

UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL STRATEGY FOR DISASTER REDUCTION (UNISDR)

Support to AU/NEPAD (Period of July 2009 to June 2010)

NEPAD Secretariat was substantively involved in the development of the Africa Regional Strategy for Disaster Reduction and the Programme of Action for the Implementation of the Africa Regional Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction (2005-2010) both of which were adopted by the AU. NEPAD Secretariat was also involved in the development of the UNISDR policy document for Africa, “Guidelines for mainstreaming disaster risk assessment in development”.

No direct financial support is currently provided from UNISDR to NEPAD Secretariat. UNISDR is in discussion with the African Union Commission (AUC) for its overall technical assistance for the capacity building on disaster risk reduction (DRR) for the African region with the support of the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) administered by the World Bank as well as with the support from other donors.

Institutional support: UNISDR invited NEPAD Secretariat to relevant meetings and conferences for the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA), Africa Regional Strategy and the Programme of Action in the past. As mentioned above, UNISDR is currently in discussion with the AUC for future activities on DRR for Africa. UNISDR has noted that in the recent AU Summit in January 2010, the African leaders approved a new technical body of the AU, Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA) to replace the NEPAD. UNISDR is ready to discuss with AUC how to strengthen this new technical body in order to integrate DRR into its new programmes and activities.

UNISDR advocates integration of DRR into Africa's sustainable development. It is stipulated in the Africa Regional Strategy and the Programme of Action. The extended Programme of Action (2006-2015) is expected to be reviewed and to be formally adopted at the Ministerial level conference in 2010 under the aegis of AU. UNISDR supports strengthening institutional and technical capacity of AUC, Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and their respective Member States to implement the HFA and the Africa Regional Strategy. UNISDR has also strongly advocated DRR as an important component of climate change adaptation. During the meeting of the African Ministerial Conference on Environment (AMCEN) in Addis Ababa in end October 2009, the NEPAD Secretariat, jointly with AUC and UNISDR made a presentation on DRR and CCA in preparation for the UNFCCC COP 15 in Copenhagen.