The 10th Regional Coordination Meeting

Social and Human Development Cluster

2009 Report

November 2009
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
During 2009, the Social and Human Development Cluster (SHD) registered a much stronger interaction and coordination both among the members of the cluster and sub-clusters. From the vintage point of the frequency of meetings and the consensus on the Business Plan as well as joint support in some areas, UN agencies responded and supported the AU Commission in a much more coordinated manner. The Business Plan was based on priorities selected from the Ten-Year UN/AU Capacity Building Programme Framework as well as from the Kuriftu Consensus on SHD Cluster and the Recommendations of the 9th RCM. The priorities drawn from these documents were as follows:

- Social, economic, cultural and human development (underlined in the AU/UN Cooperation Programme Framework)
- Enhancing implementation of continental and international frameworks, charters, protocols and other instruments (drawn from a priority area identified by the SHD cluster in the Kuriftu Consensus) and
- Working together in accordance with the principle of delivering as one – an outcome /recommendation of the 9th RCM.

In order to ensure shared responsibility, the SHD Cluster had three different agencies serving as a convener, vice convener and secretariat. As noted in the attached matrix, major progress in coordinated response included the following.

1. Joint support by UNFPA/UNICEF/WHO to the AU initiative on Accelerated Reduction of Maternal Morality in Africa (CARMMA). A commendable aspect in this regard was that collaboration was also manifested at country level, as country teams in four countries joined the three agencies during the launch at national level.
2. UNIFEM and UNFPA became co-coordinators for the Africa-Wide Campaign against Violence against Women and are jointly supporting the campaign both financially and technically.
3. UNDP/IOM/UNFPA supported (are supporting) the AUC initiative regarding AU Youth Volunteers Programme.
4. UNECA led the UNFPA supported Africa Regional Review on Progress made towards the achievement of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development.
5. IOM/UNICEF/UNODC supporting the AU popularized and operationalize its AU.COMMIT campaign against human trafficking.

Main constraints

- Maintaining regular participation and representation of members in the cluster and sub-cluster meetings
- Coordinated and timely response to the cluster activities mainly due to capacity problems and plethora of on-going activities within the AUC and UN.
- Limited Joint or parallel funding for the same outputs.
- In adequate information exchange between and amongst cluster and sub-cluster members

**Recommendations**

In order to step-up harmonization with the AUC structure and facilitate the work of the sub-cluster, it is recommended that “Youth” which was under the Gender and Youth Sub-cluster be part of the “Education” sub-cluster. This would help align the “Education and Youth Sub-cluster with the AUC Department for Human Resources, Science and Technology, under which the Youth and Education portfolio fall.

UNIFEM has volunteered and the Cluster has agreed that UNIFEM become Cluster Convener in 2010 and that UNECA serves as the Secretariat. Endorsement by RCM is recommended.

The overarching constraints of time and overlapping schedules of members of the cluster calls for a specific definition and understanding of roles of “cooperating agencies”. Due to the nature of their work many agencies subscribe to many thematic areas but find it difficult to contribute effectively to all the sub-clusters. Therefore, RCM may wish to reconsider, multiple membership in thematic areas or advice a mechanism for ensuring accountability for delivery.
## Matrix of Cluster Report

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thematic Focus</th>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Key Activities</th>
<th>Output as of October 2009</th>
<th>Constraints</th>
<th>Lessons Learnt</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Priority 1 - Promotion of Accelerated Reduction of Maternal Mortality (Lead – UNFPA/AU DSA)** | To contribute to MM reduction through advocacy at continental and country levels | - Joint support to the AUC in launching a campaign in 8 selected countries (based on set criteria) – Chad, Ethiopia, Ghana, Malawi, Mozambique, Nigeria, Rwanda and Tunisia  
- Follow-up with Country Office regarding the initiation of country strategy for community and social mobilization. | - Increased awareness on the urgency of MM reduction and raising commitments at national level  
- CARMMA approved by African Ministers of Health. Five out of eight countries already launched the campaign; two will be launched by end of 2009 and one by beginning of 2010  
- Interagency collaboration achieved and this has led to developing joint strategies for implementation.  
- AUC leadership demonstrated and CARMMA now linked with the White Ribbon Alliance led by Mme Sara Brown | Adequate funding and effective community mobilization at country level  
Maintaining the momentum at continental, sub-regional and country levels | Commitment including political commitment at the highest level continues to be critical for engaging the public in debating long neglected but crucial matters of development.  
Effective coordination, harmonization and linkage still pose a challenge after decades of talks of their significance |

