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AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT FORUM V

Special Event with Youth Experts' Meeting
(Aide Memoire)

United Nations Conference Centre
Addis Ababa

November 1-3, 2005

Estimote

Introduction

Africa's youth population as a proportion of the total is increasing and projected to be over 50% by 2015, due to the high fertility rate underlying the demographic momentum. Youth currently account for 45% of the total labour force. Unlike other continents, Africa's population is becoming more youthful.

Therefore the pace, depth and scope of Africa's development in the 21st Century would depend on how best the continent's youth resources are nurtured and deployed. This understanding should influence development policy processes and objectives and should lead to a new partnership among development stakeholders to empower young people in Africa.

There are several initiatives on the continent pertaining to youth. But they are normatively uncoordinated and therefore their impacts are weak, in relation with the enormity of the expected outcomes. There is therefore the need to improve synergies among these initiatives, especially their implementation at the national level.

Globally, increasing attention is being paid to youth concerns. Within the UN system in 1995 youth issues were debated in the General Assembly leading to the World Programme of Action on Youth. A preliminary report on progress in implementation of WPAY by the Secretary General issued in November 2004 recommended concerted action from governments, UN system agencies and indeed all development stakeholders including the private sector to scale up investment in youth and reduce exclusion.

The time is more than ripe for policy makers to put their heads together and build economies in policy making to confront the challenges of transforming their youth population into tangible assets for national development.

Objectives of the Experts' Meeting and the Special Event

The experts' meeting is to enable collaborating partners and invited young people to discuss and reach agreement on the objectives and the strategies for implementing the African Development Forum on Youth (ADFV), under the theme Youth and Leadership for the 21st Century. Participants would be expected to share their experiences and views on

community, national and regional agenda on development and empowerment of youth and to assist in constructing a menu of discussion points for holistic development of young people and their role in Africa's development.

Specifically, the meeting will attempt to:

- Identify and collate discussion points for the formulation of strategies for developing young people
- Formulate the modalities for implementing the objectives of the African Development Forum on Youth
- Concretize collaboration between ECA and youth other development partners, and
- Design roles for collaborating agencies and organizations, including youth, private sector and civil society,

The expected accomplishment include:

- Discussion document for a Pan-African forum on developing and deploying youth
- Collaborative plan in support of youth development in Africa, in the spirit of NEPAD

The Special Event, a Symposium on "Young People in Africa's Development", would document ideas from young people about how young people are contributing to the continent's development and how such contributions could be maximized, for faster development of the continent. Proceedings of the symposium would be published as part of the documentation for ADFV. The views of young people collated through e-discussions on the subject would also be incorporated in this publication.

Guidelines for the Presentations

The purpose of the presentations is to come up with discussion points that could guide the development of policies and programmes for the young people in the context of the overall development of Africa.

As such, the presentations should be brief and audience-reader friendly. They should in general cover the following areas:

- A brief description of a concept of youth in development

- Issues of young people in a selected thematic or subject area, such as vulnerable youth in urban communities, young entrepreneurs, young people in poverty reduction, and youth self-development
- Concrete suggestions for developing and empowering youth in selected thematic or subject area.

Presentations by participating young people would focus on their own work and activities and how they are related to the development of their countries of origin.

Presentation by all others- agencies, private sector, civil society and government- would attempt to highlight experiences and lessons learnt from youth initiatives.

The presentations may use the medium of MS PowerPoint. The full/written text may be circulated before, during or after the session.

Copies of all presentations- or abstracts- should be forwarded to the ADFV secretariat by October 28, 2005.

Participants

Participation would be limited to the following groups of organizations and individuals:

1. Youth organizations and individuals- selected on regional basis
2. Government Youth officials- selected on sub-regional basis
3. International agencies and organizations
4. Youth experts- selected on basis of region, specialization and gender

Observers

In view of the overwhelming interest shown in ADFV, participation would be extended to youth organizations and officials outside the continent.

PROGRAMME

Arrival of participants

November 1:

AM

1. Opening Address: ES/DES-ECA
2. Objective of meeting-

Plenary Discussion 1

3. Presentation: Objectives, Strategies and Modalities for Developing Programmes for Young People in Africa- ECA
4. Discussion

Plenary Discussion 2: YOUTH LIVELIHOOD

Presentations

2A: Education

- Basic Education and Life Skills
- Secondary and Higher Education

PM

Presentations

2B: Employment

- Entrepreneurship
- Skill Development

Break-out sessions

Report from Breakout Sessions

November 2:

AM

Plenary Discussion 3: Empowering Young People

Presentations

3A: Youth In Global Development

- MDGs, PRSs, WPAY, NEPAD
- ICT
- Diaspora Remittances and Exchanges

3B: Youth At Risk

- Environment
- Peace and Conflict Resolution
- Urban governance
- Health and HIV/AIDS

Break-out Sessions

Report of Breakout Sessions

PM

Plenary Discussion 3 Empowering Young People (contd)

Presentations:

3C: Youth In Nation Building

- Volunteerism
- African Society- Heritage, Culture and Identity
- Youth and Civil Society Capacity
- National Youth Policies and Programmes

Break-out Sessions

Report of Break-out Sessions

Consolidation of reports from Break-out Groups

November 3

AM

Special Event

**Prelude: Presentation – We have a Dream- UNICEF
Essay Competition Winner**

Symposium: What African Development Means to Youth

(Open to youth organizations and students from tertiary institutions in Addis Ababa, as well as invited participants)

Speakers:

- Youth Representative- North Africa
- Youth Representative- East Africa
- Youth Representative- Southern Africa
- Youth Representative- Central Africa
- Youth Representative- West Africa

Moderator's summary

ADFV Organisation

Presentation- ECA

- Consolidated Report
- Way Forward- ADFV
 - Forum objectives
 - Collaboration and Working groups
 - Discussion and Conclusion

Closing Remarks

Cultural expose by Ethiopian Youth

Dear All,

ADF V review meeting took place yesterday at ESPD Conference room. In view of the management transition ADFV is postponed indefinitely.

Adhoc Experts' Group meeting would be held from November 1 to 3, 2005 in Addis Ababa at the UN Conference Centre.

ADF V identified Partners, and 25 Youth representative will be invited for the Expert's Group meeting.

Find here attached draft of the Outline, for your comments.

My first comments is to request a breakout session focussing on ICT to foster Youth Social Entrepreneurs & Leadership, and use the outcome for GKP/ECA Youth event in Tunis.

Can we have a meeting today Friday at 10.00 am on this? Your comments are expected regarding the Agenda and our involvement in this pre-event.

Almaz can you ensure the meeting room for us?.