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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

**Fifteenth Meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee
Of Experts for Southern Africa (ICE)**

23-25 June 2009

Lusaka, Zambia

**Proposed Programme Plan for the biennium 2010-2011 for the United Nations Economic
Commission for Africa, Subregional Office-Southern Africa (UNECA-SA)**

(Item 6 of the provisional agenda)

Note by the secretariat

SUMMARY

The overall objective of the UNECA 2010-2011 work programme promoting the Economic and Social Development in Africa is to assist African countries in formulating and implementing policies and programmes that will lead to sustainable economic growth and social development. The 2010-2011 proposed biennial programme of work and priorities continued to reflect UNECA's overarching goal of "harnessing regional resources to meet Africa's development priorities," and aligned to achieve the African Union's strategic vision, namely: (a) promoting regional integration in support of the African Union vision and priorities; and (b) meeting Africa's special needs and emerging global challenges.

These are translated around ten subprogrammes. These are: Trade, finance and economic development; Food security and sustainable development; Governance and public administration; Information and science and technology for development; Economic cooperation and regional integration; Gender and women in development; Subregional activities for development (implemented by the 5 subregional offices); Development planning and administration; Statistics; and Social development.

The Southern Africa component of subregional activities for development is implemented by the UNECA-SA office in Lusaka, Zambia. The UNECA-SA work programme is a translation of the UNECA strategic orientation at the subregional level. The objective of the UNECA-SA 2010-2011 work programme is to strengthen the capacities of member States for regional integration with a particular focus on the specific priorities of the southern African subregion, within the overall framework of NEPAD and the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals.

The 15th ICE meeting is invited to consider and endorse the proposed programme plan of the UNECA-SA. The ECA proposed programme plan including the UNECA-SA programme of work, will be submitted to the UNECA conference of Ministers at its June 2009 session.

The Committee may wish to note that the strategic framework has been reviewed by the UNECA Conference of Ministers in its 2008 session before its submission to the United Nations Headquarters.



I. INTRODUCTION

1. The United Nations Economic Commission for Africa's, Southern Africa (UNECA-SA) programme of work described below is based on programme 14, Economic and social development in Africa, of the biennial programme plan for the period 2010-2011. The mandate for the programme derives from Economic and Social Council resolution 671 A (XXV), by which the Council established the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA). This mandate has been further elaborated in a number of resolutions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council as well as in resolutions 718 (XXVI), 726 (XXVII), 779 (XXIX) and 809 (XXXI) of ECA. Further mandates have emanated from NEPAD and the outcomes and decisions of global conferences, including the 2005 World Summit Outcome.

II Overall orientation of the UNECA 2010-2011 work programme

2. The overall objective of the UNECA 2010-2011 work programme promoting the Economic and Social Development in Africa is to assist African countries in formulating and implementing policies and programmes that will lead to sustainable economic growth and social development. Particular emphasis is placed on poverty reduction, as envisaged in the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) and in the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration and in the outcomes of other major United Nations conferences and international agreements.

3. The 2010-2011 proposed biennial programme of work and priorities continued to reflect UNECA's overarching goal of "harnessing regional resources to meet Africa's development priorities," and aligned to achieve the African Union's strategic vision, namely: (a) promoting regional integration in support of the African Union vision and priorities; and (b) meeting Africa's special needs and emerging global challenges. It also takes into account a number of challenges confronting Africa, foremost of which, is the maintenance of an environment of peace and security, the other major challenges to be addressed include, accelerating the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals; speeding up the pace of regional integration; benefiting from globalization; and strengthening human and institutional capacity. This process is disrupted by recurring natural disasters and the HIV/AIDS pandemic on the continent.

4. Proposals for 2010-2011, also reflects UNECA's commitment to pursuing the implementation of the joint United Nations-African Union Declaration, signed in 2006, that provides a framework for supporting the 10-year capacity-building programme for the African Union and the demands expressed in the multi-year programme (MYP) of cooperation with Regional Economic Communities.