**Collaborating agencies**
- ACERWC  
- UNECA  
- UNICEF  
- WHO

| **Priority 2 - Dimension of Child under nutrition (Lead – WFP/AU DREA)** | To facilitate and guide awareness-raising, and consensus-building | Undertake a study on the cost of hunger in selected pilot countries focusing on economic and social impacts of child under nutrition | Draft country selection criteria compiled | - Lack of timely and appropriate resources  
- Limited institutional capacity of key partners | Need the necessary resources (human and financial) to coordinate and manage such important initiatives. |

**Collaborating agencies**
- ACERWC  
- UNAIDS  
- UNECA  
- UNICEF

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* African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child
| Priority 3 – Support the AUC in the reporting process of the progress towards Universal Access for HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria (Lead – UNAIDS/AU DSA) | To assist the African Union Commission in the reporting process of the progress towards Universal Access for HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria by 2010 | Organize a 3rd Interagency meeting\(^1\) of UN agencies, RECs and AUC in the preparation for reporting on Universal Access for HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria by 2010 and beyond. | - Meeting convened at the end of October 2009 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, and an agreement on the way forward reached which includes the development of Africa’s Common Position, and the 5-Year Review of the 2006 Abuja Call for Accelerated Action towards Universal Access to HIV/AIDS, TB, and Malaria Services by 2010. | - There has been little follow-up of agreed actions of previous meeting, hence the sub-cluster needs to be aware of the risk of repeating the same recommendations on coordination and harmonization. - Inputs not received or received too late from some partners mainly due to the fact that most of the preparatory meetings were held between July and September 2009 when many were on leave. | - Sub Cluster need to use the experiences from the previous two meetings in coordination of the planning process; - Early preparation is essential to ensure adequate and timely inputs - Participants need to be given enough time to provide feedback in a timely manner |

| Collaborating agencies | UNEC A UNFPA UNICEF WFP WHO | | | | |

| Priority 4 - Support an Africa wide campaign to End Violence against Women and Girls (Lead – UNIFEM/AU Gender Directorate) | To mobilize commitment to ending violence against women and girls; and to empower women and their communities in stopping gender-based violence and demanding accountability. | - Develop a concept paper for the launching and implementation of the Africa Wide Campaign to End Violence against Women and girls - Provide technical support at the meeting of experts of African States in the development of a framework for the launching and implementation of the campaign - Undertake a mapping study on past and existing campaigns as well as initiatives on VAW in the region | - A framework for launching and implementation of the Africa Wide Campaign to End Violence against Women and Girls is adopted - A documentation of existing campaigns to end different forms of violence against women and girls - Enhanced UN commitment in the coordination mechanism to end violence against women and girls (9 agencies have identified themselves with the Africa-wide campaign) - Visibility to the UN system’s work in support of CEDAW implementation especially tools that | Inadequate and less frequent participation of focal persons and agency representatives Challenge of ensuring cross-cluster participation in the campaign – in accordance with the SG’s requirement. | The need for clarity on the role of agencies in the roll-out of campaign Sub-cluster needs to be proactive to ensure cross-cluster participation in the campaign – in accordance with the SG’s requirement. |

