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**REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE
ON HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND CIVIL SOCIETY (CHDCS)**

Addis Ababa, 26-27 May 2003

INTRODUCTION

1. The second meeting of the ECA Committee on Human Development and Civil Society (CHDCS), which was established in 1997 by the Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Economic and Social Development, was held in the United Nations Conference Centre in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 26 to 27 May 2003. This Committee is both a technical body and legislative organ drawn from governments, private sector, and civil society groups. It provides a forum for deepening policy dialogue and interface among the three. The two-day meeting was organized by the UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and the theme was “Participation and Partnership in Africa’s Development.” UNAIDS collaborated with the ECA in this meeting.

2. The objectives of the second meeting of the CHDCS were as follows:

- Review best practices in promoting people’s rights to participate in the development and governance process, and define measures to enhance people’s rights to participate in development and governance.
- Examine current practices in promoting participation and partnership in the endorsement of ethical values and accountability in the public services and the special development requirements of countries emerging from conflicts. Make recommendations on how to harness private sector and CSOs capacities to complement government’s efforts towards addressing them.
- Review and examine the engagement of civil society, especially People Living With HIV/AIDS (PLWAs), religious leaders and the private sector in the fight against HIV/AIDS; addressing HIV/AIDS agriculture and food security and HIV/AIDS, the uniformed services, security and stability.

Participation

3. The meeting was attended by representatives of the following member States of the Commission: Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Egypt, Ethiopia, The Gambia, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Senegal, Sudan, Uganda, and Zimbabwe.

4. The following civil society organizations, private sector representatives and religious organizations also participated in the meeting: Action Aid; African Forum and Network on Debt and Development (AFRODAD); African Training and Research Centre in Administration for Development (CAFRAD); African Women’s Development and Communications Network (FEMNET); The Mozambican Business Association Against AIDS; Christian Relief and Development Association (CRDA); The Ethiopian Orthodox Church; “Comité de coordination des actions des ONG (CCA-ONG)”; “Comité national islamique de la lutte contre SIDA”; Ethiopian Civil Service College; Federal Civil Service Commission of Ethiopia; International Council for Social Welfare; International Council of AIDS Services Organizations (ICASO) – Senegal; Libyan Mothers Association; National Archive and Library of Ethiopia; Network of African People Living With HIV/AIDS (NAP+); Partnership Africa Canada; Southern Africa Network of AIDS Service Organisations (SANASO); and Southern African Media Development Fund (SAMDEF).

5. Representatives of the following United Nations agencies participated in the meeting: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), and United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

Statement by Outgoing Chairperson

6. The Third Vice-Chairperson, Mr. Simpure, thanked the Committee for the honor and trust they had placed in him during his tenure as Chairperson. He gave an account of the steps forward during the inter-sessional period, highlighting strategies for improving the Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action of Social Development, the opening of the African Centre for Civil Society (ACCS), and the progress of the Arusha Declaration on Popular Participation. He reminded the Committee of the importance of partnerships, and urged ongoing discussions with ECA and other relevant UN bodies to devise strategies for effective stakeholder participation. (See Annex I).

Opening Address

7. Ms. Lalla Ben Barka, Deputy Executive Secretary of ECA, welcomed all the participants and thanked His Excellency Mr. Hassen Abdella, Minister of Labour and Social Affairs of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and UNAIDS for their participation. She also expressed deep appreciation for the Government's hospitality to the participants. Ms. Ben Barka emphasized that the primary objective of the meeting was to enhance dialogue on key issues aimed at participation of stakeholders in addressing some of the human development and governance challenges of Africa. She mentioned that special attention will be given to actions required to strengthen the responses of government on issues related to human rights and development; the promotion of ethical values and accountability in the public services; multi-sectoral responses to HIV/AIDS; and the special development requirements for countries emerging from conflict.

8. The Deputy Executive Secretary placed the responsibility for the development of the African continent squarely with the African countries themselves. With the current pace of population growth, Africa must achieve a sustained rate of economic growth of 7 per cent per year in order to reduce poverty in half by the year 2005, in accordance with the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). She relayed that Africa's problems can be traced to the continent's policy weaknesses, adverse economic developments, and political uncertainties. As such, Africa must continue to take firm and consistent policy actions to address the root causes of its problems, and spur additional domestic and foreign investment. The Deputy Executive Secretary outlined five priority development policies for African countries which were as follows: sustained and deepened macroeconomic policy stances, concerted efforts to end pervasive social strife, good governance, investment in human capacity, and development of vibrant civil society and private sectors as engines of growth and development.

9. The Deputy Executive Secretary stressed that new partnerships should reflect a consensus among major partners in the development of the continent. She also noted that partnerships and participation are central to the United Nations Millennium Development Goals, and also important pillars in the New Partnership For Africa's Development (NEPAD). She also underlined that

partnerships should be broader and go beyond relationships between political elites to include a broader set of African stakeholders. The scope of development challenges today are beyond the capacity of governments alone, and solutions will require the mobilization of all talents and resources that stakeholders have. The Deputy Executive Secretary concluded by wishing every success to the meeting. (See Annex II).

10. His Excellency, Mr. Hassen Abdella, welcomed everyone to Addis Ababa and offered appreciation for the Committee's work. He observed that there is now a stronger will and determination to extricate the continent from the malaise of underdevelopment and exclusion from a globalized world. He mentioned that the transformation of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) into the African Union, and the launching of NEPAD have come at the right time in history. He praised the Committee's intent to look at best practices in promoting people's rights to participate in development within the framework of NEPAD.

11. The Minister stressed that citizens at all levels should take part in the day-to-day running of national affairs. Maintaining the principles of good governance will be fruitful in realizing new and constructive visions of the continent. He added that while countries are working hard to forge continental unity, they should also be improving their situations at home regarding reinforcing democratic institutions and ensuring greater participation. The Minister concluded by saying that in Ethiopia, the Government is committed to creating an environment for sustainable peace and stability, democratic governance, and rapid economic development. He was pleased to end by saying that accountability towards citizens has been increased through greater transparency and communication initiatives.

