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AFRICA-EU PARTNERSHIP

ON

THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

RATIONALE

Many countries in Africa are confronting particular challenges in meeting the targets of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015, and will require a broad range of strengthened efforts to meet those targets. Such efforts must include effective action to tackle the shortfalls in policy, predictable financing, data collection and implementation capacities. Children, gender, HIV/AIDS and the environment will be addressed as cross-cutting priorities.

This Africa-EU Partnership will serve as a forum for intensified continent-to-continent policy dialogue, cooperation and joint action at all levels, with a view to achieving the MDGs in all African countries.

Priority action 1: Ensure the finance and policy base for achieving the MDGs

Objective

- To overcome policy and financing gaps for achieving the MDGs.

Expected outcomes

- Africa-EU policy dialogue and common positions in support of both quick wins and longer term sustainable action to tackle the MDGs in the context of global partnerships and international fora, including in the context of the MDG Africa Steering Committee, chaired by the United Nations Secretary-General;
- Integrated, comprehensive and balanced approaches in addressing all MDGs;
- Stronger institutional capacity and better coordination within and between the AU and EU to tackle the MDGs;
- Enhanced networking among African and European civil society organizations and other non-state actors.

Activities

- Develop joint assessments, analysis and approaches to enhance country ownership and

- to overcome gaps in long term predictable financing and human resource development;
- Strengthen national systems for planning, monitoring and evaluation to achieve the people-centred MDGs;
 - Share the results from the two above mentioned activities with all relevant interlocutors, and in particular with the MDG Africa Steering Committee chaired by the United Nations Secretary-General;
 - Work towards the fulfillment of the EU commitment of collective ODA of 0,56% of GNI by 2010, as an intermediary step towards achieving the UN target of 0,7% by 2015;
 - Work in line with the Paris Declaration and enhance the coordination among donors and with partner governments;
 - Establish a system to address the rights of persons with disabilities and vulnerable groups in interventions to achieve the MDGs;
 - Assess and develop the institutional capacity to enhance the roles of, and collaboration between, the AU and the EU in direct action to tackle the people-centred MDGs;
 - Enhance coordination between AU, EU and civil society organizations in the framework of global partnership meetings and international fora;
 - Establish effective mechanisms for enhanced collaboration between African and European experts, such as joint workshops, twinning initiatives, and exchange visits;
 - Strengthen networking among African and European civil society organizations and ensure effective civil society inputs into policy dialogue.

Actors

- AU Commission, African States and RECs;
- European Commission, Council and EU Member States;
- EU and African Parliaments;
- Civil society organizations;
- Private Sector;
- United Nations agencies, including UNICEF, UNESCO, UNAIDS, WHO, UNDP, UNIFEM, UNFPA;
- EIB, AfDB, and other International Financial Institutions;
- Global partnerships, including Global Fund to fight HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria, Education Fast Track Initiative, Global Coalition on Women and AIDS, International Health Partnership;
- African local authorities;
- Secretariat of the African Decade of Persons with Disabilities.

Finance

- Appropriate financing sources in accordance with their respective scope and their relevance to objectives and activities concerned, their specificity and eligibility criteria, such as the 10th EDF, ENPI, DCI;
- Direct contributions from African and EU States and from the private sector;
- Global partnerships, including African and EU States support to those.

Priority action 2: Accelerate the achievement of the Food Security Targets of the MDGs

Objective

- Make substantial progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Objective of halving the proportion of people who suffer from hunger and malnutrition by the year 2015 in all African countries.

Expected outcomes

- Better access to food;
- Increased agricultural growth rates, improved agricultural productivity and reduced rural poverty;
- Agriculture and food security to be integral and strategic parts of the development agenda at national, regional and continental levels;
- Improved governance in the agricultural sectors, including in the area of sanitary measures and management regimes for land, fish and forest resources;
- Progress towards the Maputo commitments, including 10% of African national budgets devoted to the agricultural sector and rural development;
- Enhanced intra-Africa trade in agriculture, including staple foods;
- Reduced malnutrition, in particular under-5 chronic and acute malnutrition, as well as reduced maternal and child mortality;
- Improved food-security early warning systems;
- Wider application of safety-net / social transfer systems;
- Reduced vulnerability in food-insecure communities.

Activities

- Accelerate the development and implementation of pillar 3 of the Comprehensive Africa Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP) at regional and national levels, with particular attention to the involvement of non-state actors such as farmers associations;
- Enhance agricultural research and strengthen institutional cooperation and coordination between national agricultural research systems (NARS) and regional and international

research programmes, notably with EU research institutes, in the framework of the new partnership on agriculture between the EU and Africa;

- Remove bottlenecks to intra-Africa trade in agricultural products, including staple food crops;
- Include agriculture and food-security related indicators in budgetary support programmes;
- Strengthen regional and continental-level representations of producers and professional organisations, with effective advocacy and lobbying capacity;
- Increase national and regional capacities to monitor levels of acute and chronic malnutrition;
- Increase continental and regional food security information systems and capacities to address famine crises.

Actors

- AU Commission/NEPAD, African Member States, RECs;
- European Commission, EU Member States;
- CAADP pillar lead institutions, such as the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA);
- Private sector, civil society, local authorities and economic actors;
- International organizations, including the World Food Programme (WFP), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO).

Finance

- Appropriate financing sources in accordance with their respective scope and their relevance to objectives and activities concerned, their specificity and eligibility criteria, such as the 10th EDF, ENPI, DCI;
- Bilateral contributions from EU Member States and African States;
- Development Banks and Private Foundations;
- Private Sector;
- African local authorities.

