport and communication, water and sanitation, shelter and housing and ICT.
- Human resource development reversing the brain drain, poverty reduction, education and health care.
- The peace, security, democracy, political and corporate governance.
- Agriculture and rural development.
- Youth, gender mainstreaming and culture issues.
- Democratisation and governance.
- Trade and market access

The NEPAD secretariat is the functional point for coordination and facilitation of NEPAD activities in Kenya. Its mandate includes the following:

**Mandate**

a) Intensify Kenya’s participation in the activities of the New Partnership for African Development (NEPAD) at all appropriate levels;
b) Oversee regional projects that have a direct link with national priorities;
c) Co-ordinate priority projects identified in the poverty reduction strategy paper;
d) Monitoring and Evaluation of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG’s);
e) Monitoring and Evaluation of the implementation of the APRM National programme of Action;
f) Market the NEPAD initiative among the business community in Kenya;

**The following challenges face NEPAD**

- Resource mobilization,
- Bringing NEPAD principles to the community, and
- Encouraging involvement of the CSOs, especially in monitoring the implementation of the Africa Peer Review Mechanism.
- Disengaging from government bureaucracy and control and gaining a more autonomy as an organization, while maintaining political good will and government partnership.
- Lack of communication hinders participation in joint projects like improvement of infrastructure, etc.
- Trading in the region before trading as a block.
NEPAD-Kenya National Steering Committee (NSC)

In pursuit of creating strategic interventions to socio-economic challenges, facing the country, the NSC is charged with responsibility of formulating policies that provide guidelines on a wide range of activities, which include the following:

- Establish and create linkages with other organizations to add value to its role in the region,
- Create an enabling framework for the strategic interventions of NEPAD in the implementation of its programmes,
- Build strategic alliances and partnerships, to improve and widen its resource base
- Develop a clear system of monitoring and evaluation for NEPAD Programmes of Action.
- Market the NEPAD initiative among the business community in Kenya;
- Give direction to the National Secretariat which shall be responsible for implementing the decisions of the NEPAD steering committee.
- To oversee and give direction to the National Secretariat operations such as;
- Preparation of budgets, financial policies and procedures;
- Recruitment of national secretariat staff and Human resources development;
- Preparation of strategic framework.
- Preparation of work plans relating to National and regional programmes and projects.

NEPAD EASTERN AFRICAN REGION

NEPAD KENYA is hosting the Headquarters of NEPAD Eastern Africa Region since 2002. The region is made up Kenya, Burundi, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Madagascar, Mauritius, Seychelles, Somalia, Sudan, Comoros, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda.

The mandate given to Kenya includes the following:

- Convene regular coordination meetings of the NEPAD representatives in Eastern African countries.
- Facilitate frequent sharing of information and experiences among the participating countries.
- Organize regional forums for bringing together stakeholders around the various NEPAD themes.
- Coordinate with the NEPAD Secretariat in Pretoria.
- The RECs (Regional Economic Groupings) - COMESA, IGAD, EAC, SADC - were reaffirmed as the building blocs of NEPAD

NEPAD will therefore give priority to capacity building of the institutions in order to enhance the effectiveness of the existing regional structures and their rationalization. It was agreed that The African Development Bank should play a leading role in financing regional studies, programmes and projects.

The regional sectors covered will include the following priority areas:

- Infrastructure, especially ICT and energy.
- Human resources, including education, skills development and reversing the brain drain.
- Health Issues.
- Agriculture.
- Access to the markets of developed countries for sub-regional exports.

For each sector, the objective is to bridge the existing gaps between sub-regional countries and developed countries so as to improve the continent’s international competitiveness that can enable it to participate in the globalization process. The special circumstances of islands and landlocked states would also be addressed in this context.

