



# NEPAD TODAY

Economic Commission for Africa

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## 11th session of RCM-Africa strengthens Africa's commitment to MDGs



UN Deputy Secretary-General, Asha-Rose Migiro.

Africa's economic performance has remained steadfast with growth projected at 4.8 percent. This is despite the broad impacts of climate change and multiple crises, including the global financial crisis and the food and energy crises which have hampered Africa's development said the UN Deputy Secretary-General, Asha-Rose Migiro.

Speaking at the 11th session of the Regional Coordination Mechanism (RCM-Africa), held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, which she co-chaired with the Chairper-

son of the AU, Jean Ping- Ms. Migiro said, "the recently concluded MDGs Summit had sent a clear message, that the MDGs could be achieved, even in the least developed countries, if efforts are stepped up."

She said that the AU, ECA and the AfDB, supported by the UN system agencies and development partners, had already begun to address the spectrum of issues raised at the Summit through various means, including through last month's Africa Development Forum (ADF) on Climate Change and Sustainable Development held in Addis Ababa.

"ADF's consensus statement," said Migiro, "recognized not just the threat of climate change, but also the opportunities it can provide in spurring the integration of climate-resilient strategies into development planning and in generating movement toward a green economy."

She called on the RCM-Africa to advance Africa's preparedness towards a successful outcome of the 2012 Sustainable Development Conference (Rio+20)."Beyond Rio+20, RCM-Africa should continue to play a central role in supporting Africa's efforts to meet the MDGs," she added, pointing out that "Africa's people need neither pity nor charity, but rather the tools, institutions, stability and freedom to create incomes and jobs."

Source: African Press Organization

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## **ECOWAS commends Gambia's agricultural initiatives**

Mr. Ernest Aubee of the ECOWAS Commission office in The Gambia, has recognised the commitment of The Gambian Government towards the development of the agricultural sector. Mr. Aubee, who was speaking on behalf of the President of the ECOWAS Commission, Ambassador Victor Gbeho, at the business meeting on the Gambia National Agriculture Investment Plan, noted that the Government of The Gambia has shown palpable commitment towards the development of the sector and by doing so, could pioneer a new interest and a revolution in the agricultural sector of the West African economy.

“This forum shows the interest and commitment of the Government of The Gambia to the promotion of African agriculture. Everybody is aware of your country's initiatives and resolve to lay the foundations for a genuine agricultural revolution, not only for your country but for the entire West African region as well.”

Mr. Aubee also highlighted four challenges confronting the sub-region in its bid to ensure food security. According to him, the population of people who would be fed in the subregion continues to grow and this is expected to reach a 500 million threshold in the next 20 years. He described this as a daunting challenge, noting that in tackling this, all stakeholders within the region must cooperate within themselves and with the rest of the world.

He said the regional agricultural policy has become a benchmark for ECOWAS and people beyond in terms of collective development, multi-stakeholders negotia-

tion, and partnership with farmer organization, private sector, and civil society and development partners.

Source: <http://today.gm/hi/news/2774.html>

## **Making Africa a growth pole for eco- nomic transforma- tion, Mayaki.**

“African leaders have shown greater commitment to moving the continent from a paradigm of managing poverty to making Africa a growth pole for economic transformation,” said NEPAD CEO, Dr. Ibrahim Assane Mayaki.

Speaking at the 11th session of the Regional Co-ordination Mechanism-Africa (RCM-Africa) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, Dr. Mayaki commended NEPAD's full integration into the African Union family. “The long-delayed integration process that emitted uncertainty is over. We are now focused on delivering the NEPAD vision and mission. The partnership with the UN will greatly help in taking NEPAD to greater heights,” he said.

“A new phase in taking forward Africa's self-designed development strategy has been opened. UN agencies have been supportive throughout the integration process and we count on this partnership and cooperation,” he added.

Dr. Mayaki also called for the international community to continue to support Africa in promoting a broad-based, equitable resource-efficient and sustainable growth. “Africa's voice must be heard loud and clear in Rio de Janeiro in 2012,” he said.

Story by Tapuwa Ruzvidzo

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