AFRICA WEEK 2016

UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS, NEW YORK

MONDAY 10 to FRIDAY 14 OCTOBER 2016

PROGRAMME

Theme:

Strengthening Partnerships for Inclusive Sustainable Development, Good Governance, Peace and Stability in Africa
## Summary of the Week’s Events

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Day</th>
<th>AM (10:00 – 01:00)</th>
<th>PM (03:00 – 06:00)</th>
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| **Monday**   | **High-Level Inaugural Event:** Strengthening Partnerships for Inclusive Sustainable Development, Good Governance, Peace and Stability in Africa  
Duration: 3 hrs (10:00am – 1:00pm)  
Venue: ECOSOC Chamber          | **Briefing to the United Nations Inter-Departmental Task Force on African Affairs by the African Union, NEPAD Agency and the APRM**  
(closed meeting)  
Duration: 3 hrs (3:00pm – 6:00pm)  
Venue: Conference Room 6 |
| **Tuesday**  | **High-Level Event: Strengthening Partnerships for Peace, Security and Stability in Africa**  
Duration: 3 hrs (10:00am – 1:00pm)  
Venue: ECOSOC Chamber          |                                                                                   |
| **Wednesday**| **Press Conference**  
Duration:45 min (12:15pm – 1:00pm)  
Venue: Press Briefing Room | **High-Level Event: A Renewed Global Partnership for Entrenching Good Governance and the Rule of Law in Africa**  
Duration: 3 hrs (3:00pm – 6:00pm)  
Venue: ECOSOC Chamber |
| **Thursday** | **High-Level Event: Leveraging Partnerships for the Effective Implementation and Monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goals and Agenda 2063 in Africa**  
Duration: 3 hrs (10:00am – 1:00pm)  
Venue: ECOSOC Chamber          |                                                                                   |
| **Friday**   | **71st UN General Assembly Debate on the Development of Africa** and Presentation of the three Secretary-General’s Reports on: (i) Progress in the Implementation of NEPAD; (ii) the Causes of Conflict and Promotion of Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa; and (iii) Review of the Implementation of Commitments made towards Africa’s Development. |                                                                                   |
A. Overview of the Week and Objectives

Africa Week 2016 will take place in the context of the first year of implementation of both the historic 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the African Union’s Agenda 2063. The two agendas underscore the criticality and importance of partnerships and synergies at all levels and across all sectors for the realization of all aspirations, goals, priority actions and targets. In this regard, this year’s Africa Week will be celebrated under the theme “Strengthening Partnerships for Inclusive Sustainable Development, Good Governance, Peace and Stability in Africa”. Overall, the Week is intended to:

(i) Underscore the importance of multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder partnerships for the effective implementation and monitoring of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063 in Africa;

(ii) Highlight opportunities for strengthening the roles and partnerships between the United Nations, international community and African regional and sub-regional organizations in the implementation of both the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063;

(iii) Discuss and articulate innovative and concrete ways to enhance the current partnership approaches between the United Nations and Africa in the areas of peace, security and governance;

(iv) Share insights and experiences on Africa’s existing strategic partnership arrangements, and explore measures for further deepening the transformative and mutual benefits of these partnerships in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063, and

(v) Identify entry points for enhancing public-private partnerships and collaboration with the private sector, civil society and the Diaspora in mobilizing and sharing knowledge, expertise, technologies and financial resources to support the achievement of the sustainable development goals in Africa.

B. Event Configuration


This high-level event, which will serve as the formal opening of Africa Week 2016, will focus on the overall theme of the Week. It will highlight the importance of multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder partnerships in ensuring the effective implementation, financing and monitoring of all the aspirations and goals contained in both the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063. The event will particularly highlight the relevance and instrumentality of partnerships for supporting the full realization of Africa’s aspirations for inclusive socio-economic development, peace and security, good governance and human rights. It will provide insights on Africa’s twin-perspectives on partnerships, which seeks mutually beneficial relations to enhance its transformation and integration efforts on the one hand, and promote Africa as a strong, united, resilient and influential global partner, on the other.
The event will feature Africa’s strategic partnerships with both traditional partners such as the European Union, Japan and the United States of America, as well as with new and emerging partners such as Brazil, China, India, the Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Russia Federation and Turkey. Collectively, these Africa’s strategic partners have invested heavily in supporting a range of Africa’s aspirations and goals, including in peace and security, democracy, good governance, human rights, human development, agricultural development, infrastructure development, humanitarian relief, and the promotion of resilient and quality health systems, among others. Their increasing engagement in Africa is broadening the options for growth on the continent and also presents significant opportunities for Africa’s realization of its transformative agenda. While showcasing best practices and experiences from these existing partnerships, the event will also aim to highlight gaps and lessons learned. It will also propose ways in which such strategic partnerships can be further strengthened to ensure mutual and transformative benefits for the international community, the United Nations and African regional and sub-regional organizations, in the implementation of both the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063. The event will be structured in two parts, consisting of both an inaugural and substantive session.