NEPAD-Kenya Secretariat given its regional mandate will facilitate a technical meeting in 2006, together with other Secretariats from within Eastern Africa countries to work out a regional strategic plan and a detailed programme of action.
# MEMBERS OF NEPAD-KENYA NATIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
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<tr>
<td>Minister for Planning and National Development - Chairman</td>
<td>Government</td>
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<tr>
<td>Permanent Secretary - Ministry for Planning and National Development</td>
<td>Government</td>
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<tr>
<td>C.E.O, NEPAD Kenya Secretariat-Secretary</td>
<td>NEPAD Kenya</td>
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<td>Permanent Secretary - Ministry of Education, Science and Technology</td>
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<td>Permanent Secretary - Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources</td>
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<td>Permanent Secretary - Ministry of Transport</td>
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<td>Permanent Secretary - Ministry of Information and Communication</td>
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<td>Permanent Secretary - Ministry of East Africa and Regional Co-operation</td>
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<td>Permanent Secretary - Ministry of Roads and Public Works</td>
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<td>Mr. Chris Kirubi</td>
<td>Government</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prof. Atieno Amadi Ndede</td>
<td>Africa's Brain Gain</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs. Deborah Ongewe</td>
<td>Unlocking Africa's Potential</td>
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<td>Mr. Yusuf Murigu</td>
<td>Inter-Religious Council (K)</td>
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<td>Mr. Moses Mwangi</td>
<td>Trident Aviation</td>
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<td>Mr. Mahmud A. Visram</td>
<td>Sun n Sand Beach Resort</td>
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<td>Prof. John Oluoch</td>
<td>Private Consultant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. Karanja Kabage</td>
<td>K &amp; M Advocates</td>
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<td>Mr. Mohamed Elmi</td>
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<td>Ms. Beatrice Sabana</td>
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<td>Mr. Mohamed Ali Jama</td>
<td>Northern Aid</td>
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<td>Mr. Julius Okara</td>
<td>KEPSA</td>
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NEPAD-KENYA national steering committee members at a retreat in Mombasa
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<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Grace Ongile</td>
<td>Chief Executive Officer</td>
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<tr>
<td>A.A. Ismail</td>
<td>Principal Economist</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joseph Gichuki</td>
<td>Finance and Administration Manager</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ali Mohammed</td>
<td>Co-ordinator NEPAD coastal and marine Programme (COSMAR)</td>
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<tr>
<td>James Kamula</td>
<td>Research Officer NEPAD COSMAR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Muratha Kinuthia</td>
<td>Public Relations and Communications Officer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fauziya Abdi</td>
<td>ICT Specialist</td>
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<tr>
<td>Betty Loko</td>
<td>Events and Logistics Coordinator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mohammed Ali</td>
<td>Documentalist and Librarian</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nene Ag Oumar</td>
<td>Administrative Support Officer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jerry Okungu</td>
<td>Communication Consultant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grace Ochako</td>
<td>Executive Assistant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Margaret Atieno</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catherine Gichumi</td>
<td>Accounts Clerk</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alexandra Meme</td>
<td>Accounts Clerk</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dismas Ochola</td>
<td>Driver</td>
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NEPAD Kenya staff members and the APRM technical team at a treat in Mombasa
1. H.E. Mwai Kibaki at the launch of the NEPAD E-school in Kikambala.

2. The Country Review team meets Nelson Mandela during their visit to Kenya.

3. Dr. Graca Machel plants a tree during her visit to Kibera slums.

4. An FGD with women groups in a rural cluster.

5. Dr. Grace Ongile (CEO NEPAD KENYA), Prof. Michael Chege (Ministry of Planning and Development) and Mr. A. Ismail (NEPAD KENYA) during the government response meeting in Nanyuki.
Dr. Graca Machel visits the Kibera slums during the Country Review team mission to Kenya.

Mr. Muhib Noorani (member of APRM National Governing Council) giving a vote of thanks during the handling over ceremony of the Kenya Country self-assessment report.

An FGD with youth groups.

An inside view of a computer class in one of the NEPAD Kenya e-schools project.

NEPAD e-school laboratory at Chavakali High School.
The APRM is a voluntary mechanism considered to be the most innovative aspect of NEPAD. It aims at tracking and measuring progress towards countries’ good political, economic, corporate and social governance. It is a powerful tool to assess the performance of all spheres of national life and assist countries to identify deficiencies and recommend possible solutions. It is important that one make the distinction between governance and government. Governance goes beyond government; governance refers to the how those, who have been entrusted with power use it. To have good governance in a country we must inculcate of good governance from the very basic unit.