Priority action 3: Accelerate the achievement of the Health Targets of the MDGs

Objective

- Make substantial progress towards achieving the MDG Targets in the area of health in all African countries.

Expected Outcomes

- Improved access to prevention, treatment, care and support services, including for HIV/AIDS, Malaria, and Tuberculosis and sexual and reproductive health;
- Progress towards the Abuja commitments, including 15% of African national budgets devoted to the health sector, and towards the Maputo commitments (Maputo Action Plan on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights), within the context of established EU positions;
- Increased national capacities in participatory and evidence-based health strategy planning and budgeting;
- Equal access to healthcare and rehabilitation services for persons with disabilities;
- Progress towards universal access to affordable quality medicines, vaccines, contraceptives, and commodities;
- Increased production of medicines and vaccines in Africa;
- Coordinated African and EU positions in the relevant international fora;
- Increased capacity to train, retain and stimulate the return of health workers;
- Increased risk-awareness on emerging and re-emerging diseases, medical emergencies and epidemics.

Activities

- Develop joint strategies to enhance access to affordable quality medicines, in particular for HIV/AIDS, Malaria, Tuberculosis, other endemic diseases and meningitis through:
 - Enhanced capacity for regional and local production of generic medicines;
 - Strengthened regulatory capacity through EU/AU cooperation on the implementation of the Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Plan for Africa;
 - Facilitation of the import of generic and affordable patented drugs in accordance with the TRIPS provisions on compulsory licensing and parallel imports;
 - Strengthened mechanisms to fight counterfeit medicines;
 - Encourage political support for the WHO Inter-Governmental Working Group (IGWG) process aimed at improving the availability and accessibility of priority medicines for Africa and cooperation on issues relating to public health, innovation and intellectual property.
- Increase the capacity of African countries to train and retain health workers, including through the implementation of the Africa Health Strategy 2007–2015 and the European programme for action to tackle the shortage of health workers in developing countries (2007–2013);
- Identify joint actions to initiate the creation or reinforcement of social health protection systems;
- Identify joint actions to strengthen district and national health systems, including

participatory and action-led health management information systems, the elimination of fees for basic health care, strengthening preventive health care systems and health education, and stronger involvement of civil society partners;

- Jointly address environmental health challenges by implementing water and sanitation programs and projects, in conjunction with the partnerships on Energy and Climate Change;
- Improve operational research on health systems and synergies with traditional medicine, including through the implementation of the action programme of the African Decade on Traditional Medicine;
- Support the implementation of the Maputo Action Plan for the operationalization of the continental policy framework for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights 2007-2010 within the context of established EU positions;
- Implement the African Child Survival Strategy, and the follow up of the Abuja Call for Accelerated Action towards universal access to HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria services in Africa;
- Coordinate African and European positions in appropriate international fora and negotiations;
- Explore and test possibilities to improve access to health services through the use of telemedicine and e-health within Africa and beyond;
- Seize the opportunities presented by 2008 being the UN International Year of Sanitation, and prepare a Joint Statement for the Conference on Sustainable Development 16;
- Promote twinning initiatives and other appropriate exchanges to accelerate progress towards MDGs 2 and 3;
- Support the implementation of international health agreements.

Actors

- AU Commission/NEPAD, African Member States, RECs;
- European Commission, EU Member States;
- Private sector, civil society, academic institutions and health practitioners ;
- WHO, UNAIDS and other UN/International organizations;
- Global partnerships such as International Health Partnership and the Global Fund to Fight Aids, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM);
- African local authorities.

Finance

- Appropriate financing sources in accordance with their respective scope and their relevance to objectives and activities concerned, their specificity and eligibility criteria,

such as the 10th EDF, ENPI, DCI;

- Bilateral contributions from EU Member States and African States;
- African local authorities;
- AfDB, EIB;
- Private sector;
- Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

Priority action 4: Accelerate the Achievement of the Education Targets of the MDGs

Objective

- Make substantial progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals in the area of Education in all African countries.

Expected Outcomes

- Greater access to free, equitable and quality education;
- Universal primary education including for children with disabilities;
- Higher enrolment and completion rates with gender parity;
- Improved quality of education infrastructure, facilities and management systems.

Activities

- Establish a mechanism for strategic partnerships for the implementation of the Plan of Action for the Second Decade of Education for Africa;
- Take measures to eliminate school fees for primary and secondary education;
- Advance the effective training, deployment and retention of teachers;
- Accelerate the introduction of social protection programmes, including school feeding for disadvantaged families;
- Develop special programmes adapted to the needs of orphans and vulnerable children;
- Promote the integration of life skills for HIV/AIDS and health education into curricula at all levels;
- Implement initiatives to increase the enrolment and completion rate of girls at all levels of education;
- Enhance education infrastructure and improve teaching and learning materials;
- Promote twinning initiatives and other appropriate exchanges to accelerate progress towards MDGs 2 and 3;
- Strengthen the capacities of the Pan-African Institute for Education for Development;

- Promote exchange of best practice relating to the access of children with disabilities to education.

Actors

- AU Commission/NEPAD, African States, RECs, Pan-African Institute for Education for Development, Association for the Development of Education in Africa (ADEA), Association of African Universities (AAU)
- European Commission, EU Member States;
- African local authorities;
- Private sector, non-state actors and educational institutions
- UNESCO and other International organizations
- Global partnerships such as the Education For All Fast Track Initiative.

Finance

- Appropriate financing sources in accordance with their respective scope and their relevance to objectives and activities concerned, their specificity and eligibility criteria, such as the 10th EDF, ENPI, DCI;
- Bilateral contributions from EU Member States and African states;
- African local authorities;
- Private sector, Foundations;
- International financing institutions, African Development Bank.