Organizational Matters

12. The Committee elected the following Bureau:

Chairperson: Government of Zimbabwe, Southern Africa
First Vice-Chairperson: NGO representative from Mali, Western Africa
Second Vice-Chairperson: Private Sector Representative from Ethiopia, Eastern Africa
Third Vice-Chairperson: (country to be determined), Central Africa
Rapporteur: NGO representative from Morocco, Northern Africa

13. The meeting adopted the Programme of Work and Agenda with no alterations (See Annex III)

PROCEEDINGS

14. Assuming the new Chair, His Excellency Mr. July Moyo, Minister of Public Service, Labour and Social Affairs (Zimbabwe) introduced himself and started the session.

Plenary 1: Promoting People's Rights to Participate in Development

15. **The Secretariat presented document ECA/DMD/CHDCS/02/2 entitled "Human Rights and Development".**

16. It was stressed that policies and institutions for poverty reduction should be based on the cooperation and involvement of all people. As part of an effective development framework, popular participation provides the driving force for collective commitment, which is necessary for the successful outcome of any activities undertaken. As an end in itself, participation allows citizens a voice to fully engage in debates about decisions that will affect their lives.

17. The norms and values enshrined in the participatory development approach have the potential to empower the poor, minorities, women, and other disadvantaged groups; and it is widely recognized by a growing number of institutions that effective poverty reduction is not possible without broader societal participation and direct involvement in developmental initiatives. This is reflected in ECA's *Economic Report 2002 (ERA)*, the *African Charter for Popular Participation in Development and Transformation* (Arusha 1990), and the *UNDP Human Development Report 2002*.

18. The most fundamental way in which participation occurs is through the formulation, implementation and monitoring of policies. The decision-making roles of citizens, communities, and civil society groups are key for ensuring better self-help, welfare, humanitarian, and development outcomes. The effective participation of different actors requires more than a functioning democracy. It calls for the establishment of mechanisms to allow citizens and non-state actors to overcome the obstacles they face in playing effective roles in development.

19. The secretariat ended the presentation by emphasizing the importance of the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) of participatory activities. If the objective of a project is to encourage ownership and responsibility, it is important to monitor how people's participation in the project evolves over time from an initial passive involvement to eventual active participation, increased responsibility and ownership. The M&E process was outlined, which is based on both quantitative and qualitative indicators of participation, and suggestions were made for mainstreaming participatory approaches in development.

20. The secretariat presented document ECA/DMD/CHDCS/02/3 entitled "Ethics and Accountability for Enhanced Public Service Delivery in Africa".

21. Throughout much of Africa, there is widespread awareness that enhanced public service delivery is the hallmark of responsive governance, and there is with recognition that the values of ethics and accountability are linked directly to the level and quality of services. However, public services in Africa suffer from a serious deficit of ethical norms and values. There is a lack of firm political commitment by African governments to institutionalize public services that are dedicated to the highest standards of ethical conduct; and as a result, there has been declining performance and lack of professionalism, poor working conditions, miserable pay, and disregard for accountability by managers and civil servants.

22. Over the past two decades, many African countries have taken measures to remedy these problems, yet the outcomes and impacts need to reach further. The driving forces behind these attempts include democratic changes, the emergence of an active civil society culture, and the competitive force of the private sector.

23. The secretariat concluded by stressing that policies and strategies to promote ethical behavior and accountability in public services should include the creation of an enabling environment to enhance professional and ethical standards, the institutionalization of professional and merit-based

public services career systems, decentralization, the incorporation of ethics and civic education as part of civil service training and formal education curricula.

24. Ms. Momvuyo Mncina, a youth representative from Swaziland, stated that for young people to view the world as their oyster, and particularly for young women to understand their roles in shaping the future, they must get involved in practical day-to-day matters. She stressed that economic problems have a human face, and that development is not all about statistics. She urged the Committee to think and act in a manner that expresses appreciation for human life, and emphasized that it is incumbent upon all Africans to intervene and fight for the disadvantaged, and strive to lift the standards of living of all African people. The African citizen of tomorrow, she said, takes an interest beyond her own country and in the entire continent. She urged all African people to realize how important an asset they are, and to value their potential as change agents because the African era has arrived.

25. The discussant from the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), Mr. Ibrahim Wani, underscored that policies and institutions should be based explicitly on the norms and values set forth in International Human Rights Law, with particular emphasis on accountability, non-discrimination and equality and the right to participate in public affairs. He remarked that it is not the value of participation that is questioned, but rather the best mode of implementation. Frameworks for participation have been unsuccessful in the past, which explains the demand for change in how participation is actualized.

26. The discussant stated that, in the past, outsiders have often dictated the modalities of participation and also that the focus has tended to be on macroeconomic statistics and not on people. As a result, priorities have been misguided and have not been representative of the will of the people. On this note, the discussant ended by reminding all national and international development stakeholders that participation is clearly a priority and that, as development players, we need to examine the opportunities being extended for enhanced participation in development dialogues, agenda setting, and monitoring of results.

27. It was reinforced that the notion of partnership goes beyond that of participation because partnerships imply sharing responsibility and ownership. A concrete suggestion was made for governments to involve their citizens in formulating a national vision for their countries. This vision should then be translated into a concrete plan of action. The publication of national plans would increase transparency and also allow for citizens to monitor and evaluate government performance. It was also suggested that the national plans could also be linked to the continent-wide development strategy, NEPAD.

28. The Committee noted that both education and the process of conscientization are critical for effective participation. It was reinforced also that the process of participating has an inherent value and is part of the awareness building itself.

29. Macroeconomic policies and the collection of statistical data should not be undervalued if Africa is to become a serious player in the global economy. Participation in world trade needs to become a critical area of emphasis in order to alleviate poverty. It was agreed that social, economic, and cultural rights in Africa are just as important as civil and political rights.

Plenary 2: Participation and Partnership in Development: Practices in Selected Areas

30. **The secretariat presented document ECA/DMD/CHDCS/02/2 entitled “Countries Emerging from Conflict: Lessons on Partnership in Post-Conflict Reconstruction, Rehabilitation and Reintegration”.**

31. The presentation examined the important role that government, private sector, the international community and civil society play in rebuilding countries emerging from conflict in Africa. Nearly half of all African countries have experienced some type of conflict since the end of the Cold War. Contrary to the global trend, the incidence of conflict in Africa has been on the rise over the last ten years. Most of the nations that have been subjected to violence are also low-income, suggesting that there is an evident link between poverty and conflict. It was also underscored that most civil wars in Africa are the consequence of failed governance institutions incapable of equitably managing the political and economic processes, and thereby leading to conflict situations.

