



**UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA**

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Launching of the Common African Position (CAP)

Statement

by

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Her Excellency Ms. Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, my sister,
Commissioner of Economic Affairs, Dr. Anthony Maruping, my brother,
My brother Abdoulaye Dukule,
Members of the Diplomatic corps,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen

Africa's recent socio-economic performance and experience with the MDGs provides useful pointers for how the continent should position itself in the debates that are shaping this agenda. The continent is undoubtedly making substantial progress towards many goals, targets and indicators and has achieved remarkable growth in the past decade.

ECA and the UN family are proud to have worked with the African Union, the African Development Bank and all African stakeholders in bringing this endeavour to support member States in developing an African Common Position (CAP) on the Post 2015 development agenda. The articulation of CAP, under the leadership of President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, is a response to the limited role played by Africa in the formulation of the MDGs which has contributed to weak ownership and slow progress and to the mandate of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Union in July 2010 in Kampala, Uganda, which requested the African Union Commission in collaboration with partners to start reflections on the Post 2015 development agenda.

With the CAP and the six pillars, we would like to see a growth process on the continent that is not only fast paced, but is also inclusive and creates employment and livelihoods opportunities particularly for Africa's youthful population.

At the global level, the UN Secretary-General will present a report at the General Assembly in September of this year, which will mainstream all the global Sustainable Development processes into a single process. The SG's report will mainstream the three dimensions of sustainable development within the UN system ranging from

Climate Change, financing for development, inequalities and poverty, as well as issues of Small Island Developing States (SIDs), Least Developed Countries, etc with Post 2015 being the driving force in this report.

However, we know that weaving together the several strands leading towards an integrated Post 2015 development will be challenging, especially due to the differing timelines of the processes. While the new development agenda as a whole will be adopted in 2015, an incremental approach in producing the inputs to this agenda could be seen as an advantage in trying to achieve such a multifaceted and all-encompassing intergovernmental undertaking. Therefore the CAP that Africa has is one concrete step to also mainstream all the key issues at the global level but with an African perspective addressing all the Sustainable Development Goals. The Sustainable Development Goals are accompanied by targets and will be further elaborated through indicators focused on measurable outcomes. It is important that the African Development Goals are adapted to measure progress on African priorities.

The challenge is for Africa to hold on to the CAP principles and negotiate its priorities for effective implementation of these noble intentions. We must all join the AUC in ensuring that Africa is able to negotiate its CAP priorities successfully and not dilute the principles and objectives of this agenda for other agendas. From now onwards, the main focus should be getting the CAP fully owned by all Africans.

Comme repère à plusieurs reprises par Mme Zuma, cette position commune représente un nouveau désir Africain de bien établir des priorités. Ceci ce fait dans un horizon de court et long termes. Pour l'immédiat, les Africains participeront à la négociation qui s'annonce pour le Post 2015 de bonne foi. Mais Mme Zuma réitère que ce qui ne sera pas adopté universellement l'a déjà été par les Africains. Ils devront donc mettre en place ces politiques de soi-même. Pour le long terme, le cap a été défini dans le cadre de l'agenda 2063. Je voulais assurer a travers vous Mme Zuma que la famille d'Afrique des nations veut contribuer avec vigueur au processus que nous lançons aujourd'hui.

Je vous remercie.