**APRM in Kenya**

Kenya is among other African countries that acceded to the APRM during the African Union Summit held in Abuja in March 2003. In February 2004 Kenya volunteered to undertake peer review alongside Rwanda, Ghana and Mauritius. To get the African Peer Review process going, the Government of Kenya established a broad based interdisciplinary task force that included government, civil society and private sector representatives. This taskforce met under the chairmanship of the Ministry of Planning and National Development. The task force was Charged with preparing the ground for the inaugural consultative forum by undertaking to make an initial identification of all stakeholders. The task force also held, several national and other consultative meetings with leaders from the media, civil society and private sector.

**Structures**

The Kenya APRM Task Force set out as its first priority to draw up clear and concise Terms of Reference for the APRM structures in Kenya. This was in recognition of the need to clearly and concisely think out the roles of these structures so as to avoid any conflicts and give ample direction to these structures. After much discussion a consensus was arrived regarding the roles of the National Governing Council (NGC), the Government, The Lead Technical Agencies (LTAs), the Convenors, the Kenya APR Secretariat.

**Positioning APRM into existing National Development Frameworks**

The challenges with the creation of the NGC was that it had to make the body be legitimate, credible, competent and have authority. The task force consequently held two National Stakeholders Forums to allow stakeholders to gain an understanding of the; APRM and to elect their representatives to the NGC. It was also decided that there was need for competent Lead Technical Agencies to sit on the NGC and to equally have representatives of the line ministries as they have the authority and responsibility to execute the Programme of Action. In the end a 33 person NGC was created and members were allowed to elect their own chair.

It is important that the APRM is not seen to come and replace existing programmes but to reinforce them. It is therefore quite critical that the APRM process have linkages with these existing programmes such as the MDGs, PRSPs and other such initiatives. Kenya set out to use the APRM to provide indicators, on how well the country has been served by the nation’s designated road map for economic growth and human development, namely the Economic Recovery Strategy for Wealth and Employment Creation (ERSWEC) paper. This road map spells out the essence of an enabling environment, required for productive economic activities, including in this regard, reforms in the public sector, promotion of good governance and the rule of law, the fight against corruption, investment in human capital of the
Stakeholders also got a chance to go through the indicative questionnaire sent by the APRM Continental Secretariat and to identify any gaps and domesticate it. It was proposed and adopted that four research instruments be developed for use as follows:

1) Desk Research - based on existing literature. Civil society was free to share any literature they may have developed on any of the four areas of review.

2) Expert Panel Survey - questionnaires were sent out to 100 experts in each of the pillars of the review. Experts not limited to academic accomplishments but a mastery of the subject. A good number were drawn from civil society, In addition Civil Society representatives in the NGC were involved in the selection of experts.

3) Focus Group Discussion – Held a country-wide in 16 sample districts. In each of these districts focus group discussions were held separately with male youth, female youth, male adults, and female adults. The purpose being to get data that is disaggregated along gender, age / generational, geographic lines. A total of 1920 participants were involved.

4) National Sample Survey - This was a House-hold based survey conducted on 1950 sample households countrywide. It was based on a random stratified sample. All the districts in the country were targeted.

The beauty of the APRM is that it does not only seek to review governance and identify the gaps, but it goes the extra step to provide a National Programme of Action to fill those gaps. In Kenya after the development of the

Methodology

The following constituted the key considerations, in positioning the APRM in Kenya's context was. as a result of several consultations with relevant government agencies and stakeholder groupings.

Non-state operations were considered to be critical to developing a culture of good governance and directly impact on progress on human development. As such, the APRM was positioned to not only track public or state governance, but align the practices in the private sector towards the national goals of development. APRM in Kenya was therefore designed to provide a system-for tracking non-state operations in the delivery of services and within the corporate sector both at a national level and at a devolved community level. This information, upon the completion of the process, provided a critical set of indicators to evaluate progress towards meeting ERSWEC and Millennium Development Goals (MDG’s) targets.

The APRM was equally positioned to appraise the efficacy of the new national system wide Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) framework to ensure that any capacity gaps identified are rectified through a National Programme of Action that outlines a set of actions and policy inputs that strengthen the capacity of the national M&E framework. In this regard, it does not duplicate existing national M&E tracking programmes, rather it complements them.