III. Structure and thrust of the UNECA 2010-2011 Work programme

5. To address these challenges, the 2010-2011 biennial programme of work continues to be underpinned by the commitment to make UNECA a knowledge-based organization on the cutting edge of development thinking in the region and a motivating force behind a network of researchers, practitioners and policymakers engaged in the production, sharing and

dissemination of knowledge. Through the implementation of its knowledge management initiative, UNECA has prepared the ground for operating as a knowledge-based organization by acquiring the necessary information management systems and tools and building its human resources capabilities. UNECA will now build on those achievements with a view to providing knowledge services to partners and clients effectively and to fully positioning itself as a centre of excellence on knowledge about African development.

6. UNECA will continue to undertake research and policy analysis to support informed decision-making and policy formulation in the region and assist the process of consensus-building on major international initiatives. To this end, UNECA will seek to strengthen its analytical capacity with a view to deepening its normative work. Demand-driven advisory services will also be used to help improve regional capacity to design and implement development policies.

7. In terms of promoting human development, UNECA will deepen its analytical work on strengthening human capacity for development, the use of science and technology for Africa's development, gender equality and HIV/AIDS, as well as its work on global threats and challenges such as climate change, especially with regard to their socio-economic implications. In addition, UNECA will contribute to efforts aimed at addressing the fragile situation of countries in or emerging from conflict. In dealing with those issues, it will place continued emphasis on addressing the special needs of Africa's least developed, landlocked and island developing countries.

8. UNECA will also continue to support the achievement of cross-cutting outcomes and results throughout its work programme, especially by continuing to mainstream gender concerns across subprogrammes and supporting measures related to improved governance, appreciable post-conflict development and an approach to development that is more focused on human rights.

9. Furthermore, UNECA will provide stronger and more coherent support in connection with the advancement of South-South cooperation as a key instrument for enhancing capital inflows to Africa, a source for technology and skills transfer to the continent, and a way of increasing diversity in opportunities for development cooperation. To that end, the Commission will intensify its analytical work aimed at improving the understanding of new trends in development cooperation and at strengthening programmes for the promotion of trade and investment among developing countries.

10. The translation of these is around ten subprogrammes. These are: Trade, finance and economic development; Food security and sustainable development; Governance and public administration; Information and science and technology for development; Economic cooperation and regional integration; Gender and women in development; Subregional activities for development (implemented by the 5 subregional offices- Central Africa, Eastern Africa, North Africa, Southern Africa and West Africa); Development planning and Administration; Statistics; and Social development.

IV. The UNECA-SA 2010-2011 work programme

11. The responsibility for implementing the Southern Africa component of Subregional activities for development lies with UNECA-SA, located in Lusaka, Zambia.

12. UNECA-SA plans its activities in advance and with the participation of stakeholders, as part of the United Nations General Assembly and ECA Headquarters arrangement. Generally, there are two formal frameworks for programme planning: (a) strategic framework drawn up in the context of the United Nations programme budget preparations, and (b) the biennial work programme defines the development challenges, the expected areas of ECA's intervention, the activities and expected outputs.

13. In accordance with the UNECA programme planning process, the draft strategic framework was reviewed by the UNECA Conference of Ministers of Planning at its meeting of April 2008 before submission to United Nations Headquarters in 2008 for approval. The 2010-2011 strategic framework for the subprogramme sets out the overall orientation and a logical framework outlining, the objectives, expected accomplishments and indicators of achievements for the UNECA-SA work programme. The approved strategic framework along with the Instructions on the preparation of the proposed programme budget formed the basis for the preparation of the 2010-2011 programme of work of the UNECA including that of the UNECA-SA.

Objective: The UNECA-SA work programme is a translation of the UNECA strategic orientation at the subregional level. In this respect, the objective of the UNECA-SA 2010-2011 work programme is to strengthen the capacities of member States for regional integration with a particular focus on the specific priorities of the southern African subregion, within the overall framework of NEPAD and the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals.

