

ECA & OECD Prepare 2008 Mutual Review Report

Addis Ababa , 19 May 2008 (ECA) – Research is now underway for the preparation of the second edition of the *Mutual Review of Development Effectiveness Report (MRDE)* , which will be jointly produced by the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) later this year.

Modalities for the report drafting and finalisation were agreed at the 15-16 May 2008 meeting of the MRDE Technical Team, hosted at ECA headquarters in Addis Ababa by ECA's Governance and Public Administration Division (GPAD). The meeting brought together technical experts from the New Partnership for Africa 's Development (NEPAD) Secretariat, ECA, as well as the OECD's Development Co-operation Directorate and Africa Partnership Forum (APF) Support Unit who will work together on a cross section of issues to produce the report.

The MRDE process is an instrument for monitoring and assessing development progress in Africa relative to the commitments made by African countries and their OECD development partners in support of the objectives of the New Partnership for Africa 's Development (NEPAD). The review is comprehensive, encompassing the full range of NEPAD priorities and programmes, including cross-cutting issues such as gender, capacity development and infrastructure. It focuses on seven thematic issues: (i) Progress towards achievement of the MDGs; (ii) African agricultural performance and trade issues; (iii) Economic and political governance; (iv) Capacity development; (v) Aid flows; (vi) Aid quality; and (vii) Coherence in OECD policies to enable Africa to achieve the MDGs.

The need for mutual accountability in international cooperation for development was first recognized in the 2002 Monterrey Consensus. Its basic premise is that development partners should hold each other accountable for their commitments, responsibilities and performance in their pursuit of common objectives. In 2002, the NEPAD Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee tasked the ECA and OECD with producing a joint review of the commitments made by Africa and her development partners. The first report " [Development Effectiveness in Africa, Promise and performance: Applying mutual accountability](#) " was subsequently finalised and submitted to NEPAD and OECD leaders in 2005.

The MRDE process in general, and the MRDE report in particular, are now important mechanisms for tracking mutual accountability between African countries and development partners. They also provide a valuable basis for G8-Africa dialogue on African development agenda.

The second *Mutual Review Report* is scheduled to be published in the final quarter of 2008.

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