A focus group discussion of Samburu girls in a rural cluster. This depicts importance of capturing the views of the pastoral girl child.
National Programme of Action, the various government ministries and departments who were identified as the implementing agencies were asked to assist in costing the Programme of Action. This was intended to make us realistic as possible. The challenge now is for Kenya to move forward to implement the Programme of Action.

**Public Engagement Strategy of the APRM**

The APRM is designed to be a participatory and inclusive process. Communication and public engagement is therefore the heart of the process. Kenya invested in an Integrated Information, Education and Communications strategy to ensure that a sustained and coordinated approach to the process of disseminating vital APRM information is achieved. This strategy included mapping of dissemination strategies and activities and an outline of stakeholder identification strategies.

These strategic approaches were;

- **The Mass Outreach Strategy** that aimed at ensuring that the main APRM messages reach out to as many Kenyans as is possible and as far down as districts, locations and village levels;
- **Promotional and Marketing Strategy** which focused on providing and sharing information on the APRM that will interest critical institutions to be part of the partnership that is envisaged in the reform process instituted by the APRM;
- **National Sharing and Feedback Strategy** that was meant for use in national institutions was to generate feedback and feed-forward on the progress of the implementation of the APRM;
- **Some of the activities executed within the APRM** included printing of English and Swahili APRM brochures, development and launch of an interactive APRM website (www.aprmkenya.org); promotional meetings with key media houses, radio and TV spots, interviews and talk-show appearances, wide use of the print media through news coverage, editorials and commentaries. Provincial dissemination forums were undertaken by the National Governing Council in all the provincial headquarters of Kenya where various sectoral and stakeholder forums were held with groups such as youth, women, farmers, faith based organizations, private sector, academia, people living with HIV/AIDS people living in informal settlements, the disabled etc.

The key lesson from the communication strategy was the need to effectively unpack the APRM such that all would be able to understand it. The use of local people to facilitate the sessions out in the provinces and districts greatly enhanced dialogue.

**Validation of Technical Assessment by key actors**

During the data collection stage, Kenyans asked for assurances that whatever inputs they give will actually contribute to the report. It is therefore important that stakeholders be given an opportunity to validate the report. Once the draft self-assessment report was ready, it was subjected to a panel of experts for quality control. After that a National Stakeholders’ Validation Conference. About 1000 people from all over Kenya were invited to this conference. This helped identify, any gaps in the self assessment report. For instance participants felt that not enough emphasis had been given to youth and marginalized groups.

**Country Review Visit**

Kenya completed its self-assessment in September 2005. Then Kenya hosted Dr Graca Machel and the Country Review Team. This Team held provincial forums in all provinces of the Country and also held various meetings with representatives of certain sectors and stakeholder groups such as youth, women, faith based organizations, private sector, academia, people living with HIV/AIDS people living in informal settlements, the disabled etc.

**Conclusion**

- A key highlight of the Kenyan process was the high involvement of young people in the process. This was identified as a best practice that needs to be shared with other countries. Equally there were deliberate efforts to ensure women participated. In most APRM meetings, women out numbered men.
- Throughout the whole APRM process the one thing that we appreciated the most was to see Kenyans from all walks of lives dialoguing. In some areas the problem was simply that, citizens lacked information. The APRM provided a forum for leaders and citizens to talk to each other.
- The APRM also provided a neutral non political platform to address some of the more touchy issues such as corruption which had become so politicized in the country. As this was a self-assessment the report was easily accepted by all. Our hope is that we can find ways to sustain this dialogue that was started.
March 2003:
Kenya Accedes to the APRM

14th July 2004:
Inaugural National APRM Stakeholders Forum to sensitise the public and to discuss and domesticate; the APRM process - Officiated by HE the Vice President, Hon Moody Awori.

21st July 2004:
2nd National APRM Stakeholders forum to domesticate APRM questionnaire, elect convenors and propose members of the National Governing Council.

26th - 27th July 2004:
Country Support Mission led by Dr Graca Machel, member of the APR panel of eminent persons responsible for APR process in Kenya visits the country and meets HE the President Hon Mwai Kibaki and with stakeholders including the Corporate Sector, Parliamentarians,Civil Society, Youth etc.