Priority areas of focus: To attain this objective, the subprogramme will focus on providing greater technical support to member States and the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) with a view to: (i) improving their capacities for regional integration, particularly in their various areas of priority; (ii) formulating and implementing multi-year collaborative programmes with SADC so as to enable it to implement the NEPAD framework and the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and (iii) building and maintaining knowledge and information networks for harnessing and disseminating best practices to member States and their organizations. In line with the objective and priority areas of focus, the programme's main expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and specific outputs to be delivered by the UNECA-SA office for the biennium 2010-2011 are in accordance with subprogramme 7 of programme 14 of the Strategic Framework for the period 2010-2011 (A/63/6/Rev.1) annexed to this report.

Implementation strategy: The subprogramme will be implemented in accordance with the strategy detailed in the Strategic Framework for the period 2010-2011. The implementation strategy will include capacity-building activities through the provision of advisory services, training workshops and policy studies aimed at addressing development challenges specific to southern Africa. To attain those goals, the subregional office will strengthen partnerships with United Nations agencies and other development partners operating in the subregion so as to increase the effectiveness and impact of UNECA activities in

the subregion. The office will also work closely with other stakeholders, including the private sector and civil society, and with regional intergovernmental organizations, including the African Development Bank (AfDB), the African Union (AU) and the NEPAD secretariat. Associated to these efforts is the continuing emphasis to broaden our outreach and bring as many country and regional participants to our core activities as possible.

Subprogramme 7 of programme 14 of the Strategic Framework for the period 2010-2011 (A/63/6/Rev.1). Subregional activities for development in Southern Africa

The activities under this subprogramme, which have been formulated by drawing upon Component 5 of subprogramme 7 of programme 14 of the biennial programme plan for the period 2010-2011, are under the responsibility of the ECA subregional office–Southern Africa. The Office, which is located in Lusaka, Zambia, covers the following 11 countries: Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe. (programme of work covers these additional countries: DRC, Madagascar, Tanzania, Seychelles)

Objectives for the biennium, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures

Objective of the Organization: To strengthen the capacities of member States for regional integration with particular focus on the specific priorities of the Southern African subregion, within the overall framework of NEPAD and the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals

Expected accomplishment of the Secretariat:

Indicator of achievement:

<p>(a) Enhanced capacity of member States, the Southern African Development Community and other intergovernmental organizations to formulate and implement harmonized macroeconomic and sectoral policies and programmes to address key subregional integration priorities in southern Africa, including infrastructure and services; trade, investment and finance; mining and energy; food security and sustainable development; gender and development; and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals</p>	<p>(a) (i) Increase in the number of common policy frameworks and strategies formulated and adopted in these areas</p> <p><i>Performance measures</i></p> <p>2006-2007: 5 common policy frameworks</p> <p>Estimate 2008-2009: 7 common policy frameworks</p> <p>Target 2010-2011: 10 common policy frameworks</p>
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(ii) Increased number of beneficiaries from training programmes

