



UPDATE ON THE APRM PROCESS AND EMERGING LESSONS

APRM SECRETARIAT

UN-OSAA Briefing on NEPAD and the APRM

New York

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Overview of the APRM

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The Africa's agenda for renewal and overcoming its development deficits includes advancing the basic values of democratization and good governance, which together constitute the key requirements for sustainable development.

The APRM which is turning out to be the most innovative aspect of NEPAD is a self-monitoring instrument voluntarily agreed to by member states of the African Union.

It is unprecedented in scope and mandate and . It covers four broad areas, namely;

Democracy and Political Governance;
Economic Governance and Management;
Corporate Governance; and
Socio-Economic Development.

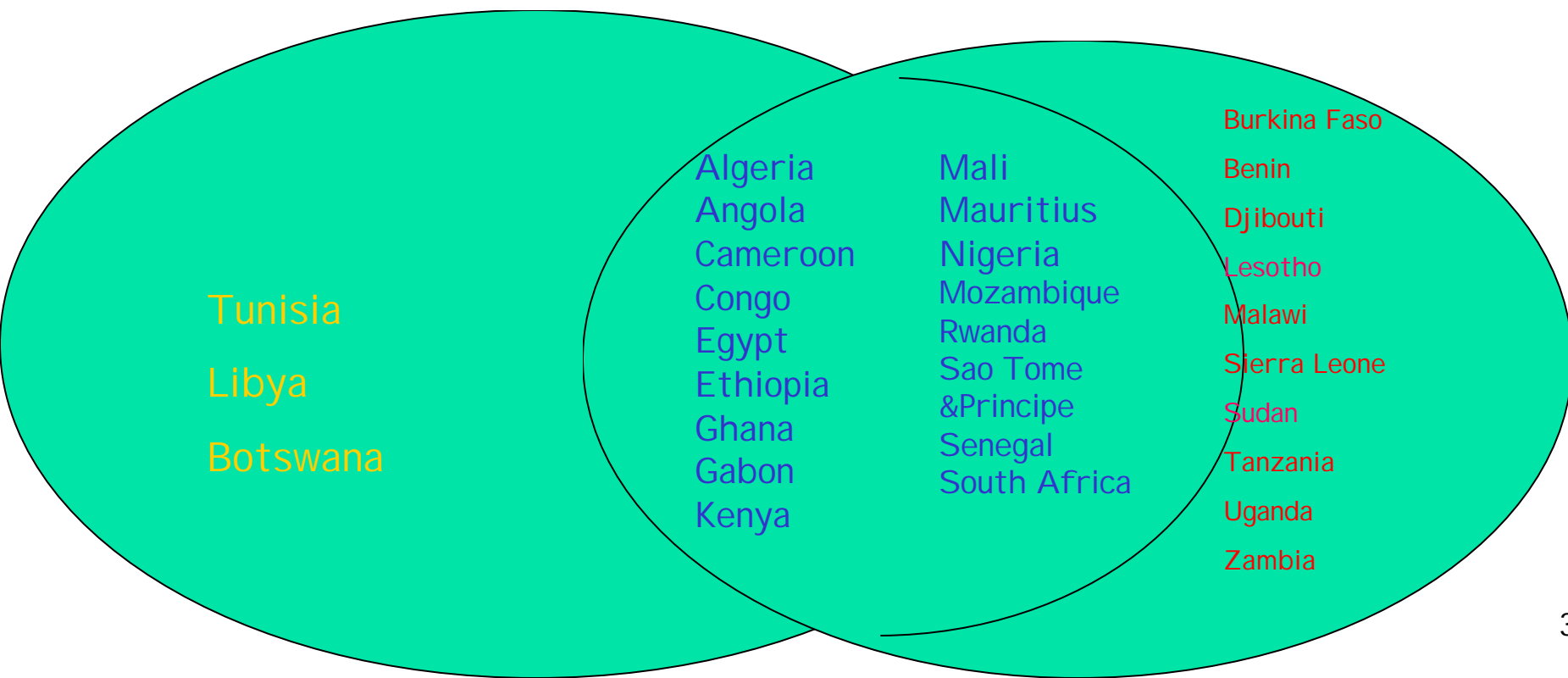


African Peer Review
Mechanism

African Countries Participating in NEPAD and the APRM

HSGIC

APR Forum



STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION

- So far, 17 out of the 30 member countries have launched the process.
- Twelve countries have been peer reviewed by the APR Forum. (Ghana, Rwanda, Kenya, South Africa, Algeria, Benin, Uganda, Nigeria, Burkina Faso, Mali and Mozambique and Lesotho)
- Mauritius and Ethiopia have just completed their Country Review Missions.
- Tanzania is next, having submitted its CSAR and NPOA to the Secretariat. Kenya's second review is also scheduled for November 2009.