32. The enormous social, political and economic development challenges that Africa lacks must be addressed if post-conflict countries are to move forward and prevent further violence. However, addressing these development challenges are beyond the abilities and capacities of any single entity. Partnerships between the state, private sector, the international community and civil society must be predicated on identifying post-conflict development challenges and priorities, sorting out respective comparative advantages and synergizing them, and staking out mutual responsibilities geared toward complementing government efforts.

33. It was stated that unfortunately post-conflict reconstruction in Africa has hitherto been pursued on a fragmented ad-hoc basis. Effective partnerships have been the exception rather than the rule. Approaches remain uncoordinated and duplicative, thus denying opportunities for strategic partnerships between government, private sector, international donors and civil society. As a result, reconstruction efforts have generally failed to prevent the resurgence of conflict across many of the affected regions. The Secretariat ended the presentation by stressing that, given the magnitude of the reconstruction efforts, partnerships must be at the center of post-conflict reconstruction. Stakeholders must combine their limited resources for maximum attainment of successful sustainable development outcomes.

34. The short discussion that followed centered on two points. First, attention was drawn to the fact that many conflicts in Africa are the result of poor leadership. Preventative actions such as mediation and negotiation can play an important role in diminishing the severity of outbreaks. Secondly, it was noted that it is also key to look at the role of poverty as a cause of violence. Many conflicts are only partially solved, and indeed re-emerge, because economic factors are overlooked.

35. There is also a critical need to look at the environmental consequences of conflict, i.e. the movement of internally displaced people (IDPs), and the resulting contamination of natural resources and the destruction of habitats. Post-conflict reconstruction should also include the restoration of environments that have been destroyed during conflict.

36. UNAIDS presented document ECA/DMD/CHDCS/03/1 entitled “Implementing the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS”.

37. The representative from UNAIDS began the presentation by informing the Committee that there are currently 42 million adults and children living with HIV/AIDS in Sub-Saharan Africa, and also that 5 million new infections have been recorded in the past year. Prevention remains the key strategy in the fight against HIV/AIDS. To enable communities to bolster their responses, effective leadership must be cultivated, resources should be increased, stigma and discrimination must be tackled, health systems should be strengthened, and community involvement should be encouraged as well as the empowerment of women.

38. There is greater global awareness now about HIV/AIDS due to education and media coverage. Further, resources for the epidemic increased by 50 per cent in 2002 and are expected to continue to grow well into 2005. There are also more than 100 members in the Global Business Coalition which targets responses in the workplace, and there are also promising regional partnerships. At the national level, however, even though resources are increasing, they are still inadequate. Most African countries have National Strategic Plans in place however, for most, there are serious shortcomings. For example, clear targets for youth are often missing and there are few measures proposed for enforcing existing legislature to protect the rights of People Living With HIV/AIDS (PLWAs). Further, half of all National HIV/AIDS strategies lack a national orphan strategy.

39. To be more effective, approaches must be tailored for specific sectors and groups and supported by a wide range of players. The UNAIDS Declaration of Commitment prescribes a process whereby a range of policies will be enacted by 2003 in order to develop or expand programs necessary to achieve impact targets for 2005 and 2010. The three critical sub-groups include People Living With HIV/AIDS (PLWAs), Faith-Based Organizations, and Business Organizations. One of the sectors that deserves special attention is agriculture, due principally to the disproportionate effect HIV/AIDS has on this sector because of the highly labour intensive work and the large numbers of mobile or migratory workers. The other sector identified as warranting special attention was the security and stability sector.

40. The Representative from UNAIDS concluded that the paper presented aims to stimulate discussions that will lead to the identification of key factors that will energize national responses and facilitate the full and timely implementation of the Declaration of Commitment that will be debated in the UN General Assembly on 22 September 2003.

41. In the discussion that followed, it was underscored that, for some years now, there has been a fair degree of multi-sectoral involvement in national responses to HIV/AIDS. Many African governments have accepted that indeed that they cannot tackle the epidemic single-handedly, and have openly encouraged partnerships with NGOs and community-based organizations. However, the impact of these partnerships have been less than optimal due to a lack of coordination. Clarity of roles and responsibilities of the different actors, and legal frameworks need to be addressed. It is also important to recognize the critical role of central governments in leading and coordinating the national response. All actors must participate within a commonly agreed upon national strategic framework and plan.

42. It was underscored that civil society has historically been the change agent in societies, and has often been successful in shaping public policy and influencing decision makers. It is therefore important that civil society sustains its current role and remains at the forefront of the drive for adequate responses towards the fight against HIV/AIDS. Awareness about the modes of HIV transmission are still low in Africa, hence civil society should play an effective role in assisting with prevention and awareness campaigns, especially for the youth and families.

43. It was agreed that religious leaders are often not sufficiently involved. However, because contracting HIV is inextricably linked to behavior, religious institutions should play a powerful role as advocates for behavioral change. The Committee concurred that there needs to be greater support to PLWAs in terms of their living conditions, and the fight against stigmatization must continue through continued and strengthened awareness programs.

44. The Committee noted that there are still far too many bottlenecks in processing funding for HIV/AIDS programmes at the local level, therefore communities should be involved in devising strategies that allow for timelier mobilization of resources. The Committee also agreed that the notion of a lack of absorptive capacity at the local level is often false. The problems are more related to the failure of management mechanisms.

45. It was highlighted that in a recent World Bank study, local/traditional African medicines had been discovered that prevent the development of the HIV virus and also increase a patient's appetite. It was noted that there are also similar traditional practices and methods from the East that bolster the immune system. The Committee agreed that further study into non-Western practices and resources is vital to mounting an effective response.

46. Finally, the Committee reiterated that because of the widespread and multi-sectoral impact of the epidemic, the responses must be comprised of similar partnerships. The Committee also emphasized the evident link between HIV, the loss of knowledge of the land, and the rapidly deteriorating agricultural sector. The connection between conflict and increased HIV prevalence was also acknowledged.

Working Groups

47. Two working groups were formed to discuss the issues and make recommendations for review and adoption in the plenary. The two groups were divided according to the following themes:

- **Group A:** Participatory approaches to promoting transparency and accountability in public sector management.
- **Group B:** HIV/AIDS and the right of people to participate in policymaking; building partnerships around HIV/AIDS in rebuilding post-conflict societies.

