

UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND (UNFPA)

Support to NEPAD

Period of Report: July 2007 to June 2008

UNFPA's continued dialogue and close collaborative work with the African Union Commission, the Regional Economic Communities and the NEPAD Secretariat has resulted in the following in the respective areas:

Youth

UNFPA supported the wide dissemination of the African Youth Charter and supported the African Union Commission in a participatory development of a Plan of Action for the Popularization and Implementation of the Charter. This Plan of Action has now been approved by African Ministers in charge of Youth.

Advocacy

UNFPA provided technical support for the development of the African Union's draft Advocacy and Communication Strategy. The strategy is scheduled to be reviewed by Africa's Ministers of Information in 2008.

In order to initiate capacity building for the Regional Economic Communities, an Advocacy Seminar was organized for Communication, Health and Gender officers of Regional Economic Communities, which provided the first ever training that initiated capacity building in this area. The participation of some Regional Media Houses also provided an opportunity for exchanging experiences.

Health

With a view to accelerating the implementation of the Maputo Plan of Action, which aims to ensure universal access to comprehensive sexual and reproductive health services throughout the continent, a workshop was organized for representatives of Regional Economic Communities. This resulted in the development of a work plan for each Regional Economic Community.

Along with WHO, UNFPA supported the Third Session of the African Union Conference of Health Ministers where the African Health Strategy was reviewed and adopted.

In support of the African Union Commission, UNFPA commissioned the development of the African Social Policy Framework. Support was also provided to the Sixth General Assembly of African Population Commission convened under the auspices of the African Union Commission in Johannesburg, where the Johannesburg Declaration which, among

other things, reaffirmed existing regional and continental policies and plans of actions, was adopted.

Capacity Building

Computer based Monitoring and Evaluation tool (AMERT) was developed and is under pilot phase of adaptation by the African Union Commission. Related orientation was also provided to the Regional Economic Communities. In continuing support to institutional strengthening, Information Technology and other equipment was provided to the Social Affairs Department and the Department of Economic Affairs of the African Union Commission.