APRM Country Review Missions



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Examples from the Pioneer Countries- Ghana

6 Best Practices including:

An **oasis of peace and tranquility** in a sub-region perpetually in turmoil.

Unique processes for fostering democracy such as the Annual Governance Forum and the People's Assembly;

Main Challenges

Low representation of women in politics; corruption; decentralisation; and chieftaincy disputes which have been quite rife in recent year.

Others are – **bloated cabinet - 88 ministers in all; weak internal capacity for economic policy making; weak oversight by Parliament; and heavy dependence on external aid.**

Rwanda Review Process

Best Practices including:

The **highest proportion of Women in Parliament (49%)** in the world; efforts in providing social services especially **free education**; and using **ICT** strategy to transform the country into a service-based economy.

Main Challenges

Aid dependence - about 90% of the capital expenditure funded externally;

Relations with its neighbours in the Great Lakes region which has been a source of conflict; and the **issue of legitimacy and trust in the Gacaca**.

Kenya Review Process

Overview

Progress So Far

Lessons Learnt

Challenges

9 Best Practices including:

Kenya's role in pacifying her neighbours; considerable degree of freedom in exercising political and civil rights; promotion of decentralisation; **reduction in the prevalence rate of HIV/AIDS**; and firing of 29 judges to clean up the Judiciary.

Main Challenges

Delay in adopting a new constitution to replace the colonial era charter; **inability to redress the colonial legacies**; **ethnicity**; **endemic corruption**; weak parliamentary oversight; poor representation of women in key positions; and high incidence of poverty.

South Africa Review Process

Overview

Progress So Far

Lessons Learnt

Challenges

In addition to some **remarkable feats by South Africans**, the report identified **18 Best Practices** including:

Taking the parliament to the people; the budget formulation process, self-reliance in funding development; the JSE and triple bottom reporting; and gender empowerment (Women constitute about 45 % of Parliament).

Main Challenges

Violent crime, violence against women and children; capacity constraint and poor service delivery; Racism and Xenophobia.

Key Challenges

■ Capacity of the Secretariat.

Thin and overstretched coupled with unattractive contracts. The recent signing of the host country agreement in South Africa has opened a window of opportunity.

Deepening the peer review process.

Few post review activities if any/ engagement by national actors needed, after all, the APRM is nationally owned. On the part of the Forum, Cotonou Extraordinary Meeting tabled 4 cross-cutting issues: **Managing Diversity, Land, Elections, Corruption and the Gacaca Court System**

Key Challenges

- **Implementing the National Programs of Action**

Real progress can only be guaranteed if NPOAs are implemented. Need to move from diagnosis to implementation (Kenya post-election violence/ Xenophobic attacks in South Africa). Countries have to be assisted in funding, and capacity building.

- **Reorganisation of the Panel/ Secretariat**

The renewal/ reorganisation of the tenure of the inaugural APR Panel which came to an end in 2008 is ongoing but understandably slow due to the need to consult widely

How the Process can be supported

How the Process can be Supported

Assistance to countries that have completed these all-embracing process in implementing the NPOA emanating from the process (Real value added of the process

Financial Support both to the Continent Secretariat to meet future roll out programmes and participating Countries without jeopardizing the African-Ownership and management of the process.

Bilateral and Multilateral Donors in US Dollars

African Development Bank	200,000
Canada	5,692,169
DIFD (UK Gov)	2,000,000
Germany (GTZ)	441,387
Italy	300,000
Spain	399,315
Switzerland	896,241
UNDP	2,750,000
W Kellogg Foundation	315,426
Sub-Total	12,994,537

CONCLUSION

Conclusion

Key Lessons

The APRM is a unique African instrument that is trail-blazing and has great potential as a tool to promote and strengthen good governance. It is **African in origin, African inspired and African-owned**.

The experiences from the APRM implementation process are very encouraging.

The process has been empowering in ways that were not envisaged when it started. It has spawned and strengthening a culture of political dialogue in participating countries

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Conclusion

The APRM is making it possible for countries to benchmark good governance in Africa on shared African and international norms and standards as well as for citizens to participate in the evaluation of how they are governed.

It is show-casing African innovative thinking in governance.

An area where the rest of the world can learn useful lessons from Africa.



Thank you for your attention

<http://www.aprm-international.org>