Session A - Participatory approaches to promoting transparency and accountability in public service management

48. The secretariat welcomed the group and started the proceedings for the election of the Chairperson and the Rapporteur. A representative of the Board of Trustees for FEMNET was elected as Chairperson, and a representative from AFRODAD (Zimbabwe) was elected as the Rapporteur.

49. Before opening the floor, the Chairperson drew the attention of the participants to the fact that the discussion should center on specific actions and implementable programs. The discussions were based on the following issues:

50. Actions on the role of the private sector and civil society in ensuring that transparency, ethics and accountability prevail:

- Close cooperation between the three stakeholders be fostered based on a code of conduct. Monitoring committees, involving all stakeholders, should be established to promote ethics and accountability.
- The private sector and civil society are not homogenous entities. Both need to be examined closely to reveal their respective compositions. The private sector may constitute different types of corporate entities from small-scale entrepreneurs to conglomerates or multinationals. Civil society should be classified in terms of interest groups, such as women's groups, youth groups and professional associations. Separate strategies should be considered for each entity to promote ethics, transparency and accountability.
- Civil society has a role to play in providing civic education. There are examples that can serve as models of methods for integrating civil society into policymaking.
- Civil Society groups should also translate relevant international rights agreements and administrative documents or procedures in a manner that the wider public can understand. They should also be disseminated widely, and forums established to train people about their rights and obligations.
- Beyond educating people about their rights, civil society and public sector groups need to ensure that existing institutions will reliably address and redress citizen's grievances and are also efficient.
- It is the responsibility of the media to be raise awareness, report in a responsible manner and follow up on the reporting of the state constructively. Mechanisms should be established to monitor the professionalism and objectiveness of the media, perhaps through codes of conduct. Journalists should be trained in professional reporting skills. In cases of corruption, the media should focus on investigating cases of large-scale, high-level corruption, rather than the petty bribery of civil servants by average citizens.

51. Actions on concrete steps that need to be taken to improve public sector management:

- Serious capacity gaps must be recognized and addressed. Governance deficits may not be for lack of reforms but the inability to implement them.
- More channels of dialogue must be created between users of services and providers of services.
- Performance evaluation systems are critical. The public sector must be vigilant about evaluating its mandate to deliver efficient services. Accountability frameworks must include penalties and rewards. Mechanisms to sanction malpractices, such as acceptance of bribes, must be put in place and enforced.
- Improved incentive structures are needed, including better pay and working conditions, to dissuade rent-seeking behaviors.
- Parliaments should be instrumental in providing all-party hearings to ensure that government bodies are held accountable.
- More National Development Plans, similar to Botswana, with strategic targets and measures should be implemented. Stakeholder consultation should be encouraged to assess public sector progress, and the use of the media should be encouraged to play a role in publicizing and also subsequently monitoring government progress.

52. Actions about the link between good governance and people's rights to access quality public services:

- NEPAD should be followed rigorously as the framework for action.
- Civil servants should be made aware that there is a fundamental link between the larger framework of good governance and their individual conduct. They should operate and function in a manner consistent with the principles of accountability, transparency, respect for the rule of law and other democratic values.
- Access to quality services will improve if the public is informed about the availability of facilities, and how they can benefit from such services. Genuine access must be viewed in terms of cost and proximity to users.

53. Actions on the role of government in creating the enabling environment for effective participation by all stakeholders:

- Governments should demonstrate political will and a true leadership commitment to the democratic principles of transparency and accountability. They should allow the opposition political space and ensure that regular free and fair elections take place. They should also genuinely embrace civil society dialogue.

- Governments should permit independent voices to operate. Private media must be given the freedom to flourish without censorship. Similarly, a credible and independent judiciary system must be allowed to function unimpeded by interference. Governments should also permit anti-corruption bodies to exist and operate openly.
- Governments should embrace a bottom-up approach to surveys and national development planning, and include civil society members in the budgetary process.
- In this era of market liberalization, it is government's responsibility to identify and target the most disadvantaged members of society. Attention should be given to special assistance and employment programs.
- Governments should support broad-based commissions and committees that involve all spectrums of society as an effective strategy for constructive dialogue. The structure of these institutions should include mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation at the national, regional and international levels.

Session B - HIV/AIDS and the right of people to participate in policy making, and building partnerships around HIV/AIDS in rebuilding post-conflict societies

54. The session began with the election of a representative of the private sector as Chairperson and a representative of civil society as Rapporteur. Participants examined the contributions of the following stakeholders towards achieving the targets agreed in the Declaration of Commitment adopted at the 2001 UN General Assembly Special Session on HIV/AIDS (UNGASS):

- Civil Society
- People Living With HIV/AIDS (PLWAs)
- Faith Community
- Private Sector
- Governments

55. Civil Society

- To create and sustain partnerships, civil society must be engaged from the beginning at every level of policy, planning, oversight and implementation of HIV/AIDS programmes. An enabling environment must be created for full and active civil society participation, and genuine partnerships between government and civil society should be deemed as fundamental for a successful response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic in Africa.
- Civil society must recognize government's leading role in mobilizing the national response to the disease. A clear definition of the roles and responsibilities of stakeholders must be agreed and mechanisms of accountability established. Government has a role to play in supporting civil society through capacity-building and the creation of a legal framework to enable CBOs and NGOs to function effectively.

- Both government and civil society must be open to constructive criticism and accept that a certain degree of tension is inherent in the partnership, but can be healthy if properly managed.
 - The media is a key partner for both government and civil society in disseminating educational messages, and in keeping the public informed about relevant issues and developments. Traditional leaders and community support mechanisms have a vital role to play in national HIV/AIDS strategies. Academic and research institutions are often under-utilized in the policy-making process, and should be more involved in national HIV/AIDS strategies.
 - Youth are at great risk of infection and therefore play a critical role as advocates and agents of prevention. The youth are often excluded from policy-making bodies, therefore government and civil society must adopt specific measures to engage and take into account their particular needs as well as contributions.
56. The effectiveness of civil society is constrained by a number of factors, including:
- shortage of resources
 - mistrust between government and civil society
 - insufficient coherence within civil society
 - lack of accountability
 - limited capacity
 - unfamiliarity with the targets and commitments set at UNGASS
 - lack of transparency by government, donors and NGOs.
57. **People Living With HIV/AIDS (PLWAs)**
- Harnessing the energy and commitment of PLWAs is critical to the success of national HIV/AIDS strategies, however stigma and discrimination are still major obstacles to their meaningful participation.
 - Dispelling the myths and fears that fuel stigma is a key objective of PLWA advocacy. PLWAs are organizing throughout Africa at every level to provide mutual support, protect human rights, and effectively challenge negative stereotypes. However, this effort has been weakened by the unwillingness of some HIV-positive, political, civic and religious leaders to speak out publicly to dispel the notion that HIV only affects marginalized communities.
 - Despite progress in some countries, open discussions about HIV/AIDS and PLWAs remain taboo. It is necessary to put a human face on the disease and create the conditions for open discussion at every level and by every sector of society. There remains a need in many countries for legislation that explicitly protects the human rights of PLWAs, and for the aggressive and consistent enforcement of existing laws in many others. Government and civil society need to make greater efforts at including the particular needs of PLWAs when devising national plans.

