

Adopted on 18 February 2005

**FINAL TEXT**

**IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SOCIAL OBJECTIVES OF THE NEW PARTNERSHIP  
FOR AFRICA'S DEVELOPMENT**

*The Commission for Social Development,*

*Recalling* the World Summit for Social Development, held in Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995, and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, entitled “World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world”, held in Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000,

*Reaffirming* the United Nations Millennium Declaration<sup>1</sup> of 8 September 2000 and the United Nations Declaration on the New Partnership for Africa's Development<sup>2</sup> of 20 September 2002 and General Assembly resolution 57/7 of 4 November 2002 on the final review and appraisal of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s and support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development,

*Recalling also* General Assembly resolution 58/233 of 23 December 2003, in which the Assembly, *inter alia*, welcomed the creation of the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa, and requested the Secretary-General to continue to take measures to strengthen the Office to enable it to effectively fulfil its mandate,

*Welcoming* the conclusions of the African Union Extraordinary Summit on Employment and Poverty Alleviation held in Ouagadougou in September 2004,

*Welcoming* the adoption of the chapter entitled “Sustainable development for Africa” in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development,

*Cognizant* of the link between the priorities of the New Partnership for Africa's Development and the United Nations Millennium Declaration, in which the international community committed itself to addressing the special needs of Africa, and of the need to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including those set out in the Millennium Declaration,

*Bearing in mind* the reports of the Secretary-General of 20 June 1995 and 12 June 2001 submitted to high-level segments of the Economic and Social Council devoted to the consideration of the development of Africa,

*Bearing in mind also* that, while the primary responsibility for the development of Africa remains with African countries, the international community has a stake in it and in supporting the efforts of those countries in that regard,

*Acknowledging* the importance of various initiatives, such as the Tokyo International Conference on African Development process and its TICAD-Asia –Africa Trade and Investment Conference, the Africa Action Plan of the Group of Eight, initiated in Genoa, Italy, as developed as the Summit of the Group held in Kananaskis, Canada in June 2002, and furthered at their subsequent Summits held in Evian, France in 2003 and at Sea Island, United States of America in 2004, as well as African Partnership Forum in support of the implementation on the New Partnership, emphasis, in this regard, the importance of effective coordination of such initiatives for Africa, and looks forward to the forthcoming report of the Commission for Africa,

*Underlining* that international cooperation based on a spirit of partnership and solidarity among all countries contributes to create an enabling environment so as to achieve the goals of social development,

*Recognizing also* the urgent need to continue to assist African countries in their efforts to diversify their economies as well as enhance capacity-building and promote regional cooperation, and in this context note the outcome of the 4th Pan African Conference of Ministers of Public Service, held in Stellenbosch, South Africa from 4 to 7 May 2003,

*Recognizing further* the serious challenges facing social development in Africa, in particular illiteracy, poverty and HIV/AIDS, malaria and other communicable diseases,

1. *Emphasizes* that economic development, social development and environmental protection are interdependent and mutually reinforcing components of sustainable development;
2. *Recognizes* that while social development is primarily the responsibility of Governments, international cooperation and assistance are essential for the full achievement of that goal;
3. *Reiterates* the importance of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development;
4. *Reaffirms* the need to strengthen, inter alia, in a spirit of partnership, international, regional and subregional cooperation for social development and implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, entitled “World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world”;
5. *Reaffirms also* the need for effective partnership and cooperation between Governments and the relevant actors of civil society for the achievement of social development;
6. *Welcomes* the New Partnership for Africa’s Development as a socioeconomic programme of the African Union that embodies the vision and commitment of all African Governments and peoples;
7. *Welcomes further* the commitment of African countries and the African Union to peace, security, democracy, good governance, human rights and sound economic management, as well as their commitment to taking concrete measures to strengthen the mechanism for conflict prevention, management and resolution as embodied in the New Partnership, as an essential basis for sustainable development in Africa also welcoming the role played by regional initiatives and bodies in this regard, and in this context welcomes the ongoing efforts of African countries to develop further the African peer review mechanism, which is an important and innovative feature of the New Partnership;
8. *Stresses* the need for renewed and political will at the national, regional and international levels to invest in people and their well-being so as to achieve the objectives of social development;