| Collaborating agencies | ILO IOM UNECA UNFPA UNICEF | | | | |

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\(^1\) The interagency meeting on harmonization and coordination of HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria was first held in 2006 with the aim of increasing the coordination and harmonization in the work on the three diseases by the AUC, RECs, UN agencies and Civil Society.
Collaborating agencies
| Support the AUC widely disseminate and popularize the Ouagadougou Action Plan to its Member States and RECs | - Joint support to the AUC launch ‘Stop Trafficking Campaign’  
- Print the Ouagadougou Action Plan in all the AU languages  
- Technical Workshop targeting RECs, Member States around the Ouagadougou Action Plan | - A continental campaign against human trafficking (AU.COMMIT) launched on 16 June (Day of the African Child) at the AUC and July in SADC  
- The AU developed and presented its 4-year plan to implement the AU.COMMIT strategy  
- 3000 copies of the Ouagadougou Action Plan printed in all 4 AU languages  
- Increased understanding by Member States and RECs on the essence and significance of the implementation of the OPA | - AU Calendar of meetings is full, hence some planned meetings had to be postpone.  
- It was difficult to get timely response and engagement from participating agencies | - Planned activities should correspond to the availability of required capacity and resources |

| Priority 6 – African Youth Volunteerism (Lead – UNFPA/AU HRST)  
Collaborating agencies | To promote youth participation in Africa’s development and youth enrichment through exchange of knowledge | - Develop project proposal which will be reviewed at partners forum  
- Resource mobilization  
- Establish virtual database and network for the identification of the specific needs of the M/States in terms of capacity building that requires the intervention of volunteers | - A project proposal and implementation mechanism agreed upon.  
- Peer review and training curriculum completed.  
- Virtual interface of key youth organisations and networks in African and in diaspora initiated – (generation of youth experts database/compendium completed and conducting advocacy activities in support of AUYVs | Government contributions and commitment needed to make volunteerism work  
AUC capacity concerns to effectively respond to its youth related mandate  
Coordination between regional, sub-regional and country institutions | Youth need to be effectively recognized and mobilized in Africa’s development.  
Youth are pro-active, willing to meaningfully participate in initiatives that affect them |
| Priority 7 – Harmonization of cultural development policies (Lead – AU /UNESCO) | To conduct a situational analysis of the Pan African Institutions and events | - Conduct a study and draft recommendations for the harmonization of the culture sector.  
- Review the study during the 2nd Pan African Cultural Congress in October 2008 | - Concept note and work programme for the 2nd Pan African Cultural Congress (PACC2) developed;  
- Situational analysis and draft strategy for the revitalization of African Museums and thematic papers for the PACC2 developed;  
- Logistic and technical preparation of the PACC2 jointly prepared;  
- Launch of the TOR for the Feasibility study for the establishment of the Pan African Cultural Institute ready for October 2009 | - Lack of financial resources and time constraint that should permit to achieve more activities | - Technical cooperation and continuous exchange between Experts was very fruitful; joint programmes should be developed and implemented  
- Due to the complexity of culture, the technical cooperation should be backed by financial support or joint resources mobilisation for more achievements |

| Priority 8 – ICPD + 15 (Lead – UNECA/UNFPA/AU) | To review the progress of implementation of ICPD Plan of Action | 15 Year Review of Progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action in the context of the MDGs and the Maputo Plan of Action | - An analytical report that synthesises progress made and lessons learnt with recommendations for strategic intervention for the coming five years.  
- Ministerial commitment to accelerate implementation of post-ICPD strategic priorities agreed by African Ministers in charge of Population and Development. | Obtaining timely technical inputs from participating agencies as well as coordination and harmonization between lead agencies and times receipt of survey reports from Member States | Regular consultation with partners and taking their perspectives into account are essential for ensuring genuine collaboration and joint ownership of any product. |
AU-UN cooperation: Framework for the ten-year capacity building programme for the AU
November 2006
- Institution-building, human resources development and financial management
- Human rights
- Social, economic, cultural and human development
- Food Security and environmental protection

SHD Cluster - Kuriftu Consensus
July 2008
- Norm & Standards setting
- Communications and advocacy
- Human resources development
- Institutional capacity strengthening;
- Monitoring, evaluation, and reporting
- Data collection, management and analysis
- Enhancing implementation of Continental and International frameworks, charters, protocols and other instruments;
- Resource mobilization.

