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Adoption of the report of the Committee on its fifty-seventh session

Draft report

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Addendum

Coordination questions: New Partnership for Africa's Development

(Item 4 (b))

United Nations system support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development

Introduction

1. At its 11th meeting, on 9 June 2017, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered the report of the Secretary-General on United Nations system support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) ([E/AC.51/2017/12](#)).
2. The Director and Acting Special Adviser on Africa introduced the report and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

3. Delegations expressed appreciation and support for the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa and commended the Acting Special Adviser on the comprehensiveness of the report and the details provided therein.
4. Several delegations expressed support for the work of the Office in strengthening the coherence and coordination of the support provided by the United Nations system to NEPAD, including in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the African Union Agenda 2063. Several delegations welcomed the intention of the Secretary-General to support the implementation of



the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 in Africa, as well as the achievement of peace and security, good governance and rule of law in Africa. A number of delegations encouraged continued efforts in support of NEPAD and Africa in the areas of peace, security and socioeconomic development, highlighting the need, in particular, to continue efforts in support of African Member States, the African Union and African regional economic communities in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, as well as the importance of the domestication of both the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063.

5. One delegation noted the important role of NEPAD as the development arm of the African Union and its role in driving the effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063. The significant development potential of Africa was highlighted, in particular in view of its growing economy and potential demographic dividends.

6. Several delegations emphasized the need to mobilize and foster partnerships and to enhance coordination in the implementation of the peace, security and development agenda in Africa and welcomed the diversification of international partnerships with Africa. A number of delegations reiterated the importance of bilateral, triangular, multilateral and South-South cooperation, such as the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation and the partnership between Belarus and Africa, among other partnerships, in mobilizing resources and supporting the implementation of NEPAD and the development of Africa, in particular through Agenda 2063 and its First Ten-Year Implementation Plan (2014-2023).

7. One delegation noted that many challenges highlighted in the report were interlinked, stressing that peace and security remained a problem and that, without peace and security, development would not be possible. In that regard, there was a need to coordinate and strengthen partnership links with countries interested in providing assistance to Africa. That delegation, however, noted that, contrary to what was stated in paragraph 121 of the report with regard to the support of the United Nations system for predictable financing for African Union peace operations, the Security Council was not responsible for financing decisions, because other bodies were mandated with the responsibility for mobilizing resources.

8. A delegation expressed the view that adequate resources should be allocated, through a holistic approach, to all stakeholders to ensure the effective and full implementation of NEPAD, Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda. Another delegation called on the international community to honour its commitments on aid to Africa. One delegation expressed concern regarding the anticipated decrease in funding to sub-Saharan Africa by the International Development Association and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development of the World Bank, as stated in paragraph 97 of the report, and expressed the hope that more efforts would be made to mobilize help for Africa in the short to medium term.

9. With regard to the lack of an evaluation framework, which was mentioned in paragraph 112 of the report, one delegation emphasized that, without such a framework, it would be difficult to attribute the support provided by the United Nations to NEPAD, Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda and underlined the need to put in place such a framework as a matter of urgency. It was noted that the specific details of the activities earmarked for NEPAD and Agenda 2063 should be reflected in the report.

10. Several delegations stressed the need to give full attention and coordinated support for the implementation of commitments related to youth and the empowerment of women, in line with the African Union theme for 2017: "Harnessing the demographic dividend through investments in youth". One delegation stated that Africa was a young continent and that it was important to give attention to young people, noting that not enough policies were in place for them.

11. Questions were raised by a delegation on the role of the Office in reviewing commitments made towards the development of Africa. Another question was raised by a delegation about the role of the United Nations in supporting the Presidential Infrastructure Champion Initiative.
12. One delegation pointed out that a meeting on agro-industry had been convened by the President of the Economic and Social Council in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, in April 2017, with the support of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization. It was also noted by a delegation that a forum on Africa and Belarus had been convened in June 2017 with the aim of strengthening their strategic partnership. One delegation noted that, at the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation held in 2015, 10 cooperation plans had been announced in line with Agenda 2063 and NEPAD, aimed at strengthening cooperation between China and Africa.
13. Regarding paragraph 5 of the report, one delegation sought additional information on the specific infrastructure projects that would be funded by the World Bank. With regard to paragraph 65, further clarification was requested on the workshops organized by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the Economic Commission for Africa. In particular, more detail was sought on how the capacity of African national statistical offices had been strengthened.
14. Concerning paragraph 119 of the report, one delegation suggested the following amendment to the wording to bring it in line with agreed language: “eliminate all types of trafficking of persons and address the challenges posed by the illegal smuggling of migrants”.
15. A delegation expressed the view that the Office should be provided, especially from the regular budget, with all the resources necessary to fulfil its mandated activities, and emphasized the importance of those resources being distributed among the divisions of the Office in an equitable and balanced manner.

Conclusions and recommendations

16. **The Committee welcomed the annual report of the Secretary-General on United Nations system support for NEPAD and recommended that the General Assembly endorse the conclusions and recommendations contained in paragraphs 114 to 127 of the report, in a manner that was consistent with intergovernmental mandates.**
17. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to continue to include, in his future reports, detailed information relating to the possible outcomes of the achievements of NEPAD targets.**
18. **The Committee also recommended that the General Assembly reiterate its request to the organizations of the United Nations system to continue to promote greater coherence in their work in support of NEPAD, on the basis of the agreed clusters of the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa, and called upon the United Nations system to continue to mainstream the special development needs of Africa in all its normative and operational activities, including the financing of programmes and projects, resource mobilization and humanitarian assistance.**
19. **The Committee further recommended that the General Assembly request the organizations of the United Nations system to continue to coordinate closely with the Planning and Coordinating Agency of NEPAD, as the technical body of the African Union, and other structures of the African Union Commission and the Partnership in order to continue to support the United Nations-African**

Union partnership on Africa's integration and development agenda for 2017-2027 and Agenda 2063.

20. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly emphasize the need for the organizations of the United Nations system and intergovernmental bodies to continue to take into consideration the views, comments and/or inputs of regional and subregional organizations, including the African Union, in their policy formulations and decision-making, mainly in the areas of mediation, conflict prevention and peace and security, in accordance with Charter of the United Nations.

21. The Committee also recommended that the reports of the Secretary-General on NEPAD continue to include information not only on seminars, workshops and meetings but also on tangible actions and results in respect of United Nations system support for projects of the Partnership throughout Africa, while stressing that future reports should further enhance the focus on the impact, in both quantitative and qualitative terms, of the activities implemented by entities of the United Nations system in support of the Partnership.

22. The Committee commended the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa and recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to ensure that future reports on NEPAD continue to include information on the activities undertaken by the Office in the areas of advocacy and analytical work, coherence and coordination and facilitation of intergovernmental deliberations relating to the provision of support by the United Nations system to the NEPAD agenda.

23. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General, in the context of his report on NEPAD, to include information on the activities undertaken to provide support to countries to address concerns regarding the protection of women and children, including from sexual violence.

24. The Committee emphasized the need for United Nations entities to continue their efforts in support of the region to address challenges relating to governance, youth unemployment, extremism and terrorism and recommended that the Secretary-General include information in that regard in his report.

25. The Committee recognized the important role played by the development of infrastructure in Africa, and recommended that the General Assembly reiterate its request to the Secretary-General to intensify his efforts to mobilize United Nations system support in that area, in the context of the initiatives of the regional economic communities.

26. The Committee emphasized the need for the continued implementation of activities relating to the monitoring mechanism and recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to ensure that future reports on NEPAD continue to provide information in that regard.