



African Common Position on the post 2015 development agenda

Key messages arising from Africa-wide
consultations

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Presentation Outline

- The consultation process
- Key findings
- Key recommendations
- Enablers of change
- AU Mandates
- ECA involvement
- Policy recommendations
- The way forward



The process...

- **Aim:** articulating an African common position on the post-2015 development agenda.
- **Attendance** : 53 African countries (national, regional and continental level)
- **Stakeholders:** representatives of governments, Regional Economic Communities, civil society organizations including youth and women's organizations, parliamentarians, academic institutions and the private sector.
- **Organisers-** AUC, ECA, ADB, UNDP Regional Bureau for Africa
- **Venues:** Consultations held in
 - Accra, Ghana (November 2011)
 - Mombasa, Kenya (October 2012)
 - Dakar, Senegal (December 2012)
 - Hammamet, Tunisia (March 2013).



Key finding of consultation process:

MDGs should be reformulated after 2015!

because as currently constituted, they:

- Have limited focus on economic growth and transformation;
- Do not sufficiently emphasize the role of domestic resource mobilization in Africa's development agenda;
- Tend to neglect issues relating to the quality of service delivery;
- Are silent on inequality including spatial and horizontal inequality;
- Disproportionately focus on outcomes with limited consideration of the enablers of development, thereby excluding the role of factors such as infrastructure and peace and security in facilitating socio-economic advancement



Key recommendations for post-2015 development agenda (1)

Structural economic transformation and inclusive growth

With the following components:

- Inclusive sustainable growth
- Agriculture, food security and nutrition
- Green growth
- Industrialization and value addition
- Economic infrastructure development



Key recommendations for post- 2015 development agenda (2)

Innovation, technological transfer and Research and Development

With the following focus:

- Ensure technology transfer;
- Establish an African technological fund;
- Increase funding for R&D;
- Strengthen science component of education curricula;
- Enhance utilization of ICTs.



Key recommendations for post- 2015 development agenda (3)

Human development

With the following components:

- Eradication of extreme poverty: Special focus on improved access to social protection
- Education and human capacity development
- Universal and equitable access to quality healthcare
- Gender equality and women's empowerment
- Population and youth dynamics
- Water resource management
- Disaster risk reduction
- Access to shelter



Key recommendations for post- 2015 development agenda (4)

Financing and partnerships

With the following components:

- **Domestic financing:** Strengthened financial intermediation; broadened tax net; development of long-term financing mechanisms; curtailment of illicit financial flows; efficient use of resources
- **External financing:** Reinvestment of FDI; reduced remittance transfer costs; mobilization of non-traditional sources of financing
- **Partnerships:** Ensure ownership; promote PPPs; promote South-South cooperation; boost intra-African trade; promote access to global markets and fair trade; global governance



Key preconditions to achieving and sustaining the outcomes

- Peace and security
- Good governance, transparency and fighting corruption
- Strengthened institutional capacity
- Promoting equality and access to justice and information
- Human rights for all
- Gender equality
- Domestic resource mobilization
- Regional integration
- A credible participatory process with cultural sensitivity
- Enhanced statistical capacity to measure progress and ensure accountability
- Prudent macro-economic policy that emphasises fair growth
- Democratic and developmental state
- An enabling global governance architecture





2 key AU Mandates

1.

July 2012 “mandates the African Union Commission, in close consultation with Member States and Regional Economic Communities to identify Africa’s priorities for the post 2015 development agenda in order to consider making 2015-2024 a decade of transformation for Africa with the support of the AfDB, the UNDP, the ECA and all other stakeholders.”



AU Mandate

2.

- **May 2013 :**

- “Requests the Commission, in consultation with Regional Economic Communities and relevant Stakeholders, **to continue to engage Member States, including the Permanent Representatives’ Committee in Addis Ababa and the African Group in New York**, with a view to developing the African common position on the Post-2015 Development Agenda for consideration during the next Summit to be held in January 2014:
- “Further requests the Commission, the NEPAD Agency, the UNECA, the ADB, the UNDP, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and other relevant Organizations working in the social domain to **set up a technical working group to translate the African priorities for the Post-2015 Development Agenda into goals, targets and specific indicators** for inclusion in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) process and the Post-2015 Global Agenda”



United Nations

Economic Commission for Africa



ECA involvement

- Seconded a staff to the Liberia HLP Secretariat in November 2012 to assist in preparations for the Liberia HLP meeting
- Prepared two issues papers for the HLP members- one on economic transformation and other on global partnerships and regional integration.
- Financial contribution of \$50,000 USD to the Secretariat to cover its operational costs.
- Organized a panel discussion on Africa's emerging position on the post 2015 agenda at the HLP Meeting in Monrovia, .
- Mr. Carlos Lopes attended the HLP meeting and called on the HLP members to focus not on developing new goals and indicators, but on providing political and technical guidance to shape the overarching framework of the development agenda.



Policy recommendations

Based on the findings of the regional consultations, ECA suggests the following key policy recommendations:

- African stakeholders must stay actively involved in the formulation of the post 2015 development agenda. Their participation so far shows keen interest and drive to set a new global development agenda.
- The post 2015 agenda should emphasize inclusive economic growth and structural transformation as a key element of sustainable development.
- The post 2015 development agenda must re-orient the development paradigm away from externally-driven initiatives toward domestically-inspired and funded initiatives that are grounded in national ownership.
- Social inclusion and equity are key, and progress must be measured in terms of both the availability and quality of service delivery.



Policy recommendations (cont'd)

- Countries must pay greater attention to vulnerable groups such as women, children, youth, elderly, people with disabilities and displaced persons.
- The post 2015 agenda should take into account initial conditions of countries and recognize the efforts countries have made toward achieving the goals.
- Rio+20 outcomes and outcomes of Africa-wide initiatives, national and regional consultations as well as UN forums such as ICPD+20 must be incorporated into the post 2015 development agenda.
- Countries must enhance statistical monitoring capabilities in order to accurately track progress.



The way forward

- Active engagement with the HLP/newly formed High Level Committee, to ensure Africa's priorities are included in the global agenda;
- Active involvement with the UN Task Team's work, including feedback to think pieces;
- Continued dissemination of the African Common Position, especially to key stakeholders such as the Africa Group in New York;
- Involvement in the Open Working Group on defining goals, targets and indicators;
- Presentation of the African Common Position at the sixty-sixth session of the UN General Assembly in New York in September 2013



Thank You