25th Oct 2004:
Inauguration of National Governing Council of 33 members (17 civil society, 7 permanent secretaries, representing key line ministries, chairman of the electoral commission of kenya, solicitor general,4 lead technical agencies and 4 conveners of the thematic pillars.)

23rd Feb 2005:
Official launch of the APR country self-assessment

August 2005:
Completion of Country Self Assessment

3rd - 17th Oct 2005:
Country Review Mission led by Dr Graca Machel and her team conduct External Review involving meetings with stakeholders in all provinces

10th – 13th April 2005:
2nd Country Review Visit to look into recent developments in the country.

19th May 2006:
Kenya receives APRM Country Review Report from the APRM secretariat

26th – 27th May 2006:
High Level Retreat to discuss Country APR Report and develop GoK response.

Before 30th June 2006:
Preparation of a cabinet memo to brief the cabinet 2006 on the process and State brief to H.E. the President.

30th June 2006:
President presents APR Country Report to his peers at the APR Heads of State Forum to be held in Banjui, The Gambia.
On the 30th of August 2006, H.E. The President Mwai Kibaki officially launched Kikambala Primary School as the first primary school in the African Continent under the NEPAD E-schools initiative.

Earlier in 2003, NEPAD through East Africa Commission called for efforts towards bridging the digital divide between Africa and developed countries and consequently identified six areas of high priority that include E-Schools Programme, East Africa Submarine Cable, Broadband Optic Fibre link to the Submarine Cable and Overlay Satellite Network that are intended to expand connectivity and network infrastructure.

The objective of the NEPAD E-Schools Programme is to integrate ICT in education curriculum at secondary and primary schools in order to improve access, quality and equity in provision of education within the member states and in Africa. The implementation plan envisaged coverage of secondary schools in 5 years and primary schools in 10 years.

The NEPAD E-schools Programme in Kenya was officially launched by H.E President Mwai Kibaki in September 2005. In his speech the president articulated that “The future of our country depends on how well our children are trained and equipped with the necessary skills to participate effectively in national development. I am optimistic that the experiences obtained in the course of implementing this DEMO e-school will be replicated across the country”.

Among the secondary schools that have benefited from the demo (pilot) project include Isiolo Girls High School, Mengai High School, Maranda Boys High School, Chavakali Boys High School, Wajir Girls High School and Mumbi Girls High School.

The Signing of MOU between the Government of Kenya, NEPAD, Oracle and Microsoft Consortia on the 10th August 2005 paved way for the implementation of the demo project. So far the NEPAD e-schools initiative in Kenya has provided substantial experience and impetus on equipping of schools including the need to determine low cost and sustainable technologies as well as the need to enhance capacity for integration of ICT to teaching and learning.

It is also recognized that the pace of ICT in education is determined by social and economic conditions of the countries and regions. As in most of the African countries, Kenya is largely at the basic level of integration of ICT in education. The goals is to use ICT to improve access, quality and equity in delivery of education services and curriculum new dimensions, pedagogical approaches to teaching and learning that would enhance knowledge.
The Kigali Africa Governance Forum Brought African Leaders Closer To Their People

H.E Paul Kagame is one of the youngest African presidents there is today. Other than Joseph Kabila of the DRC, the President of Burundi, is one of the most assertive and forceful young leaders we have in this part of the continent.

When he shared the closing session with his guests, amongst them, the President of Burkina Faso, there was positive energy between them. They complimented one another in style and tempo. Their heights and mannerisms complemented one another so well.

What made the session so enriching was the fact that despite so many invitations having gone out to scores of Africa Heads of State, it was H.E. Campaore of Burkina Faso who saw it fit to honour the invitation. In hind sight, it is always never common for African Heads of State to show up if they have advance information that they might be interrogated by their citizens in an open forum.

Having said that, the performance of the two presidents on a whole range of issues ranging from the African Peer Review Mechanism, the NEPAD agenda, the continent relations with western donors, Western media and the rich nations of the Northern Hemisphere was a sterling performance. Their responses to these sensitive issues were forthright but civil. The message was clear. Africa had decided to be its own master.