- Mass movements of people due to conflict, poverty and natural disaster should be averted, as such movements greatly increase the risk of infection.
- Women are at particular risk of infection and comprise over half of new infections in Africa. Empowering women to be in control of their own sexuality and exercise full economic and social rights is critical for mitigating the impact of national HIV/AIDS responses. Women's basic needs must be met, and access to prevention methods, care and treatment, should be ensured. More effective responses to the mounting crisis of AIDS orphans must be urgently developed, and also an emphasis should be on keeping children with their families and communities to the greatest extent possible.
- It was reported that approximately 60,000 of the estimated 30 million HIV-positive people in sub-Saharan Africa have access to life-prolonging anti-retroviral (ARV) medications. International resources for global education, prevention and treatment programmes, while rising, remain far short of the \$10 billion required. Further, the Global Fund for AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, will soon exhaust its financial resources and there is no sign of any significant additional support. As such, the meeting noted that an international appeal for further assistance, specifically for Africa, was necessary.
- Home treatment was noted to be an important aspect of care and treatment, as high infection rates and limited health infrastructure has left many hospitals and clinics severely overcrowded.

58. Faith Community

- Representatives of both Christian and Muslim institutions underscored the importance of the faith community in national HIV/AIDS programmes. They noted that religious institutions exist in areas where government have little presence and also, through advocacy, religious institutions have the ability to reach tens of millions of people. Their reach, and moral and spiritual authority and guidance, puts the faith community in a unique position to confront stigma and discrimination and cultural practices that contribute to the spread of HIV e.g. spouse inheritance.
- HIV/AIDS programmes are designed and implemented within the framework of each faith's spiritual, moral and theological values. Some emphasized abstinence and fidelity. Others emphasized that condom use within marriage, and also compassion towards the affected and infected is important.
- During the discussion period, it emerged that initial responses to the disease were influenced by public perceptions that the infection was the result of sinful and immoral practices. With greater awareness, however, many faith communities have expanded HIV/AIDS programmes, trained local leaders, spoken out more forcefully against stigma and discrimination, and incorporated education and prevention messages in regular worship services. While the faith community's response to HIV/AIDS is still evolving, and greater efforts are needed, the Committee acknowledged that considerable efforts have been made towards engaging the faith community as a full partner in national programmes.

59. Private Sector

- Awareness of the threat of HIV/AIDS to economic development was high among private sector leaders. Owners and managers of small and medium-sized businesses have begun to realize that AIDS threatens their single greatest asset and comparative advantage i.e. skilled labour force. It was reported that a study had found that, in comparison to settled workers, the risk of infection increases by 50 per cent amongst the migratory labour force.
- Smaller businesses lack the capacity to finance and implement comprehensive workplace programmes, including access to anti-retroviral drugs (ARVs). However, such companies should focus on cost-effective prevention programmes and should consider the provision of ARVs on a case-by-case basis.
- Businesses should continue to reach beyond the work place to workers' families and communities to strengthen and expand the effectiveness of prevention and education programmes.
- Government should encourage greater private sector involvement through incentive schemes such as tax breaks for HIV/AIDS programmes, and by promoting partnerships between business and international donors and NGOs.

60. Governments

- The Zimbabwean representative provided a detailed account of his government's response to the pandemic. In the area of finance, the government has mobilized greater domestic resources through a tax dedicated specifically to combat HIV/AIDS.
- The Zimbabwean Government has also developed a fully integrated administrative response stretching vertically from the Ward level to Cabinet level. A Social Services Action Committee has been established, chaired by a Minister and comprising of social welfare agencies and the Head of the National HIV/AIDS Committee. The Committee meets weekly to address problems and monitor progress at local level and also to facilitate inter-sectoral action toward combating HIV/AIDS. The results of the meetings are regularly reported to Cabinet.
- Implementations of programmes at the local level are assessed by regular site monitoring, and ensuring effective oversight at all levels of government. The government has further empowered local government by requiring donors and NGOs to channel resources for projects through district governments instead of national ministries.
- Tripartite forums have been created for the country's principal economic stakeholders i.e. labour, business and government. HIV/AIDS remains a critical priority area, however these forums also operate in another 48 sectors dealing with a range of economic and social development issues. The Forum reports back to the National Tripartite Body and there are also regular meetings with the UNDP Resident Coordinator and donors. The coordination of UN efforts through the UN Development Assistance Framework is

viewed as a key priority. HIV/AIDS is now fully integrated into the government development framework, which includes programmes aimed at achieving the MDGs, as well as the objectives of NEPAD and the PRSPs.

- The Committee observed that HIV/AIDS is a cross-border issue and must engage sub-regional organizations like the East African Intergovernmental Authority on Development or the Southern African Development Community (SADC). Programmes to combat HIV/AIDS should be reflected in national and regional development plans.

61. **Special Request:** An NGO representative from Libya made a special request to address the Committee. She thanked the Committee for the invitation and expressed gratitude for the able leadership of the UN Secretary-General and the strong commitment shown toward empowering women throughout the system. She noted the betterment of women in her country, who have increasing access to opportunities and offered further ideas for promoting women in development with emphasis on income-generating activities and other poverty reduction strategies.

