

**UNITED NATIONS  
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS (UN-DESA)**

**Support to NEPAD**

**Period of report: 2004**

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This report describes the activities of the various divisions of DESA in support of NEPAD.

**Areas of support for NEPAD**

**Division for Public Administration and Development Management (DPADM):**

DPADM carried out various activities in 2003 and 2004 aimed at supporting the NEPAD programme. The Division provides substantive, technical and financial support especially in capacity-building for good governance and in public administration in Africa. In particular, the support includes:

- (i) the design and adoption of the Governance and Public Administration Capacity-Building Programme, which was adopted by the Heads of State and Government in Maputo;
- (ii) the annual Pan-African Conference of Ministers of Public Service, which under the banner of NEPAD, designs and reviews strategies for public service performance in Africa;
- (iii) the implementation of the African Charter for Public Service in Africa;
- (iv) integrating the Africa Governance Inventory (AGI), which is an interactive data and information base on governance programmes and activities in Africa, into the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) process to

facilitate monitoring and evaluation by the APRM;

(v) the design and implementation of the Public Sector Leadership Capacity Development Programme for Good Governance; and

vi) the development of the E-Africa strategy.

DPADM has undertaken the following projects and programmes in support of the priority areas of NEPAD:

***Governance***

- regional inventory of governance programmes;
- project to strengthen the information systems in 8 parliaments;
- inclusion of African countries among country public administration profiles; and
- various field missions on institutional development.

***Peace and security***

- projects to strengthen national capacity for conflict prevention;
- management and post-conflict peace-building;

- formulation of peace and development activities; and
- publication of resources on diversity management, state construction and reconstruction of governance and administrative machinery for sustainable peace and development.

### ***Human resources development***

- various training events on leadership capacity for high-ranking officials; and
- implementation of the project for mainstreaming ethics and professionalism in the public service.

### **Activities falling under implementing joint programmes with partners in the region**

DPADM is committed to strengthen coordination among the various actors involved in providing support for the NEPAD programme. Greater coordination among UN agencies involved in the technical support to NEPAD may provide greater coherence to the outreach. To this end, it is recommended that the Office of Special Adviser on Africa (OSAA) and UN-DESA/DPADM collaborate on the preparation of a programme to be entitled *“UN Programme of Assistance to Africa: Equipping the AU Commission, NEPAD and the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) for the Challenges of Governance and Development.”* A common platform for information-sharing and progress-review should be established. A strong network should then be built between, on the one hand, African institutions (such as the AU Commission, NEPAD Secretariat, and the Secretariats of the RECs), and on the other hand, the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa (OSAA), UN-DESA, UNDP and other UN agencies operating in Africa. The UN could also assist NEPAD by fielding technical advisory missions whose terms of

reference include strengthening the capacity of the Secretariat to formulate long-term strategies and forge partnerships with national, regional and international institutions.

### **Division for Social Policy and Development (DSPD):**

On the recommendation by the Commission for Social Development (CSD) at its 41st and 42nd sessions held in February 2003 and 2004, the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) adopted two resolutions on the *“Implementation of the social objectives of NEPAD.”*

In these resolutions, ECOSOC reaffirmed the need to strengthen, in a spirit of partnership, international, regional and sub-regional cooperation for social development and implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and the 24th special session of the General Assembly. It underlined the need for effective partnership and cooperation between Governments and the relevant actors of civil society and urged the international community, the UN system and the international financial institutions to ensure that their support for African countries was in accordance with the principles, objectives and priorities of NEPAD. The Council also called upon the Secretary-General, in his efforts to harmonize the current initiatives on Africa, to enhance coordination between the UN and the specialized agencies, programmes and funds of the UN system. While recognizing the national, regional and international actions that have been taken to support NEPAD, the Council urged the UN system as well as all development partners to align their efforts to the principles, objectives and priorities of NEPAD and to organize a coherent response from the international community to the needs of Africa. Finally, the Council recommended that CSD continue to give

due prominence to the social dimensions of NEPAD in its future priority themes.

**Development Policy and Planning Office (DPPO):**

As a result of a UN-DESA funded project entitled “*Research Network for Development Policy Analysis*” (2000-2002), the African Institute for Economic Modeling (AFRINEM) was established in 2003 in association with the Department of Economics of the University of Pretoria, South Africa. The hstitute aims to utilize, strengthen and extend the capacity of the existing network of econometric modeling expertise in Africa through the development of additional country models and a regional, multi-country model to generate forecasts and run policy scenarios. Research activities will be demand-driven, serving the policy objectives of NEPAD, the AU and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Forecasts and policy analyses from the outputs of the African multi-country model will not only be utilised regionally, but will be supplied to international research and policy centres in order to strengthen the African representation in global economic forecasts and policy discussions.

**Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW):**

Between May 2003 and May 2004, DAW in conjunction with ECA provided support to enhance women’s participation in the peace processes of five African countries and strengthened the capacity of national machineries in 21 African countries to use information and communication technologies (ICTs) to effectively achieve their goals.