9. *Emphasizes* that democracy, respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, transparent and accountable governance, and administration in all sectors of society, as well as effective participation by civil society, are among the indispensable foundations for the realization of social and people-centred sustainable development;

10. *Emphasizes also* the objectives of the New Partnership for Africa's Development to eradicate poverty in Africa and to place African countries, both individually and collectively, on a path of sustainable growth and development and thus facilitating Africa's participation in the globalization process;

11. *Underlines* the need for effective partnership and cooperation between Governments and the relevant actors of civil society, including non-governmental organizations and the private sector, in the implementation of and follow-up to the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly and the need for ensuring, in the framework of the New Partnership for Africa's Development, their involvement in the planning, elaboration, implementation and evaluation of social policies at the national, regional and international levels;

11bis *Emphasizes* the important role of regional and subregional initiatives and bodies in the process of the implementation of NEPAD programmes and initiatives. Calls for increased international support to enhance their capacities and strengthening regional integration,

12. *Welcomes with appreciation* actions already under way at the regional level to organize the activities of the United Nations system around thematic clusters covering the priority areas of the Partnership, and in that regard urges the strengthening of that process as a means of enhancing the coordinated response of the United Nations system in support of the Partnership;

13. *Notes* the growing collaboration among the entities of the United Nations system in support of the New Partnership, and requests the Secretary-General to promote greater coherence in the work of the United Nations system in support of the Partnership, based on the agreed clusters;

14. *Stresses*, in that context, the vital need for the United Nations in assisting Member States to achieve the development objectives and targets of the United Nations Millennium Declaration and to mainstream them in an integrated and coordinated manner in United Nations development activities;

15. *Recognizes* that illiteracy, poverty, HIV/AIDS, malaria and other communicable diseases add challenges to Africa's development and urges the international community to continue to increase its assistance to African countries in their efforts to address these challenges;

16. *Welcomes* the Maputo Declaration on the integration of the secretariat of the New Partnership for Africa's Development in the African Union structures;

17. *Welcomes also* the entry into force of several institutions of the African Union foreseen in the Constitutive Act, notably the Pan African Parliament, the Peace and Security Council, the African Court of Human and People's Rights, which will be essential for the promotion of social development and strengthening of democracy in Africa, and looks forward to the rapid entry into force of the Economic, Social and Cultural Council;

18. *Urges* the international community and the United Nations system to organize support for African countries in accordance with the principles, objectives and priorities of the New Partnership for Africa's Development in the new spirit of partnership;

19 *Invites* the international financial institutions to ensure that their support for Africa is compatible with the principles, objectives and priorities of the New Partnership in the new spirit of Partnership;

20. *Urges* the United Nations system, in coordinating its activities at the national, regional and global levels, to foster a coherent response, including through close collaboration with bilateral donors in the implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development in response to the needs of individual countries within the larger framework of the Partnership;

21. *Welcomes* the decision of the General Assembly to invite the Economic and Social Council, pursuant to its role in respect of system-wide coordination, to consider how to support the objectives of General Assembly resolution 57/7 of 20 November 2002;

22. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General, in his efforts to harmonize current initiatives on Africa, to enhance coordination between the United Nations and its specialized agencies, programmes and funds;

23. *Acknowledges* reflection by the Secretary-General of the social dimensions of the Partnership in his report on the priority theme “National and international cooperation for social development” to the Commission of Social Development at its forty-first session and invites him to continue to reflect those dimensions in future reports submitted to the Commission on its priority themes;

24. *Notes with satisfaction* the work-in-progress in the five clusters of United Nations agencies established by the United Nations system with a view to operationalizing the renewed interaction, collaboration and cooperation with Africa on the established clusters (infrastructure: water and sanitation, energy, transport, and ICTs; governance, peace and security; agriculture, trade and market access; environment, population and urbanization; and human resources development, employment and HIV/AIDS);

25. *Acknowledges* the linkage between the work of the Committee of African Ministers of Public Service and the programmatic thrust of the New Partnership for Africa’s Development;

26. *Calls upon* the international development and continental development partners to actively support the governance and public administration programme of the Conference of Ministers of Public Service, through the provision of critical resources, and collaboration in building the capacity of local institutions and their staff to ensure sustainability into the future;

27. *Recommends* the Commission for Social Development continue to give prominence to the social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa’s Development and to consider NEPAD during the discussions of its future priority themes at its Forty-fourth session.