

African Ministers of Finance and Economic Development commit to placing Agriculture at the core of growth policies.

ECA Press Release No. 31/2010

Midrand, 14 April 2010 (ECA) - In the framework of the General Assembly Resolution 57/7, which recommends that NEPAD be the framework within which UN agencies support Africa's development, the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Abdoulie Janneh and the CEO of the NEPAD Agency, Dr. Ibrahim Mayaki, today in Midrand signed a Memorandum of Understanding which strengthens collaboration between the two organizations.

In a remark shortly before the signing, Dr. Mayaki acknowledged ECA's support to NEPAD since the framework was first initiated by African heads of state in 2001. "The support has continued especially in the areas of communications and knowledge management," said Mayaki.

He said ECA was a key actor in the creation of NEPAD and that the Commission had played a crucial role in helping the NEPAD Agency fill its programmatic deficits.

Mayaki said the transformation of NEPAD Secretariat to NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA) had been enhanced through the support of ECA.

"The signing of this memorandum of understanding with the ECA, is, therefore, important objectively and emotionally for the NEPAD Agency," Mayaki said.

The MoU contains seven articles which deal with the modalities of collaboration, representation and implementation, duration, amendments, termination and settlement of disputes.

While stressing that the heads of the two organizations were responsible for the implementation of the MoU and forging closer collaboration, the MoU calls for specially designated "technical coordinators at the senior management level" for the substantive and satisfactory implementation of the memorandum of understanding.

The MoU spells out the broad areas of collaboration between the two organizations, including strategic policy research, resource mobilization, capacity development, integration of NEPAD into national development plans and programmes, process of mutual review of development, consensus building and strengthening of the role of the NEPAD Agency in the RCM.

The two organizations say the MoU is guided by the pursuit of a common African vision, the implementation by both institutions of the African Agenda on the basis of complementarity and the recognition of each institution's comparative advantage in advancing the NEPAD agenda.

Issued by:

ECA Information and Communication Service
P.O. Box 3001
Addis Ababa
Ethiopia

Tel: 251 11 5445098

Fax: +251-11-551 03 65

E-mail: ecainfo@uneca.org

Web: www.uneca.org
