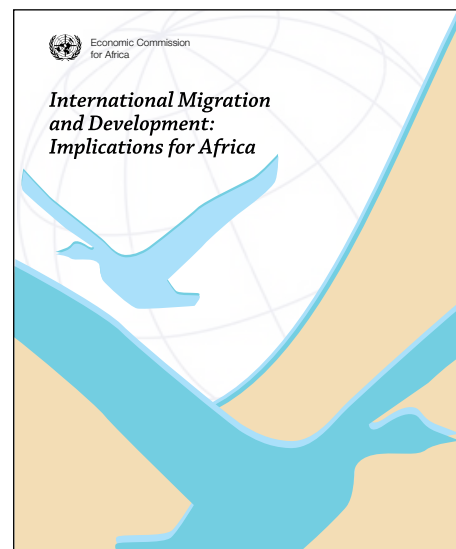


News from the Commission

Rising number of women migrants helps curb poverty, says report

An ECA report on African migration notes that the “growing feminisation” of migration is key to reducing gender inequality and poverty. The report, “International Migration and Development: Implications for Africa”, was officially launched in New York on 13 September. It says an increasing number of skilled and professional African women are joining the migration streams, previously dominated by men. “For instance, approximately 33.7 percent of sub-Saharan African physicians current-

ly practising in the United States are women,” it notes. According to the report, international migration promotes development and has a direct impact on poverty levels. It says a 10 percent increase in the number of international migrants in a country’s population could lead to a 1.9 percent decline in the number of people living in poverty. [click here for full report: http://www.uneca.org/eca_resources/Publications/MigrationReport2006.pdf]



Journalists rewarded for ICT reporting

ECA and its partners presented awards to outstanding African journalists for reporting on the use of ICTs on the continent. The awards ceremony was held during the annual Highway Africa Conference which took place in South Africa from 11-15 September. Over 500 journalists from about 40 countries took part in what has been dubbed the “biggest annual media event in Africa”. The 2006 African Information Society Initiative (AIS) Media Awards, now in their fourth year, are aimed at supporting African media to create greater awareness on the role of ICTs in socio-economic development.

ECA, ADB sign cooperation deal

An agreement governing strategic collaboration was signed between ECA and the African Development Bank. The wide-ranging agreement covers cooperation in several areas, including capacity building, statistics,

governance, agriculture and sustainable development, trade and regional integration issues, private sector development, and gender equality. It also establishes the modalities for collaboration, which include holding annual meetings to review the effectiveness of the agreement.

New Publication



New story on MDGs webmag – “UN report urges changes in aid to Africa”: <http://www.uneca.org/mdgs/Story21sept06.asp>

African Water Development Report 2006: http://www.uneca.org/awich/AWDR_2006.htm

Development Briefs

Report urges changes to foreign aid in Africa

A UN report has called for a new approach in overseas aid to Africa, saying that not only should it be dramatically increased but it should also be depoliticised and distributed multilaterally. The 'Economic Development in Africa 2006' report, issued by the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), is sub-titled 'Doubling Aid: Making the "Big Push" Work'. Launched on 21 September, the report notes that aid is currently released in a chaotic manner, with too many different donors pushing too many development projects that sometimes compete with each other. It calls for a new "aid architecture", drawing in part on the post-war Marshall Plan. "The time is perhaps right to revisit the idea, first broached in the 1950s, of a UN funding window for African development," the report notes. [click here for full report: http://www.unctad.org/en/docs/gdsafrica20061_en.pdf]

EU to give AU millions in aid deal

The European Union has pledged \$US 70 million in aid to the African Union. The agreement is due to be signed during an upcoming visit by EU commissioners to the AU's headquarters in Addis Ababa. The visit is aimed at "deepening existing cooperation and partnership ties between the AU Commission and the European Commission," said Tim Clarke, the EU representative in Ethiopia. According to AFP, he added that the donation will be used to strengthen AU institutions through recruitment, capacity building and information technology and is not aimed at peacekeeping. However, peacekeeping would be high on the talks agenda, he said.

World Bank chief calls for more commitment to Africa

World Bank President Paul Wolfowitz urged the international community to make more effort in supporting progress on the African continent. Speaking at the annual meetings of the WB and International Monetary Fund in Singapore, he warned that Africa faced serious economic stagnation unless more help was forthcoming. "The international community needs to make greater strides in resolving conflict, preventing diseases and strengthening governance to bring hope to many millions more, particularly in Africa, who still live in dire conditions," he said, according to Rwanda's 'New Times' publication.

Click on www.uneca.org for more information on these stories.

Upcoming Events

2 October – World Habitat Day

15-16 October – "Stand up against Poverty" - MDG event

16 October – World Food Day (FAO)

16 October – Launch of the World Investment Report 2006 (UNCTAD)

25 October – World Conference on Communication for Development – Rome (FAO, World Bank)

30 October – Launch of State of World Food Insecurity Report 2006 (FAO)