

**OFFICE OF THE HIGH REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE LEAST DEVELOPED
COUNTRIES, LANDLOCKED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND SMALL ISLAND
DEVELOPING STATES (OHRLLS)**

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

In line with the UNGA resolution 63/227, OHRLLS in collaboration with the Economic Commission for Africa and UNDP Regional Bureau for Africa will be convening the Africa Regional Preparatory meeting on 8-9 March 2010 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The meeting benefited from extensive country-level preparations, supported by UN Resident Coordinators and UNDP, which supported with the preparation of national reports of the review of the Brussels Programme of Action for LDCs. Fifteen African LDCs have submitted their reports as of 23 February 2010.

The objective of the meeting was to undertake a comprehensive review of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the least developed countries for the decade 2001-2010, assess the effectiveness of the existing mechanisms for follow-up, monitoring and review at the regional level, and to, in light of the appraisal, propose measures at national and regional levels to advance LDC development in the next decade.

The regional preparatory meeting will be preceded by regional civil society meeting on the implementation of the Brussels Plan of Action (BPoA), which will feed into the outcome of the regional review meeting. The Outcome Document from the regional review, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 63/227 of March 2008, will be deliberated and endorsed in the context of the joint annual meetings of the AU Conference of Ministers of Economy and Finance and ECA Conference of Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, which is scheduled for 29 March to 3 April 2010 in Lilongwe, Malawi. It will also serve as an important substantive input to the meetings of the intergovernmental preparatory committee, which will negotiate the outcome of the Fourth UN Conference on the Least Developed Countries.

To ensure synergy between the regional and global processes for UNLDC IV, OHRLLS is funding the participation of five members of the LDC Global Coordination Bureau at the Africa Regional Review meeting. Sixty-six (66) participants from African LDCs and Haiti will attend the meeting along with other stakeholders, including development partners, UN agencies and organizations, and civil society organizations.