Performance measures

2006-2007: 50 beneficiaries

Estimate 2008-2009: 75 beneficiaries

Target 2010-2011: 100 beneficiaries

(b) (i) Increased number of programmes and projects

<p>(b) Strengthened capacity of Southern African Development Community to implement multi-year programmes through improved partnerships with key stakeholders including other intergovernmental organisations, United Nations agencies, AfDB, the African Union, and the NEPAD Secretariat</p>	<p>jointly undertaken and completed with respective regional economic communities at the subregional and country levels</p> <p><i>Performance measures</i></p> <p>2006-2007: 2 programmes and projects</p> <p>Estimate 2008-2009: 4 programmes and projects</p> <p>Target 2010-2011: 8 programmes and projects</p>
	<p>(ii) Increased number of projects for which external resources are jointly mobilized with regional economic communities in support of multi-year programmes</p> <p><i>Performance measures</i></p> <p>2006-2007: not available</p> <p>Estimate 2008-2009: 1 projects</p> <p>Target 2010-2011: 4 projects</p>
<p>(c) Strengthened information and knowledge networking with key stakeholders involved in subregional development activities including Governments, Southern African Development Community, the private sector, civil society, and United Nations agencies</p>	<p>(c) Increased number of communities of practice participating in the knowledge-sharing platform hosted by the Subregional Office – Southern Africa</p> <p><i>Performance measures</i></p> <p>2006-2007: not available</p> <p>Estimate 2008-2009: 3 communities of practice</p> <p>Target 2010-2011: 5 communities of practice</p>

External factors

The subprogramme is expected to achieve its objectives and expected accomplishments on the assumption that: (a) member States effectively implement the common policy measures and institutional mechanisms agreed upon; (b) member States fully embrace the guiding principles of NEPAD and the United Nations Millennium Development Goals and translate them into national development programmes; and (c) the regional economic communities are supportive of NEPAD and are willing to strengthen their cooperation with ECA offices in the subregion through the multiyear joint programme.

Outputs

During the biennium 2010-2011, the following final outputs will be delivered:

- (a) **Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies** (regular budget):
 - i. Substantive servicing of meetings: Annual session of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts (8);
 - ii. Parliamentary documentation: Annual report on the work of ECA in Southern Africa, including the status of implementation of the multi-year programme (2); Progress report on the implementation of regional and international agendas, including NEPAD and other special initiatives in the subregion (2); Report on economic and social developments: tracking progress in macroeconomic policy convergence (2);
 - iii. Ad hoc expert groups: A harmonized security framework for mineral products of the SADC region (1); Addressing the challenges of macroeconomic policy convergence in the SADC region (1); Cost benefit analysis of regional integration in Southern Africa (1); New trends in South-South and triangular cooperation: implications for Southern African countries (1);
- (b) **Other substantive activities** (regular budget/extrabudgetary):
 - i. Non-recurrent publications: A harmonised security framework for mineral products of the SADC region (1); Addressing the challenges of macroeconomic policy convergence (1); Cost benefit analysis of regional integration in Southern Africa (1); South-South and triangular cooperation: implications for Southern African countries (1);
 - ii. Booklets, fact sheets, wallcharts, information kits: Major development policy recommendations emanating from research and studies in Southern Africa and on regional integration issues (1);
 - iii. Special events: Forum on the role of private sector in development (1);
 - iv. Technical material: Electronic brief on major activities of the ECA-SA, including ECA technical assistance programme (1); Knowledge Management platform for information development and exchange on economic and social integration issues (1); Observatory on regional integration in Southern Africa (1);
 - v. Substantive servicing of inter-agency meetings: Functional support to the work of the United Nations Country Teams (UNCTs) and other UN inter-agency activities (1);
- (c) **Technical cooperation** (regular budget/extrabudgetary):
 - (i) Advisory services: Advisory service on implementation of activities on the multi-year programme with SADC by providing substantive support in the preparation of the following SADC reports: Annual Economic Report of Southern Africa, Annual Human

Development Report for Southern Africa and Biennial Report on Gender. (3); Advisory service on priority development issues including gender, trade, infrastructure, energy, macroeconomic policy and institutional convergence, social development, and statistical development to strengthen regional integration and implementation of NEPAD in Southern Africa as well as capacity building activities (4);

- (ii) Training courses, seminars and workshops: Seminar on enhancing the effectiveness of food security information systems in Southern Africa (1); Seminar on harmonization of free trade areas in COMESA, EAC and SADC (1); Workshop on strategy for promoting non-renewable energy in the SADC region (1); Workshop on the implications of regional integration on Human Development in Southern Africa (1);
- (iii) Field projects: Institutional support to SADC and COMESA (1); Subregional project on the implementation of the e-SADC initiative (1).