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**ASSEMBLY OF THE UNION
Eighteenth Ordinary Session
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**Assembly/AU/Dec.391-415(XVIII)
Assembly/AU/Res.1(XVIII)
Assembly/AU/Decl.1-3(XVIII)**

DECISIONS, RESOLUTION AND DECLARATIONS



**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT
ORIENTATION COMMITTEE ON THE NEW PARTNERSHIP
FOR AFRICA'S DEVELOPMENT
Doc. Assembly/AU/7(XVIII)**

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE WITH APPRECIATION** of the Report by the Chairperson of the Heads of State and Government Orientation Committee (HSGOC) on the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) , H.E. Meles Zenawi Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia;
2. **ENDORSES** the conclusions of the Twenty-Sixth NEPAD HSGOC Meeting;
3. **NOTES WITH SATISFACTION** the steady progress towards results-based performance by the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA) in delivering its mandate based on Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.282(XIV) of the Fourteenth Ordinary Session of the Assembly and **COMMENDS** the improved working relations with the African Union (AU) Commission and increasing linkages between NPCA, Member States and the Regional Economic Communities (RECs);
4. **EXPRESSES** deep concern that NPCA organizational structure is yet to be finalized two (2) years after the integration of NEPAD into the structures and processes of the AU, and **THEREFORE REQUESTS** the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC) through its Sub-Committee on Structural Reforms to consider as a matter of urgency the finalization of the NPCA structure by March 2012 for subsequent approval by the Nineteenth Ordinary Session of the Assembly;
5. **EMPHASIZES** the vital importance of recommending a practical and efficient structure for NPCA that adequately reflects and is consistent with its mandate to enable it effectively implement the core objectives of NEPAD as the programme of the AU , and **REQUESTS** that the process of finalizing NPCA structure should include appropriate consultations with the Commission, the NEPAD Steering Committee and NPCA;
6. **ENDORSES** the implementation of key NEPAD regional and continental programmes and projects as reflected in the NPCA Activity Report for the period July to December 2011 **PARTICULARLY NOTING** the progress regarding the technical support to Member States on Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP) investment plans; Rural Futures Programme; Partnership for African Fisheries (PAF); the signed TerrAfrica Leverage Fund to enhance Sustainable Land and Water (SLW) management; African Medicines Regulatory Harmonization (AMRH) with current focus on the East African Community (EAC); Set-up of Capacity Development Expert Pool with UNDP support under the Africa Platform for Development Effectiveness (APDev); South

Sudan Development Initiative (SSDI) in conjunction with UNECA and UNDP; and Natural Resources Governance to advance the African Mining Vision;

7. **NOTES** the increasing efforts of African Governments to mobilize domestic resources in the face of the current impact of global financial crisis and **REITERATES** the critical need to creatively re-assess predictable and sustainable funding options in support of implementing prioritized national and NEPAD programmes and projects;
8. **ACCORDINGLY REQUESTS** NPCA and United Nations Economic Commission (UNECA), in partnership with relevant institutions to undertake an in-depth study to explore strategies and viable modalities to improve the mobilization of domestic resources as development finance which will be submitted to the NEPAD HSGOC for consideration;
9. **RECALLS** Declaration Assembly/AU/Decl. 1 (XII) of the Twelfth Ordinary Session of the Assembly of January 2009 which resolved to support the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA) as the unique strategic and sectoral framework in Africa to promote physical integration of the Continent and attainment of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) as well as the NEPAD goals of promoting sustainable growth and development for which infrastructure is a major cornerstone;
10. **APPROVES** the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA) and the Institutional Architecture for its implementation and **RESOLVES** to include national priorities, the various programmes and projects contained in the Priority Action Plan (PAP) of PIDA, with special consideration for Island States and to proceed with the expeditious implementation of the Institutional Architecture for Infrastructure Development in Africa (IAIDA) which identifies NPCA as executing agency;
11. **UNDERScores** the need for the promotion of innovative financing mechanisms reflecting Africa's real commitment to speed up infrastructure development with the overriding need to commit sufficient resources for project preparation; and **REQUESTS** the Commission to take all the necessary measures in coordination with NPCA, to ensure the accelerated implementation of PIDA and to report annually thereon;
12. **COMMENDS** the good progress achieved in the implementation of prioritized projects under the AU-NEPAD Presidential Infrastructure Champion Initiative (PICl) through the work of HSGOC High Level Sub-Committee chaired by H.E. Jacob Zuma, President of the Republic of South Africa, **WHILE RECOGNIZING** the pressing need to address challenges of upgrade, maintenance and effective utilization of existing infrastructure to boost intra-African trade for meaningful growth and deepen regional integration;
13. **ACKNOWLEDGES** the technical inputs of national focal points for PICl projects to designing appropriate regional standards for Public-Private Partnerships