9th RCM Recommendations
November 2008
- UN system-wide effort should focus on supporting the implementation of existing strategic plans designed to boost Africa’s food and agriculture sector, in an integrated manner
- Mainstream climate-change issues in the work and activities of all the RCM clusters
- Work together in accordance with the principle of

SHD Business Plan
April 2009

**Priority 1:** Promotion of Accelerated Reduction of Maternal Mortality

**Priority 2:** Dimension of Child under nutrition

**Priority 3:** Support the AUC in the reporting process of the progress towards Universal Access for HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria

**Priority 4:** Support an Africa wide campaign to End Violence against Women and Girls

**Priority 5:** Implementation of the Ouagadougou Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings, Especially Women and Children

**Priority 6:** African Youth Volunteerism

**Priority 7:** Harmonization of cultural development policies

**Priority 8:** ICPD + 15
# ANNEX I

**SOCIAL AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT CLUSTER**  
**2009 BUSINESS PLAN**

**Guide**  
- Priority areas are listed in random order not in order of priority  
- Identified priority areas should have corresponding activities (achievable activities), measurable indicators and concrete output  
- For each activity a time frame should be set and must not go beyond December 2009  
- Participating agencies should identify the relevant AU instruments and policy documents  
- All participating agencies are expected to be active members  
- The AU Social Policy Framework and the UN/AU 10-year Capacity Building Programme are the overall guiding instruments for the SHD Cluster.  
- Status of thematic groups and their activities will be reviewed in August/September 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Relevant AU Instruments/ Policy documents</th>
<th>Key Joint Activities</th>
<th>Expected Output</th>
<th>Indicators</th>
<th>Collaborating Agencies</th>
<th>Timeframe</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Priority 1 - Promotion of Accelerated Reduction of Maternal Mortality** | To contribute to MM reduction through mobilization support at various levels | - African Health Strategy (by the AUC)  
- Continental Policy Framework on Reproductive Health and Rights and the Maputo Plan of Action on RH  
- Road Map on Maternal and Infant Mortality Reduction | - Joint support to the AUC in launching a campaign in five selected countries (based on criteria for selection)  
- Follow-up with Country Office regarding the initiation of country strategy for community and social mobilization for MARMMA  
- Joint Reporting on progress | Increased awareness on the urgency of MM reduction and raising commitments at national level towards the related objective | The number of countries where the CARMMA is launched, Number of countries where concrete measures are taken | AUC DSA/UNFPA (Lead)  
ACERWC  
UNECA  
UNICEF  
WHO | November 2009 |

| **Priority 2 - Dimension of Child under nutrition** | To facilitate and guide such awareness-raising, consensus-building, and action | - The Resolution of the Abuja Food Security Summit (2006),  
- The policy documents of the African Taskforce on Food and Nutrition Development  
- CAADP Pillar 3 | Undertake a study on the cost of hunger in Africa focusing on economic and social impacts of child under nutrition  
- Finalise the Concept Note  
- Form the Steering Committee and Technical Working Group  
- Develop selection criteria to identify pilot countries | - The study  
- Results and recommendations from the study used for advocacy purposes by the African Taskforce on Food and Nutrition Development  
- Draft country selection criteria completed | - Concept note finalised  
- Stakeholders agreed for the Steering Committee to be the African Taskforce on Food and Nutrition Development | AUC DSA / BREA and WFP (Lead)  
ACERWC  
UNAIDS  
UNECA  
UNICEF  
WHO | December 2009 |

* African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child
### Priority 3 – Support the AUC in the reporting process of the progress towards Universal Access for HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria

|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

### Priority 4 - Support an Africa wide campaign to End Violence against Women and Girls

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>To mobilize and support commitment to ending violence against women and girls; and to empower women and their communities in stopping gender-based violence and demanding</th>
<th>- Develop a concept paper for the launching and implementation of the Africa Wide Campaign to End Violence against Women and girls - Provide technical support at the meeting of experts of</th>
<th>- Concept note finalised and shared among cluster members</th>
<th>- Concept note finalised and shared among cluster members</th>
<th>AUC Gender / UNIFEM (Lead)</th>
<th>ACERWC</th>
<th>April 2009</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- The UN/AU 10-year Capacity Building programme - ADF VI Consensus statement and Plan Of Action - Article 4(1) of the Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa</td>
<td>- A framework for launching and implementation of the</td>
<td>- Evidence of an increased number of member states validating the framework</td>
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<td>April-May/2009</td>
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2 The interagency meeting on harmonization and coordination of HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria was first held in 2006 with the aim of increasing the coordination and harmonization in the work on the three diseases by the AUC, RECs, UN agencies and Civil Society.
### Accountability

