



Governance Cluster Strategic Planning and Regular Meeting

Concept Note

1. Background

The Governance Cluster is convened by UNDP and co-chaired by UNDP and AUC. Its current membership includes: AUC, NEPAD, AfDB, ECA, DPA, DPKO, IMF, OCHA, OSAA, UNDESA, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNOHCHR, World Bank and WFP. The primary mandate of the Governance Cluster, as conceived by its members, is to coordinate support of cluster members to governance programmes of the AUC, NPCA and the RECs, with a view to ensure coherence, synergy and complementarity, thereby enhancing coordination of the UN system-wide support to regional governance initiatives in Africa. In an effort to realize this principal goal, the cluster has its main objectives as follows:

- (i) To promote joint planning, programming, monitoring and evaluation of support to AUC, NPCA and RECs
- (ii) To ensure intra- and inter-Cluster communication, information sharing, advocacy and outreach work
- (iii) To promote joint resource mobilisation and cost-sharing in support to regional governance initiatives
- (iv) To identify governance deficits, challenges and constraints and proposing possible policy and institutional responses
- (v) To compile lessons learnt, best practices and experiences for improvement of democratic governance
- (vi) To provide more technical and other types of assistance to the AUC, NPCA and RECs within the framework of the reviewed Ten-Year Capacity Building of the African Union Commission
- (vii) To assist the AUC implement its evolving governance architecture towards and beyond the forthcoming Special Summit on Shared Values in January 2011

The Political Affairs Department (PAD) of the AUC is the fulcrum for governance reform on the African continent. It is imperative, therefore, that the Cluster aligns its programming in support of AU, to its various organs and NEPAD programme. In a nutshell, the AU's programmes, projects and key activities in the governance field cover a broad spectrum including: Elections and Electoral Processes, Governance and Democratic Institution Building, Public Administration



and Service Delivery, Anti-Corruption, African Governance Architecture (AGA), the African Charter on Democracy, Elections, and Governance (ACDEG), the Summit on Shared Values, and Human Rights. These priorities draw their relevance from the Strategic Plan (2009-2012) of the African Union Commission under Pillar 3 on Shared Values. These programmes and projects form a critical part of the collectively “shared governance values” of the AU member states as enshrined in various declarations, conventions and treaties adopted since the heyday of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) established in 1963. UNDP jointly with various other cluster members, notably ECA, OHCHR UNDESA, DPA and UNOAU, have provided assistance to the AUC through the Department of Political Affairs, in implementing the above programmes and projects.

NPCA Business Plan (2010-2014) unambiguously focuses its governance interventions specifically on economic and corporate governance. Within this framework, NPCA’s governance programme covers the following six interventions:

- Strengthening the capacity of member states to ensure good corporate governance and management of development programmes and projects;
- Improving technical aspects of procurement procedures and processes;
- Strengthening capacity to supervise and control programmes and projects;
- Supporting efforts to strengthen the capacity of enterprises to implement flagship programs and projects;
- Promoting an enabling environment for business and effective regulatory framework for economic activities;
- Improving corporate accountability.

Additionally, NPCA is currently designing a governance programme with the following elements:

- A composite APRM post-review programme in support of the effective implementation of National Programmes of Action (NPOAs) disseminating lessons learnt;
- Popularization of the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance within RECs and AU member states;
- Post-conflict capacity building initiatives;
- Support the implementation of the programme of the African Ministers of Public Administration; and

- Support the implementation of the Liberian Truth and Reconciliation (TRC) report.

Taken together, the AUC/NPCA governance mandate encompasses the following key areas of intervention which are supported by cluster members in various ways:

- Africa Peer Review Mechanism (APRM);
- African Governance Architecture (AGA);
- The Human Rights Strategy for Africa;
- Public Administration and Service Delivery;
- Ratification and application of the African Charter on Democracy, Elections, and Governance (ACDEG);
- Anti-corruption;
- Democratic and credible elections; and
- Strengthening parliamentary oversight;

The strategic planning meeting of the Governance Cluster will build on the on-going programme of support that cluster members continue to render to the AUC and NPCA in the area of governance.

2. Goal and Objectives

The principal goal of the meeting is to bring the cluster members together for purposes of joint planning and programming so as to ensure coordinated and coherent support to the governance initiatives of the AUC and NPCA. The three main objectives of the meeting are as follows:

- To consider and agree on the cluster's business plan for the period 2011-2013
- To adopt the cluster's 2011 Annual Work Plan; and
- To explore collective resource mobilization/pooling strategies in support of AUC/NPCA

3. Documentation

- Draft business plan of the Governance Cluster
- 2011 AWP of the AUC
- Work plan for the shared values
- 2010 Annual Progress Report of the Governance Cluster

4. Expected Outcome

- Finalized Governance Cluster Business plan and ToR
- Decision on priorities of the Governance cluster for 2011 and way forward
- Development of Joint Annual Operational Plan for 2011 in support of AUC, NPCA and RECs
- Joint resource mobilisation and cost-sharing in support to regional governance initiatives

5. Participation

The meeting will bring together representatives of several UN agencies and organizations, the African Union Commission (AUC), the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA), and Regional Economic Communities (RECs).

Participants from all UN agencies and organization are expected to bear their cost themselves. UNDP/ECA JGI will cover the cost of participants from AUC, NPCA, APRM Secretariat and RECs in terms of air ticket and daily subsistence allowance (DSA) during the meeting period.

6. Working Language

The meeting will be conducted in English.

Venue and Date

The UNDP/ECA Joint Governance Initiatives of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in collaboration with the African Union Commission (AUC) and the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA) is planning to organize a strategic planning session back to back with the ordinary cluster meeting in Nazareth, Ethiopia, on 27-28th June, 2011. The venue will be communicated shortly.

7. Contacts

For further information and inquiries, please contact

Mr. Khabele Matlosa

Programme Advisor

UNDP/ECA Joint Governance Initiatives

ECA New Building 6th Floor – 6S24

Tel: +251-(11)- 544 – 3712



Email: Khabele.Matlosa@undp.org

Ms. Kevina Power

Programme Specialist

UNDP/ECA Joint Governance Initiatives

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Tel: 251-115-443351

Fax: 251-115-514599

E-mail: kevina.power@undp.org

Meron Tekola

UNDP/ECA Joint Governance Initiatives

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Tel: 251-115-443358

Fax: 251-115-515147

E-mail: meron.tekola@undp.org