Forthright Youthful Heads of States

Contributions from Benin, Congo Brazzaville, Senegal and Tanzania were as tasking as they come but this did not cow the two presidents. They remained cool, collected and sometimes fiery to the very end. There was a comical moment when Benin heaped blames on Africa’s poverty and problems on western slavery and exploitation. However Kagame did not let him off them hook lightly. He reminded the ministers that although the African slavery is a historical fact, it was not the 18th century slavery that is stagnating Africa. It is the inward looking nature of modern leaders in the continent that is responsible for our stagnation.

H.E. Kagame wondered loudly why the continent always run to the developed countries crying foul that it is the World Trade Organization stifling their entry into markets in distant lands yet the same Africans could not open up their borders to trade with next door neighbours!

Reacting to questions fielded by journalists regarding the emerging trend of incumbent African Heads of State bulldozing their parliaments amending their national constitutions to allow them to stay longer in power, Kagame skirted the issue and stated that as a sitting president it would not be in his interest to comment on an issue affecting his colleagues in other parts of the continent. However, Burkina Faso president found it easy to address the issue and confessed that the trend was worrying with consequences of losses on some gains the continent had made. He concluded that the problem was serious enough to warrant a discussion at the next Summit meeting in Banjul, the Gambia in the coming July.

On the question of delayed APRM reports for countries that had completed their self assessment processes, delegates impressed upon the acceding African states to show more commitment by investing substantial resources in NEPAD and APRM capacity building for the continental, regional and national offices to boost their output. It was not lost on observers that since 2003, only three countries had successfully completed their assessments while only one had finalized the process. Bearing in mind that today there were 25 countries waiting on the queue, it was critical that manpower and resources at all levels of the APRM processes were addressed with the agency it required.
A parallel Media Forum had earlier noticed that if the media is not mainstreamed into the NEPAD and APRM agenda, the current disconnect between the two initiatives and the media in the continent would continue to manifest itself. The Media Forum recommended that a Media Desk be created at the NEPAD-APRM Secretariat to streamline the management of information flow between the two initiatives and media outlets throughout the continent.

Francophone and other non-English speaking countries were not amused that most of the literature on NEPAD-APRM emanating from both secretariats were hardly in their languages. It was in the interest of the entire continent to receive the same information on a regular basis in all official languages spoken in Africa. The forum also provided a good opportunity for the continent’s political leadership to meet and exchange views with the media on issues of serious concern to the continent. Of significant concern was the feeling that the press was always hostile to the regimes in power, often writing disparaging if not inaccurate stories about political leaders in the continent while ignoring the many achievements that progressive leaderships had accomplished.

Journalists at the forum acknowledged that there were serious communication gaps between political governors and the media. This lack of information, coupled with inadequate training, lack of resources and general capacity deficiencies in many parts of the continent worked against serious journalistic professionalism. The media therefore impressed upon the continental leaders to invest more in media training and improve on making information available to the media in a less restricted manner.

Responding to media concerns, the Burkina Faso’s President pledged the establishment of an international Press Institute in Burkina Faso to cater for the training of journalists as a way of enhancing capacity and professionalism in the media industry.

- The biggest resolution to come out of the media forum was the reaffirmation that despite sceptics and pessimists disparaging and predicting the failure of the two initiatives to deliver Africa out of its present morass, African governments had committed themselves to the goals and ideals of NEPAD and APRM and there was no going back.

- Regarding countries that had not acceded to the process, the forum was informed that seven of them had been invited as observers to help them understand and deepen their knowledge and benefits of the APRM. It was stressed that since the process was voluntary it was necessary to allow countries to accede only when they were convinced that being peer reviewed by their colleagues was a moral obligation to their citizens and the rest of the continent.

- Although not raised, issues of conflicts spots like Darfur, Somalia and renegade states like Zimbabwe were discussed in low tones letting others wonder aloud whether the African Union, the father and mother of the two initiatives was capable of instilling discipline in the continent.

- Having organized a most successful forum for the continent to dialogue with its leaders, UNDP was encouraged to organize more such forums especially for the media at the regional level to deepen the media understanding and participation in Africa reform agenda.
The Microsoft Government Leaders Forum (MGLF) serves the unique and ever-changing needs of government leaders in the 21st century. African leaders convened with Microsoft Chairman, Bill Gates and Former US President, Bill Clinton to discuss technology’s role in Africa’s competitive future.