ANNEX I

Statement by Outgoing Chairperson

I would like to express warm greetings to all of you on the occasion of the Second Meeting of the ECA Committee on Human Development and Civil Society. As I step down, I would like to thank you all for the honor to my country and the trust you have placed in me during my tenure as Chairperson. Chairing this Committee on Human Development and Civil Society (CHDCS) has been one of the greatest privileges of my career.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to do two things. Firstly, to give you an account of my stewardship during the inter-sessional period and secondly, to share a few valedictory reflections.

The present Bureau has served since 1999 and comprises representatives from government, civil society organizations, and the private sector. I am deeply grateful to all the members of the team and to the colleagues who assisted them. The theme of the meeting in 1999 “Popular Participation of Sustainable Social and Human Development” was intended to raise fundamental issues and challenges facing Africa. Special attention was paid to poverty eradication and the need to integrate the services of the public sector, the private sector and civil society organizations through the creation of solid partnerships in development.

During our sessions, reference was made to strategies for improving the Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action for Social Development. The Committee also discussed the opening of the African Centre for Civil Society (ACCS) which was established in 1997 so as to enhance the legitimacy and acceptance of civil society and create an enabling and facilitating environment for their work.

Our Committee has been active in many other ways including formulating policy recommendations and monitoring the progress of the Arusha Declaration on Popular Participation. We have also provided guidance to the work of ECA by suggesting future directions of ESPD/DMD’s programme of work and priorities.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The theme of today’s meeting “Participation and Partnership in Africa’s development” is designed to encourage dialogue on key issues aimed at enhancing stakeholders participation in addressing some of the human development and governance challenges in Africa. The objective is to review best practices in promoting people’s rights to participate in development; to examine current practices in promoting participation and partnerships in the promotion of ethical values and accountability in the public services; to review the special development requirements of countries emerging from conflicts, and to make special recommendations on how to harness the capacities of the private sector and CSOs to complement the efforts of governments toward addressing them; and to review and examine the engagement of civil society in the fight against the HIV/AIDS pandemic, especially people living with HIV/AIDS.

As a Bureau, we must all stand firmly on the principles of participation and partnerships as key pillars for addressing the development challenges in Africa. During the next inter-sessional period we must try to promote civic education as a vital tool in empowering citizens to participate and also assist in developing a strategy to promote awareness about the importance of participation and partnership in Africa’s development. The Bureau should also facilitate sub-regional meetings to deepen discussions, seek to work closely with relevant UN bodies/agencies, and collaborate with other technical committees under the auspices of the ECA to devise strategies for effective stakeholder participation.

We look forward to a significant reporting of progress during the next inter-sessional period. As I hand over to my successor, I would like to wish the Committee well as they continue their valuable work.

I thank you.

ANNEX II

Opening Address by Ms Lalla Ben Barka Deputy Executive Secretary

Mr. Chairman,
Excellency Mr. Hassen Abdella, Minister of Labour and Social Affairs,
Distinguished Representatives of Governments, the Private Sector and Civil Society,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), let me warmly welcome you all to Addis Ababa for this Meeting of the Committee on Human Development and Civil Society. Let me also welcome UNAIDS and congratulate them for their major contribution to our meeting.

The primary objective of this meeting is to enhance dialogue on key issues aimed at the participation of stakeholders in addressing some of the human development and governance challenges of Africa. Special attention will be paid to actions required to strengthen the responses of governments on issues related to human rights and development; the promotion of ethical values and accountability in the public services; the importance of effective multi-sectoral and multi-dimensional responses to HIV/AIDS; and the special development requirements for countries emerging from conflicts.

Our meeting is indeed timely, taking place when Africans are taking leadership for the political, economic and social revival of their continent.

Mr. Chairman,

It goes without saying that the principal responsibility for the development of the African continent rests squarely with the African countries themselves. Despite the encouraging signs of economic recovery in recent years, growth rates are still not sufficiently strong to reduce poverty. With the current pace of population growth, Africa would have to achieve a sustained rate of economic growth of 7 percent per year in order to arrest and, hopefully, reverse the spread of poverty. The origin of Africa's economic problems and a major factor explaining the fragility of its current recovery can be traced to the continent's policy weaknesses, adverse economic developments (both domestic and foreign), and political uncertainties. Consequently, if Africa is to restore lasting stability, reinforce growth and sustain confidence in the continent's ability to take its rightful place in the global economy, it must continue to take firm and consistent policy actions to address the root causes of its problems and spur additional domestic and foreign investment. There should be an overall framework within which to address all the problems in tandem. In this context, the following five prongs of policy and institutional measures, all of which are interdependent and mutually reinforcing, come to mind.

The five prongs are:

- (i) the need for African countries to sustain, and deepen their macroeconomic policy stance;
- (ii) the need for concerted efforts to end Africa's pervasive social strife;
- (iii) the importance of good governance for development;
- (iv) the necessity for enhanced investment in human capacity, and
- (v) the role of a vibrant civil society and private sectors as pillars of growth and sustainable development.

Mr. Chairman,

The theme of today's meeting, "Participation and Partnership in Africa's development" raises many fundamental issues and challenges facing Africa. The requirement is a holistic, comprehensive, multi-sectoral, and multiplayer framework. It should focus on the role of markets, public policy, government, civil society and partners.

New partnerships should reflect a consensus among major partners in the development of our continent, with governments setting priorities and bringing various stakeholders on board to support home-grown programmes.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is against this background that UN member states and African Heads of States, through the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), unanimously recognized the importance of participation and partnership as pillars for addressing development challenges in their efforts to enhance prospects for sustainable human development. The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and NEPAD provide opportunities to enhance participation and partnership and encourage activities to maintain constructive dialogue.

The ECA believes that opening up a dialogue over the role of participation and partnerships in Africa's development marks an important opportunity for the international community. But if the process is to succeed for Africa then smarter partnerships must be built. These should go beyond relationships between political elites to include a broader set of African stakeholders.

The rights of people to participate in the development and governance processes are essential to creating an environment that lends support for the democratic involvement of citizens at the community level in national affairs. In the realm of the public service, attention should be paid to the effective roles the private sector and civil society.

Further, experience demonstrates, that although government efforts are critical in addressing post-conflict reconstruction, the challenges are beyond the capacity of governments alone and the process relies on a partnership between the private sector and civil society to support the transition.

Similarly, the effectiveness of partnerships in the fight against the HIV/AIDS pandemic should be emphasized, and the importance of broadening national responses to the virus, both in terms of players involved and sectors engaged, should be recognized.

