

UN hands over RCM-Africa Clusters Work Programme to AUC

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Addis Ababa, 28 June 2012 (ECA) - The United Nations today handed over a joint Work Programme for the implementation of the Ten Year Capacity Building Programme of the AU to the AU Commission.

The report entitled "UN System Support to the African Union Capacity Building Programme: Diagnosis and Work Programme of RCM-Africa Clusters" to the AUC", includes a narrative of the proposed work programme of all the nine UN clusters in the framework of the Regional Coordination Mechanism (RCM) in support of the AU and associated frameworks.



Delivering the opening remarks at the event, Mr. Emmanuel Nnadozie, Director of the Economic Development and NEPAD Division of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), said "this event is important because it marks the end of a major assignment given to the Secretariat by the 11th Session of RCM, namely to develop a comprehensive Work Programme for the of the Ten Year Capacity Building Programme."

In an address at the hand-over ceremony, UN Under-Secretary-General and the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Mr. Abdoulie Janneh said "developing a Work Programme is an important milestone in achieving the objectives set out in the Ten Year Capacity Building Programme. However, having a Work Programme is not an end in itself. The critical next step is for us to work together to ensure the successful implementation of the agreed program activities."

Also speaking at the ceremony, Mr. Erastus Mwencha, Deputy Chairperson of the African Union Commission, thanked the UN system for their important contribution to the elaboration of this report and reminded participants that the report is a demonstration of what real commitment between the two systems can achieve.

He further said "the receipt of this programme of support today is timely because it comes on the eve of the July 2012 Summit, when the Commission will be in a position to submit a report on the progress we have made on the implementation of the Ten Year Capacity Building Programme."

It would be recalled that in November 2006, a Declaration entitled "Enhancing the UN-AU Cooperation: Framework for the 10 Year Capacity Building Programme for the African Union" was signed by the then Secretary General, Mr. Kofi Annan and the then Chairperson of the African Union Commission, Prof. Alpha Konare.

The main purpose of the Declaration was the commitment to support the efforts of the Commission of the African Union to enhance its capacity to deliver on its objectives of peace and security, development and integration.

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