

# **Office of the High Representative for Least Developed Countries, Land Locked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States**

**(UN -OHRLLS)**

**Support to the AU/NEPAD (Period of July 2010 to June 2011)**

## **Participation of African LDCs in events related to LDC IV**

OHRLLS in its role as focal point and secretariat for the Fourth United Nations conference on Least Developed Countries has embarked on an extensive preparatory process including the organisation of thematic pre-conference events, seminars and the meetings of the Preparatory Committee, in collaboration with other stakeholders, including development partners, UN agencies and organizations as well as civil society organizations. To ensure adequate participation of the 33 African LDCs in the preparatory process for UNLDC IV, OHRLLS has been funding the participation of their representatives from capital and permanent missions to the UN in various events, including the ones listed below.

The Ministerial Meeting on “Enhancing the Mobilization of Financial Resources for Least Developed Countries’ Development” was held in Lisbon, Portugal, on 2-3 October 2010 and co-organized by the Office of the High Representative and the Government of Portugal. The meeting stressed the importance of domestic resource mobilization, improving the quantity and quality of official development assistance to LDCs, attracting foreign direct investments to LDCs’ priority sectors through home country incentives and the importance of innovative sources of finance, including new Special Drawing Rights and taxes on international transactions and suggested the creation of a special crisis mitigation and resilience building facility for LDCs to enable them to respond to shocks. 20 African LDCs were represented at ministerial level: Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, Comoros, D.R. Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guinea-Bissau, Lesotho, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Niger, Guinea, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Tanzania, Togo and Zambia.

Ambassadorial Retreat at Glen Cove Mansion 5-6 November, 2010. This retreat provided an opportunity to exchange expectations between LDCs and their development partners for a new Programme of Action. Seven representatives from African LDCs Permanent Missions were present: Benin, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Sudan, Tanzania and Zambia.

Migration, Development and Remittances in the Least Developed Countries Context: A LDC IV Preparatory Event, 17 June 2010 in New York. Among the speakers was H.E. Dr. Anthony Mothae Maruping, Permanent Representative of Lesotho to the UN: Mainstreaming Migration, Development and Remittances at the Country Level: Challenges for Lesotho.

The first session of the Intergovernmental Preparatory Committee (PrepCom) for the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (LDC-IV) took place on 10-14 January 2011 in New York. Twenty four African LDCs were represented: Benin, Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, Comoros, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Niger, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Uganda, Tanzania, and Zambia.

Furthermore OHRLLS supported the participation of several African LDCs in the following pre-conference event on Building productive capacities in LDCs for inclusive and sustainable development (Geneva, 27-29 October 2010), Policy Dialogue on Promoting Democratic Governance for LDC Development: Towards a more inclusive, responsive and capable state (8 December 2010, Geneva), Aid for Trade: Barriers and Opportunities for LDCs (Geneva, 13 December 2010)