During his keynote, Bill Gates highlighted Microsoft’s long-term approach to investment in Africa, including collaborations between Microsoft and local and global organisations such as the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD). Through these partnerships, together with Microsoft’s existing Partners in Learning and Unlimited Potential education programmes, the company hopes to deliver the benefits of ICT training to more than 45 million people in Africa by 2010 and helps governments create sustainable economic growth.

The Forum brought more than 170 government and business leaders from all cadres to Cape Town, South Africa for a three day meeting aimed at sharing of ideas and best practices amongst nations on technology driven solutions that would help solve some of the pertinent problems facing the continent.

One of the issues that was brought out during the forum was the fact that governments today face unique and ever-more-difficult challenges, as well as the common need to address those challenges with substantial and robust partnerships between the public and private sectors.

The new strategic collaboration announced during the forum between Microsoft and United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) will promote innovative uses of ICT that support entrepreneurship and help promote investment and create business opportunities for small and medium-sized businesses (SMEs) in Africa. The two organisations pledged to pool expertise and resources to support entrepreneurs and SMEs in developing countries through access to information and business support services and delivering skills training for business and ICT through community-based technology centres (CTCs).

“SMEs are the driving force behind the creation of new and better jobs, as well as the force behind stimulating competitiveness and innovation” said Dr Kandeh Yumkella, director-general of UNIDO. “Through this cooperation with Microsoft, we aim to stimulate the growth and progress of these important business owners in Africa, a key way to help foster a thriving knowledge-based economy that creates wealth and brings down poverty levels.”
As President Kibaki took the stand in June 2006 in Banjul to explain Kenya’s governance agenda to his peers; one thing was not lost on leaders of the African continent; that the African Peer Review Mechanism was not a personal review of President Mwai Kibaki and his colleague Paul Kagame of Rwanda. If they did so they would have lost the main point of the whole process.

The four pillars of the review process that formed the basis of assessing Ghana and now Kenya and Rwanda, have a wide mandate and cover vast spheres of life in any country in the world.

Perhaps one of the biggest tests of democratic practice is for political leaders to be ready to practice competitive politics by selling their ideologies and their leadership beliefs to their electorate and expect to be voted into office on the basis of the popularity of their ideas and visions.

Next to Political Governance is Economic Governance which happens to be the number two pillar in the African Peer Review agenda. According to the AU declaration on the APRM, Economic Governance is an issue that has to be dealt with effectively if the African continent has to return to the path of progress and economic growth.

When Kenya volunteered to be among the four countries in the world to be peer reviewed, it was obvious that Kenya wanted to come to terms with its short comings in social best practice failures and build on its successes if there would be any.

Three years down the line, a lot of water had passed under the bridge. The transition government led by Mwai Kibaki had to deal not only with the APRM process and make sure it was executed as per the AU Charter but to at the same time handle with dignity, the unforeseen Constitution referendum that it eventually lost in November 2005.

When President Kibaki formed his government in 2003, he made promises on the new constitution, the creation of jobs for thousands of young graduates, housing for the urban poor, reconstructing infrastructure, alleviating poverty, food security and universal free primary education.

During the review, Kenyans remembered that the Kibaki regime had successfully introduced universal free primary education resulting in the enrolment of three million children in school in 2003. They remembered that healthcare services had improved so much that drugs were available in all district hospitals.

They celebrated the impact the US $400 million that the Kibaki government had pumped in to the rural areas for development under the Constituency Development Fund program.

Freedom of speech was extended to the rest of the Kenyan population and members of the press.

The external reviewers arrived in Kenya at a time when the constitution referendum campaign that pitted the government against itself was at an all time high.

The government was divided down the middle with a number of high flying cabinet ministers campaigning against the version of the constitution document that the government had preferred.

However, in the words of Prof. Anyang’Nyongo’ the APRM national focal point and Minister for Planning and National Development at the time, his view was that all this process of the African Peer Review Mechanism could only make sense if acceding countries accepted the challenge to be reviewed at any time not only at the best of times.

By Jerry Okungu.
We the staff and members of Nepad - Kenya

wish all our supporters and partners,

A Merry Christmas

&

Happy New Year, 2007!!
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