(PPPs) as the foundational platform to strengthen infrastructure development on the Continent with emphasis on constructive engagement with RECs and **WELCOMES** the offer by the Government of the Republic of South Africa as Chairperson of PICI to convene a High Level Meeting of all stakeholders including Southern Africa Development Community (SADC), the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) and the East African Community (EAC) to engage on re-designing the parameters of the North-South Corridor;

14. **RE-EMPHASIZES** the shared principles of ownership, transparency, mutual accountability in strengthening Africa's partnership with the G8 in support of the Continent's development priorities and **NOTES** the development-related outcomes of the G20 Summit held in November 2011 in Cannes, France, particularly the G20 High Level Panel (HLP) on Infrastructure and the call on support for project implementation by Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs). **SUPPORTS** the strengthening of emergency and long-term responses to food insecurity by fostering investments in agriculture, mitigating price volatility impact especially in low income countries and set-up of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) regional emergency food reserve system;
15. **EXAMINES** the prospects for Africa's partnership with the G8 and G20 in 2012, **UNDERSCORING** the importance of ensuring that Africa's priorities are adequately reflected on the 2012 agenda of the two global forums and **THEREFORE REQUESTS** the Commission and NPCA to promptly consult with the Governments of the United States of America and Mexico as countries holding the 2012 Presidency of the G8 and G20 respectively, towards this objective;
16. **WELCOMES** the key outcomes of the Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness held in Busan, Republic of Korea, in December 2011 as reflected in the '*Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation*' particularly the policy shift from Aid to Development Effectiveness and commitment to the use and strengthening of country systems as default approach to enhance appropriate capacities to achieve better development results;
17. **COMMENDS** the conscientious and unified efforts of African countries, regional institutions and stakeholders to rally behind the first-ever African Consensus and Position on Development Effectiveness premised on South-South and Trilateral Cooperation, Financing for Development and Capacity Development which was developed through the facilitation and technical support of the Commission and NPCA, under the umbrella of Africa Platform for Development Effectiveness (APDev);
18. **REITERATES** that Africa should take necessary follow-up actions to implement the post-Busan agenda through inclusive and Africa-wide consultations in shaping the new global partnership based on the Continent's context and **REQUESTS** the Commission and NPCA to actively engage the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in ensuring that Africa's voice and

representation are taken into account in the emerging global partnership arrangements, for results-oriented partnership for effective development cooperation;

19. **COMMENDS** the Government of the Republic of South Africa for successfully hosting the Seventeenth Conference of the Parties to the United Nations (UN) Framework Convention on Climate Change, in December 2011 with historic and precedent-setting outcomes based on the sterling work of H.E. Meles Zenawi, Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia as Chairperson of Committee of African Heads of State and Government on Climate Change (CAHOSCC) and contributions of Member States;
20. **REQUESTS** NPCA in collaboration with the Commission and partner institutions including United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), UNECA and the African Development Bank (AfDB) to continue to support the African process and follow up on the negotiations on Climate Change particularly the outcomes of COP 17 as well as for NPCA to facilitate the development, implementation and coordination of adaptation actions including building adaptive capacities at national and regional levels to strengthen sectoral resilience and reduce vulnerability to climate change;
21. **TAKES NOTE** of significant progress achieved on AIDS response across Africa over the past decade, in particular the historic achievement of putting over five (5) million people on treatment and reducing the rate of new infections by over twenty-five percent (25%) in a substantial number of countries, but **EXPRESSES** concern over the current funding crisis facing AIDS response given the impact of global financial crisis and **REQUESTS** the Commission and NPCA in collaboration with the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) to work out a road map of shared responsibility to draw on African efforts for viable health funding streams with support of traditional and emerging partners to address AIDS dependency response;
22. **NOTES WITH APPRECIATION** the efforts to strengthen UN system-wide support for NEPAD implementation through closer collaboration between NPCA and UN Agencies especially the key roles of UNECA, UNDP and UN Office of Special Adviser on Africa (UN-OSAA) and in this regard, **WELCOMES** the 2011 Report of *Mutual Review of Development Effectiveness (MRDE)* produced by UNECA/OECD; Conclusions of 12th UN Regional Coordination Mechanism (RCM-Africa); 2011 Report on *UNDP Human Development - Sustainability and Equity: A Better Future for All*; and the 10th NEPAD Anniversary Week at the 66th UN General Assembly in New York in October 2011;
23. **RE-AFFIRMS** the overall significance of forward looking approaches towards the swift implementation of NEPAD in the next decade following the commemoration of the 10th anniversary of NEPAD in 2011 and **WELCOMES** the planned NEPAD Colloquium and Fund-Raising as prime multi-stakeholder events in March 2012 to round up the anniversary.