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Committee for Programme and Coordination

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Agenda item 7

Adoption of the report of the Committee on its sixtieth 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. During its sixtieth session, the Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations system support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) ([E/AC.51/2020/9/Rev.1](#)).
2. The Under-Secretary-General and Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Africa introduced the report and responded to questions raised by the Committee during its consideration of the programme.

Discussion

3. Delegations expressed appreciation to the Special Adviser on Africa and the contributing United Nations agencies for the preparation of the report and noted its high quality as well as its comprehensive nature. Delegations also appreciated the efforts and initiatives of the African Union, such as NEPAD and Agenda 2063, and reiterated their commitment and support to inclusive growth and sustainable development in Africa.
4. The view was expressed that the efforts made in the preparation of the report were particularly important in the context of the institutionalization of the African



Union Development Agency-NEPAD and the launch of the operational phase of the African Continental Free Trade Area.

5. A delegation commended the multiple United Nations agencies and the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa for the targeted assistance provided to the continent related to the tracks of industrialization, infrastructure development, the strengthening of the agrifood sector, transit cooperation, trade facilitation and tourism, among others. The delegation also stressed the importance of United Nations assistance to Member States in promoting food security and nutrition and highlighted the analysis of the impact of economic slowdowns and downturns on that sector in Africa, as described in paragraph 54 of the report.

6. With regard to transportation, one delegation expressed appreciation for the cooperation under way to create a continental transportation network. Another delegation welcomed the fourth African Road Safety Conference, held in September 2019, convened jointly by the Economic Commission for Africa and the African Union Commission.

7. A delegation commended the assistance provided by the United Nations to Member States in strengthening national health systems in the light of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic.

8. Regarding future reports, a delegation noted that the inclusion of more information on the activities and projects undertaken by the World Health Organization, the World Food Programme (WFP), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the International Fund for Agricultural Development would be appreciated. The delegation expressed gratitude for its partnership with WFP in support of school feeding in Africa, and indicated the use of multi-year debt-swap initiatives and the donation of specialized trucks to strengthen logistical capacity on the continent. It was noted that an additional annual contribution of \$10 million would be allocated to WFP, as a follow-up to the first Russia-Africa Summit in October 2019, for its assistance to Africa. A delegation also cited its collaboration with UNDP to support the efforts of African partners in the implementation of the Paris Agreement.

9. It was noted that 2020 marked the twentieth anniversary of the Programme for China-Africa Cooperation in Economic and Social Development, and support to inclusive growth and sustainable development in Africa was reiterated.

10. Several delegations expressed regret that the Secretariat continued to promote the concept of “humanitarian development, peace and security nexus”, referred to in paragraph 94 of the report, despite the absence of consensus on the concept among Member States.

11. Given the rich and informative content of the report, a delegation suggested that the report be presented with an appendix that would provide a synopsis of the events, figures and areas covered during the year.

12. Concerning the first recommendation by the Secretary-General to conduct a review and appraisal of the support of the United Nations system to NEPAD, one delegation expressed its support. Another delegation requested that such an analysis be balanced, and not sideline the socioeconomic development dimension as a result of an excessive focus on its “interlinkages” with the peace and security and human rights pillars of that work.

13. Delegations expressed support for the second recommendation of the report, namely that, in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, an assessment be made of the United Nations system support for the strengthening of health systems in Africa, and how to strengthen the continent’s preparedness against potential future threats.

Conclusions and recommendations

14. The Committee took note of the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations system support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development and encouraged that the information provided therein be of a high quality and be made available more widely in future, and ensure that the concerns of all Committee members be addressed.

15. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly encourage the Office of the Special Adviser to explore cooperation between the Common Fund for Commodities and the African Union Development Agency-NEPAD with the aim of financing more developmental projects in Africa.

16. The Committee stressed the importance of realizing the potential of youth on the continent and requested that the General Assembly encourage the Office of the Special Adviser to explore the feasibility of a dedicated subprogramme on youth.

17. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly encourage the Secretary-General to address the comments made by the Committee members.

18. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly endorse the conclusions and recommendations contained in paragraphs 118 to 124 of the report ([E/AC.51/2020/9/Rev.1](#)).