The message is clear – the scope of the development challenges facing Africa today are beyond the capacity of governments alone and solutions will require the mobilization of all the talents and resources that stakeholders have.

Mr. Chairman,

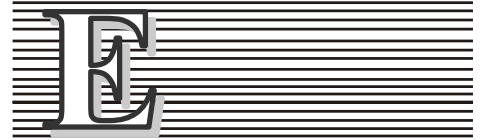
Having highlighted, in broad terms, the challenges facing Africa in relation to the theme, I would like to ask that in your discussions you think not only about objectives, but about methodology as well. What should we do differently? How do we do all this through new partnerships with governments, multilaterals and bilaterals, the private sector, and civil society? If we are to move forward with a well-founded hope of success, then major change is essential.

I hope that you will guide our way in the months and years ahead. With all the intelligence gathered here and the expected rich exchange of ideas and views at this conference, I am sure you will have insightful discussions.

I wish you a very successful meeting and I thank you for your kind attention.



ANNEX III

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March 2003Original: **ENGLISH****UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL**

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICASecond Meeting of the Committee on Human Development
and Civil Society/UNAIDS Regional Conference26-27 May 2003
Addis-Ababa, Ethiopia**PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND PROGRAMME OF WORK****I. PROVISIONAL AGENDA****Theme of the Meeting: *Participation and Partnership in Africa's Development***

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Election of the Bureau and other organizational matters
3. Presentation and discussion on the sub-theme "Promoting people's rights to participate in development"
4. Presentations and discussions on the sub-theme "Participation and partnership in development: best practices in selected areas"
5. Working groups to formulate recommendations, including strategy to address issues raised at plenary
6. Adoption of the report and recommendations for the UNGASS panel discussion at the General Assembly in September 2003
7. Closure of the meeting of the Committee on Human Development and Civil Society

II. ANNOTATIONS

1. Opening of the meeting

(The Chairperson of the outgoing Bureau will chair this session until a new Bureau is elected.)

The opening ceremony will begin with a statement by the Representative of Namibia, the Chairperson of the outgoing Bureau. A statement by Mrs. Lalla Ben Barka, the Deputy Executive Secretary of ECA or her Representative will follow this. The representative of the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia will formally open the meeting.

2. Election of the Bureau and other organizational matters

The meeting will appoint among the representatives of member States, private sector and civil society organizations, a chairperson; first, second and third vice-chairpersons and a rapporteur to guide the plenary sessions. The participants will consider and adopt the agenda and programme of work of the meeting and decide on any other organizational matters.

3. Presentation and discussions on “Promoting peoples’ rights to participate in development”

In Africa, the move towards conceptualizing human rights in the broader developmental context was articulated in the African Charter for Popular Participation in Development. The Charter established the importance of participation as both the means and an end. As an instrument of development, popular participation provides the driving force for collective responsibility and commitment to development. As self, popular participation is the **fundamental right** of the people to fully and effectively participate in the determination of the decisions, which affect their lives at all levels and at all times.

The United Nations Millennium Development Declaration and the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD) are the latest strongest acknowledgements on the importance of participation in addressing development challenges. The United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the programme of action of the Millennium Declaration has also identified human rights as one of the fundamental development goals. The MDGs fully establishes that true social and economic development can only be achieved with the right of people to participate in the process. The vision of NEPAD and the emphasis on participation are especially consistent with the long-standing desire for more citizens’ participation in the continent’s development and governance process. The development and governance challenges of Africa are daunting and solutions would require establishing participatory systems and practices involving private sector and civil society. In this regard, particular attention will be on how to address issues of ethics and accountability and discussion will zero in on enhancing ethics and accountability in public service delivery from a participatory perspective.

The meeting will examine the social, political and institutional dimensions of the issue and will define approaches to the promotion of popular participation in policy formulation, planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of development programmes. The analysis and recommendations will serve to reinforce governments’ ability to address issues related to human rights and development and the promotion of mass participation in the development and governance process.

With respect to ethics and accountability, the severe economic crisis and the need to deliver on development have increased the need for promoting accountability and maintaining ethical standards in the delivery of services in public services. Efforts to enhance ethical standards and accountability in the public service constitute an important factor in the management of scarce development resources, institutionalization of cost effectiveness and

promotion of excellence and professionalism in the public service. For example, in promoting greater citizens' participation in the promotion of ethical standards and accountability in the delivery of services, there is need to establish benchmarks against which citizens could assess and monitor deliverables. Participants will undertake the following:

- assess factors inhibiting ethics and accountability,
- explore ways and means for alternative mechanisms to strengthen existing systems of ethics and accountability for an effective service delivery in the public sector, and
- define the role of government, private sector and civil society in the development and maintenance of ethical conduct and accountability in the African public sector.

Documentation

The ECA secretariat will make presentations under this agenda item. The first paper “ Human Rights and Development” (ECA/DMD/ESPD/CHDCS/02/2) will investigate the social, political, institutional and other impediments that limit the right of people to participate in development. As well as provide some recommendations on how to promote peoples rights to participate. The second paper “Ethics and Accountability for Enhanced Public Service Delivery in Africa” (ECA/DMD/CHDCS/02/3), will explore how to involve greater participation in the promotion of ethics and accountability. Panelists representing various views will further elaborate on the issues, tease out the salient points and make recommendations for discussion at the breakout session.

4. Presentation and discussions on sub-theme: “Participation and Partnership in Development: practices in selected areas”

The thrust of CHDCS' work is on improving participatory and partnership practices in the development and governance process. Specifically, it provides a forum for exchange of ideas and experiences on how to nurture a functional and mutually beneficial relationship between citizens and states.

In this respect, this session will analyze and identify best participatory and partnership practices in two areas of particular importance to Africa's development efforts. The first is on countries emerging from conflict and the role of partnership in addressing the special development challenges. The second is on, the issue of HIV/AIDS and how to broaden participation and partnership to enhance national response.

Countries emerging from conflict pose enormous challenge in easing the transition from conflict to sustainable peace and socio-economic development. This is beyond the capacity of governments alone and the process will have to rely on partnership among all stakeholders to support the transition. The discussions and conclusion will aim at actions to enhance the relationship between state and citizens to draw on the contributions of the government, private sector and civil society to address the reconstruction, rehabilitation and reintegration process. In the process, participants will recommend measures to enable the State, the private sector and civil society to develop a partnership framework for post-conflict reconstruction.