**Featured speakers will include:** the Secretary-General of the United Nations; the President of the 71st Session of the United Nations General Assembly, the Deputy Chairperson of the African Union Commission, the Vice-President of the United Nations Economic and Social Council and the Deputy Executive Secretary for the Economic Commission for Africa. The event will be moderated by both the Under-Secretary-General and Special Adviser on Africa and the Under-Secretary-General for the Department of Public Information.

**All delegations from the AUC, NEPAD Agency and APRM are invited to participate.**

*Venue:* ECOSOC Chamber

*Lead Organizer(s):* OSAA, AUOM, NEPAD Agency, APRM, DPI and ECA

2. **Monday (afternoon), 10 October 2016, 3:00pm** Briefing to the United Nations Inter-Departmental Task Force on African Affairs by the African Union, NEPAD Agency and the APRM [closed meeting].

This briefing will provide an important opportunity for the African Union Commission, NEPAD Agency and the APRM to brief the United Nations system entities on ways to further strengthen the institutional partnerships between the United Nations system and African regional and sub-regional organizations, including the African Regional Economic Communities, towards ensuring the effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063. This briefing will be a closed meeting comprising of the members of the United Nations Interdepartmental Task Force on African Affairs (IDTFAA) and the principals of the AUC, NEPAD Agency and the APRM. The briefing will feature lead-off presentations, focusing on: (i) Strengthening Partnerships to Silence the Guns in Africa by 2020, (ii) A Coherent and Integrated Approach for the Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation of Agenda 2063 and the SDGs, (iii) Enhancing the Role of NEPAD as an Implementing Agency and Partner on Agenda 2063, and (iv) Strengthening the role of the APRM in Implementing Agenda 2063’s Good Governance Aspiration. The event will allow for interactive discussions and exchanges between members of the IDTFAA and the delegations from the AUC, NEPAD Agency and APRM. The event will be moderated by both the Under-Secretary-General and Special Adviser on Africa in his
capacity as the convener of the IDTFAA and H.E. Mr. Tete Antonio, the Permanent Observer of the African Union to the United Nations.

Featured speakers will include: the Deputy Chairperson of the African Union Commission, the Commissioner for Economic Affairs of the African Union Commission, the Chief Executive Officer of the NEPAD Agency, the Chief Executive Officer of the APRM Secretariat, the Deputy Executive Secretary for the Economic Commission for Africa representatives of the African Regional Economic Communities, as well as other speakers that would enrich the discussion.

** All delegations from the AUC, NEPAD Agency and APRM are invited to participate.

*Venue:* ECOSOC Chamber

*Lead Organizer(s):* OSAA, AUOM, NEPAD Agency, APRM, DPI and ECA

3. **Tuesday (morning), 11 October 2016, 10:00am:** High-Level Event: Strengthening Partnerships for Peace, Security and Stability in Africa

This high-level event will focus on how to further enhance the strategic partnership between the international community, United Nations, the African Union, African Regional Economic Communities and other relevant African institutions towards silencing the guns in Africa by 2020, as stipulated in the 50th Anniversary Solemn Declaration of the Organization of African Unity/AU and in the Agenda 2063 First Ten-Year Implementation Plan. In 2014, the United Nations Security Council adopted a Presidential Statement (S/PRST/2014/27) on cooperation between the United Nations and regional and sub-regional organizations in maintaining international peace and security, in which the Council welcomed the pledge by African leaders to end all wars in Africa by 2020 and called in particular on relevant United Nations entities “to help achieve this goal including by considering defining a concrete five-year actionable plan in support of the goal of achieving a conflict-free Africa by 2020”. Similarly, the United Nations General Assembly, in its resolution 69/291, called upon “Member States and the United Nations system, as appropriate, to intensify their support and cooperation with African countries, the African Union and the African RECs/RMs towards the timely realization of the goal of silencing the guns by 2020”.