- UN SG campaign to end violence against women
- AU Protocol on the Rights of Women in Africa
- AU General Assembly Decision on the Report on the Implementation of the AU Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa (doc. ex.CL 376(xii))
- AU Gender Policy
- Plan of Action on Prevention of Violence in Africa
- Recommendations of the Gender Justice in Africa Colloquium

### Priority 5 – Implementation of the Ouagadougou Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings, Especially Women and Children

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>To sensitize AU Member States and RECs on the issue of human trafficking in Africa</th>
<th>Support the AUC widely disseminate and popularize the Ouagadougou Action Plan to its Member States and RECs</th>
<th>Joint support to the AUC launch ‘Stop Trafficking Campaign’</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Ouagadougou Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings, Especially Women and Children</td>
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<tr>
<td>- African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child</td>
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<tr>
<td>- AU Plan of Action on Drug Control and Crime Prevention</td>
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<td>- The UN/AU 10-year Capacity Building programme</td>
<td>- Print 3000 copies of the Ouagadougou Action Plan in all 4 AU languages</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Technical Workshop targeting RECs, Member States around the Ouagadougou Action Plan</td>
<td>- RECs, Member States and partners participate in the launch</td>
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<td>- 3000 copies of the Ouagadougou Action Plan printed.</td>
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<td>- Increased understanding by Member States and RECs on the essence and significance of the implementation of the OPA</td>
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**Priority 6 – African Youth Volunteerism**

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<th>To promote youth participation</th>
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<tr>
<td>- African Youth Charter</td>
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<tr>
<td>- ADF V Consensus Statement</td>
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</table>

| - Develop the concept note |
| - Develop project proposal and budget |
| - Organize partners forum to discuss proposal |
| - Joint resource mobilization |
| - A concept note |
| - A project proposal and a budget |
| - Partners meeting held |
| - sufficient resource to implement African Youth |

| African Youth Corps (AYC) Program developed with the participation of the youth |
| Resources mobilized for the implementation of the AYC Program |

**AUC DSA /IOM (Lead) ACERWC ILO UNICEF UNIFEM UNODC**

- June 2009
- November 2009
- November 2009
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Priority 7 – Harmonization of cultural development policies</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To conduct a situational analysis of the Pan African Institutions and events</td>
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</table>
|  - Charter for the Cultural Renaissance of Africa  
  - Nairobi Plan of Action for Cultural and Creative Industries in Africa  
  - relevant documentation establishing the pan African cultural institutions and events |
|  - Develop the TOR for the study;  
  - Identifying and recruiting a Consultant to conduct the situational analysis;  
  - Review the study during the 2nd Pan African Cultural Congress in October 2008 in the view to propose recommendations for the harmonization of the cultural sector |
|  - TOR developed  
  - Study conducted and draft recommendations formulated  
  - Study reviewed and recommendations for the harmonization of the cultural sector |
|  - Adhere to the timeframe for the elaboration of the TOR;  
  - Adhere to the timeframe for the recruitment of the consultant  
  - Number of institution contacted.  
  - Number of questionnaire sent to relevant cultural institutions and responses received  
  - Level of involvement of African cultural development experts in the review of the study and formulation of recommendations |
| AUC DSA /UNESCO (Lead) |
| April-May 2009  
June-August 2009  
October 2009 |

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<th>Priority 8 – ICPD + 15</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To review the implementation of ICPD Plan of Action</td>
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</table>
|  - ICPD Plan of Action  
  - AU strategic Priorities |
| 15 Year Review of Progress in the implementation of the Plan of Action in the context of MDGs and Maputo Plan of Action |
| An analytical report that synthesises progress made, lessons learned with recommendations for strategic intervention for the coming five years. |
| The Africa Regional Review Report |
| AUC DSA/ UNECA/UNFPA (Lead)  
IOM  
UNICEF  
WHO |
| Nov 2009 |