With respect to HIV/AIDS, the UNAIDS secretariat will make a presentation under this agenda item on key arguments for broadening national responses to HIV/AIDS, both in terms of players involved and sectors engaged. This presentation will aim to stimulate a discussion that reflects the experience of participants and leads to the identification of key factors that will energize national responses and facilitate full and timely implementation of the UNGASS Declaration of Commitment. Some of the key issues presented for discussion and response will be:

- 1) what defines an effective NGO-Government relationship and how can this be fostered? 2) What constitutes an enabling national environment that could encourage the emergence and strengthening of civil society organizations

active in the area of HIV/AIDS? 3) To whom are civil society organizations accountable? How does this relate to the responsibilities that member States have under the Declaration of Commitment? 4) What should be the role of outside partners and in particular, that of the UN in the fight against HIV/AIDS? 5) To what extent should faith-based organizations be involved in the national response? 6) Are there particular approaches that have proved successful in breaking down resistance to comprehensive strategies such as A, B and C? 7) How can the business sector be persuaded to become more involved at the local level? 8) Does the business sector have any particular obligations to the societies within which they are located? 9) Do national HIV/AIDS strategic plans include strategies for these sectors and what is their current state of implementation? and, 10) Is HIV/AIDS being effectively integrated into rural development plans where these exist?

Documentation

The discussion under this sub-theme will be informed by two papers “Countries Emerging from Conflict: lessons on partnership in post-conflict reconstruction, rehabilitation and reintegration” (ECA/DMD/CHDCS/02/4), and ‘HIV/AIDS policies and partnerships’ will be prepared by the UNAIDS secretariat. These will provide an analysis of the key issues to be discussed under this sub-theme. Brief presentations will be made based on the background papers outlined above and will be followed by discussants and open floor discussion.

5. Breakout sessions and working groups presentations

Taking into account the presentations and discussions on key issues raised during the various sub- themes at plenary, working groups will be organized to discuss further issues and make recommendations for the review and adoption at plenary on one of the following:

- Enhancement of citizen’s participation in responding to HIV/AIDS, development and governance including the identification of key factors that will energize partnerships and national responses to the fight against HIV/AIDS, which will include considerations for addressing issues intertwined with HIV/AIDS in Africa, such as, food security and conflict/post-conflict situations.
- Strategies and measures for enhancing broad-based participation with special emphasis on facilitating participation and partnership in the promotion of ethics and accountability in public service delivery as well as in addressing the special needs of post-conflict reconstruction, rehabilitation and reintegration.

Rapporteurs from the working groups will present an overview of each group’s discussion and the recommendations agreed by their respective breakout sessions. There will be general discussions on the reports and for consolidating all the recommendations into synthesized report.

III. PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME OF WORK

	Arrival and Registration
DAY ONE - 26 May 2003	
9:00 – 9:30	Registration and informal consultation on organizational matters
9:30 – 10:00	Opening and organizational matters
	<p>Opening of the meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome Remarks: the outgoing Chairperson • Welcome Remarks: Mrs. Lalla Ben Barka, Deputy Executive Secretary, UNECA • Welcome Remarks: His Excellency, Mr. Hassen Abdella, Minister of Labour and Social Affairs, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia <p>Organizational matters, including matters arising from the first meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Election of the Bureau • Adoption of the Agenda and Programme of Work
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee Break
	Presentations and Panel Discussions
11:00 - 12:00	Plenary Session 1
	<p>Presentations and panel discussions on sub-theme: “Promoting people’s rights to participate in development”, focusing on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The right to participate in development <p>Presenter: Mr. Kaleb Demeksa, Development Management Division, UNECA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ethics and accountability for enhanced public service delivery in Africa: the role of civil society, including the private sector <p>Presenter: Mr. Pierre Demba, Development Management Division, UNECA</p> <p>Discussants: Mr. Ibrahim Wani, Representative, Office of the High Commissioner for Human-Rights (OHCHR)</p>

12:00 – 13:00	Plenary Session 2
	<p>Presentation of issues paper and panel discussions on sub-theme: “Participation and Partnership in Development: Practices in selected areas”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Countries Emerging from Conflict: Lessons on partnership for post-conflict reconstruction, rehabilitation and reintegration <p>Presenter: Mr. Oertel Stephane, Development Management Division, UNECA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HIV/AIDS, Policies and Partnership <p>Presenter: Dr. Godfrey Sikipa, Representative, UNAIDS</p>
13: 00 – 14:30	Lunch Break
14: 30 – 16:00	Breakout Session
	<p>Working Groups to formulate recommendations including strategy to enhance participation and partnership in areas under consideration</p> <p>Group A Participatory approaches to promoting transparency and accountability in Public Sector Management</p> <p>Group B HIV/AIDS and the right of people to participate in policy making; and building partnership around HIV/AIDS in rebuilding post conflict societies</p>
16.00 – 16:30	Coffee Break
16:30 - 18.00	Breakout Session (continued)
DAY TWO - 27 May 2003	
09:00 – 11:00	Plenary Session 3
	Working Groups presentations and discussions
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee Break
11:30 – 16:00	Finalization of reports
16:00 – 17:00	Plenary Session 4
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption of the report • Closing of the meeting

Group A

Participatory approaches to promoting transparency and accountability in Public Sector Management.

Recommend specific actions and implementable programmes

- What is the role of the private sector and the civil society in ensuring that transparency, ethics and accountability prevail in public sector management?
- What further concrete steps need to be taken to improve public sector management?
- Establish the link between good governance and people's right to access quality public services?
- The role of government in creating the enabling environment for effective participation by all stakeholders

Group B

HIV/AIDS and the right of people to participate in policy making; and building partnership around HIV/AIDS in rebuilding post conflict societies

Recommend specific actions and implementable programmes

- Building partnership to address special HIV/AIDS related needs of countries emerging from conflict – that need to be taken by: Governments, Private Sector and Civil Society.
- Do people have the right to access to quality health services? Where there is limited resources and competing interest how are priorities determined?
- Participatory approach to development and good governance – their contribution toward the containment of the spread of HIV/AIDS in Africa.

ANNEX IV

List of Participants

**Second Meeting of the CHDCS/UNAIDS Regional Conference
26-27 May 2003, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**

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