With less than four years remaining to the timeline of 2020, it is pertinent to review progress and identify remaining challenges. This event will specifically review progress made in the partnership between the United Nations and Africa on this goal, as well as identify additional areas for urgent and concrete actions to strengthen the UN-AU-RECs partnership and other Africa’s existing strategic partnership arrangements towards silencing the guns by 2020 and addressing the root causes of conflicts in Africa. In particular, the event will highlight ways of strengthening the nexus between peace, security, development, good governance and respect for human rights. It will also highlight the institutional relations and partnerships with Africa in implementing the recommendations of the 2015 reviews of United Nations Peace Operations, the United Nations Peacebuilding Architecture and Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security. It will further highlight existing and new opportunities for enhancing effective collaboration and partnerships with African governments, the private sector, civil society, and the Diaspora in addressing the causes and consequences of violent extremism and terrorism, promoting the role of youth and women in peace and security, and in mobilizing resources for peace and security initiatives in Africa – consistent with the AU
Peace Fund. The event will be moderated by both the Under-Secretary-General and Special Adviser on Africa and H.E. Mr. Gaspar Martins, Permanent Representative of Angola to the United Nations, in his capacity as the Chair of the African Group for the Month of September and one of the three African representatives to the United Nations Security Council.

**Featured speakers will include:** the Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations and representatives of the African Regional Economic Communities.

** All delegations from the AUC, NEPAD Agency and APRM are invited to participate.

*Venue*: ECOSOC Chamber

*Lead Organizer(s)*: OSAA, AUOM, NEPAD Agency, APRM, DPI and ECA

4. **Wednesday (early afternoon), 12 October 2016, 12:15pm**: Africa Week 2016 Press Conference

This press conference will feature several of the prominent personalities participating in Africa Week 2016, and will be moderated by DPI.

** All delegations from the AUC, NEPAD Agency and APRM will participate.

*Venue*: Press Briefing Room, 2nd Floor, Secretariat Building, UNHQ

*Lead Organizer(s)*: OSAA, AUOM, NEPAD Agency, APRM, DPI and ECA

5. **Wednesday (afternoon), 12 October 2016, 3:00pm**: High-Level Event: A Renewed Global Partnership for Entrenching Good Governance and the Rule of Law in Africa

Consistent with both Aspiration 3 of Agenda 2063 on “An Africa of good governance, democracy, respect for human rights, justice and the rule of law” and Goal 16 of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development on “Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions”, this event will underscore the importance of good governance for the achievement of all the aspirations and goals of both the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063. In this respect, it will further advocate for the strengthening of partnerships to promote good governance in Africa in four main areas, namely: (i) democracy and political governance, (ii) economic governance and management, (iii) corporate governance, and (iv) socio-economic development. The event will also highlight existing and new opportunities for deepening partnerships to strengthen good governance in Africa, including with respect to addressing challenges of unconstitutional changes of government, winner-takes-all electoral culture, corruption, poor management of diversity, poor natural resource management, and promoting women and youth empowerment and development, among others. It will also highlight opportunities for enhancing institutional support, partnerships, synergy and coordination between the international community, United Nations, the African Governance Architecture, the African Peer Review Mechanism, and the African Regional Economic Communities in preventing conflicts, promoting good governance and post-conflict reconstruction and development on the continent. The event will be moderated by both the Under-Secretary-General and Special Adviser on Africa and H.E. Mr. Charles Thembani Ntwagae, Permanent Representative of Botswana, in his capacity as the Chair of the African Group for the Month of November.
Featured speakers will include: Commissioner for Political Affairs of the African Union Commission, the Chairperson of the African Peer Review Panel of Eminent Persons, the Chief Executive Officer of the APRM Secretariat, and High-Level Representatives from the African Regional Economic Communities.

** All delegations from the AUC, NEPAD Agency and APRM are invited to participate.

*Venue*: ECOSOC Chamber

**Lead Organizer(s)**: OSAA, AUOM, NEPAD Agency, APRM, DPI and ECA

6. **Thursday (morning), 13 October 2016, 10:00am:** High-Level Event: Leveraging Partnerships for the Effective Implementation and Monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goals and Agenda 2063 in Africa

African countries made substantial progress in the last decade thanks to the implementation of NEPAD and the Millennium Development Goals. This has been evident in strong growth and rising per capita incomes across the continent. Despite this, poverty remains pervasive and income inequality stubbornly high. This was largely due to the fact that growth was fuelled by extractive industries and did not lead to a substantial increase in employment creation. Furthermore, the collapse of commodity prices since 2014 has led to fiscal contraction, with many governments curtailing spending on the social sector, including education, health, water and sanitation. This may pose significant challenge to the realisation of the 2030 agenda vision of leaving no one behind and the Agenda 2063 overarching aspiration of realizing a peaceful and prosperous Africa. At least $600 billion will be needed each year to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals in Africa, and this amount equates to roughly one third of African countries’ gross national income. With the dwindling official development aid the question arises where the resources will come from.

In this context, strengthened domestic resource mobilisation on the African continent as well as multi-stakeholder partnerships including the private sector will be crucial to cover this funding gap. Partnerships can play an essential role in supporting regional and national policy interventions and south-south cooperation through predictable funding to bridge the financing gap, capacity building to strengthen policy design and implementation, and technology transfer. Furthermore, partnerships can foster entrepreneurship and innovation which can help African countries leap-frog ahead, while providing opportunities for young people through investments in innovation and skill development. In this respect the focus must include fiscal resource mobilization, harnessing natural capital, leveraging the pool of African institutional savings, and curbing of the illicit financial flows. Successfully halting these flows will provide critical domestic resources for financing the continent’s efforts to achieve the ambitious aims of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063. Also, cooperation with the private sector as the engine for more inclusive and sustainable economic growth, decent job creation, and structural transformation developing industrialization and improving countries’ ability to benefit from trade is instrumental in achieving the sustainable development goals.

On the issues related to monitoring the effective implementation of the two agendas in Africa, the continent will benefit from collective actions and strategies from the traditional and new and emerging development partners, as well as the United Nation in supporting
countries to implement their national development strategies and plans. Making development partners accountable for supporting the implementation of Agenda 2063 and 2030 will be critical for ensuring that African countries interest and attention in terms of follow-up and review of the implementation of commitments. In this perspective, this event will highlight new and innovative ways to strengthen robust partnerships to achieve sustained and inclusive economic growth and development as encapsulated by Agenda 2030 and 2063. The event will be moderated by both the Under-Secretary-General and Special Adviser on Africa and the Under-Secretary-General for DPI.

**Featured speakers will include:** the Deputy Chairperson of the African Union Commission, the Commissioner for Economic Affairs of the African Union Commission, the Chief Executive Officer of the NEPAD Agency, the Deputy Executive Secretary for the Economic Commission for Africa, and High-Level Representatives from the African Regional Economic Communities.

**All delegations from the AUC, NEPAD Agency and APRM are invited to participate.**

**Venue:** ECOSOC Chamber

**Lead Organizer(s):** OSAA, AUOM, NEPAD Agency, APRM, DPI and ECA

7. **Friday (all day), 14 October 2016: 71st United Nations General Assembly Debate on the Development of Africa** based on the three Secretary-General’s Reports on: (i) Progress in the Implementation of NEPAD; (ii) the Causes of Conflict and Promotion of Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa; and (iii) Review of the Implementation of Commitments made towards Africa’s Development.

**Venue:** General Assembly Hall

**C. Additional Elements**

a) **Expected Outputs from Africa Week 2016:**

- E-publication on the Africa Week 2016, and
- Press releases

b) **Expected participants:**

UN Member States; UN system entities; African institutions and the international development community, including African stakeholders, the private sector, civil society organizations including youth groups, the African Diaspora, the academic community, the think tanks and research institutions focusing on Africa-related issues.

c) **Main Institutional Partners:**

The main partners for Africa Week 2016 are: OSAA, ECA, DPI, AUOM, NEPAD Agency, APRM Secretariat, AUOM and the IDTFAA.
d) **Communications:**

In addition to scheduled press briefings, the Week’s events will include webcast, one-on-one interviews, and publicity on social media platforms, UNTV coverage and dissemination of a media advisory in close cooperation with DPI, and the NEPAD Agency and APRM Secretariat Communications Teams.