



Economic Commission  
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*A service of the New Partnership  
for Africa's Development (NEPAD),  
Support Unit of the Economic  
Commission for Africa*

24 March 2008

## Mozambique APRM preliminary report submitted to Government

The preliminary report from Mozambique's National Forum for the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM), submitted to the government on Wednesday, considers that "there are no external threats from neighbouring countries against Mozambique, and regional security is well preserved within SADC (Southern African Development Community)". The document however points to a number of internal factors which, if handled badly, could threaten stability. These include the climate of tension and political violence which is frequent in election periods, the cost of living and unemployment, high levels of poverty, corruption, and crime in the urban centres.

Added to these problems are the circulation of small arms in the country (and weapons left over from the war of destabilisation), a growing sense of regional or tribal identity, social exclusion, and conflicts over land rights.

The report warns of vulnerability deriving from the activities of organised crime, notably traffickers in drugs and guns, and the "apparent" incapacity of the state to deal with the current crime wave. Despite these worrying factors, the report considers that a return to war in Mozambique is only "a remote possibility", while dialogue, consensus and compromise solutions prevail. The APRM National Forum also wants measures to encourage citizens to blow the whistle on trafficking in drugs and firearms and the adoption of more punitive legislation against these offences.

With the preliminary report now in the hands of the APRM focal point, the Minister of Planning and Development, Aiuba Cuereneia, the government must now analyse it, and make its comments. These will support the drafting of the APRM National Action Plan, which will accompany the final report. That report should be presented by President Armando Guebuza to the next African Union summit in July.

*Source: AllAfrica.com, 20 March 2008*

## ECA to examine its support to AU and NEPAD

Seizing the opportunity of the 2008 Conference of Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, ECA will on March 25 hold an introspective symposium on the Commission's support for the African Union and its NEPAD programme.

ECA's NEPAD Support Chief, Emmanuel Nnadozie said it was important for ECA to ask itself critical questions which would lead to strengthening Commission-wide support to the UN regional consultation mechanism, the AU and NEPAD. The symposium would also discuss how to mainstream NEPAD priorities into ECA's regular work programme as well as the programmatic and resource implications of such mainstreaming.

Nnadozie said the outcome of the symposium would help in developing a strategic framework by the end of April 2008. The strategic framework will enable ECA to ensure the most effective use of available resources by focusing them on the key priorities, providing a

Cafeteria, Printshop, Security, Procurement, Divisions, Cabinet office...

AT THE ECA



**NEPAD**  
IS EVERYONE'S BUSINESS

What does it mean to you?  
What does it mean for you?  
Can you feel NEPAD?  
Does your work reflect NEPAD priorities?  
How can you be more involved?

COME SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS  
WITH THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY  
**ABDOULIE JANNEH**

Date: 25<sup>th</sup> March 2008  
Time: 9:00am  
Venue: UNCC Conference Room 4

COMMISSION-WIDE SYMPOSIUM ON ECA'S SUPPORT TO THE AU AND NEPAD

EVERY MONDAY

NEPAD Briefs



## ECA to examine its support to AU and NEPAD

base from which progress can be measured and a mechanism established for informed change when needed, he said. The framework is expected to harmonize the best and most reasoned efforts of everyone at ECA in building a consensus on how to maximize the benefits of ECA's support to the implementation of AU vision and NEPAD priorities and to member states.

*Source: ECA/Siham Abdulmelik*

## 13 African leaders for the Africa/India summit in April

Thirteen African heads of state and government will represent the continent at a two-day Africa/India Forum summit due to open 8 April in New Delhi, the Indian capital, the African Union Commission (AUC) announced Wednesday. Ahead of the summit, senior officials will hold a one-day preparatory session 4 April to be followed by a ministerial meeting 7 April in the Indian capital.

According to the Commission, the summit's main objective is to reinforce the multidimensional relations existing between Africa and India, and share benefits from the rich historical background as well as natural resources of both Africa and India. "The Africa/India Forum Summit would create an opportunity to give a new dimension to the Africa/India cooperation through a concrete plan of action and declaration to be adopted during the summit," said the Commission. Modalities for strengthening cooperation ties between the two partners would be considered in the areas of economic, political, science, technology, research and development as well as in social development and capacity building, tourism, infrastructure, energy, environment and media and communications.

Also, the summit will try to adopt a harmonised and comprehensive framework to reinforce the regional cooperation in a wide range of fields to support the existing bilateral cooperation between African countries and India. The AU expects the forum to come up with concrete proposals to push forward the existing cooperation between the two partners. According to the statement, AUC outgoing chairperson Alpha Oumar Konare and the Commission's chairperson-elect Jean Ping would attend the summit.

*Source: Afriquenligne, 19 March 2008*

## African development requires greater private-sector participation

The Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA) and the African Development Bank say that there are discouraging constraints and challenges in infrastructure development on the African continent and have appealed to the private sector to join forces with them in finding solutions.

DBSA principal programme manager Mwafoyonjo Lyson Muwila says "It is impossible for governments to find the \$20-billion required yearly to develop infrastructure. "We need to look towards the private sector to assist in establishing public-private partnerships alongside other initiatives to expand the continent's infrastructure. We can no longer afford to 'think regionally and act nationally', as growth depends on entire regions working as a single entity."

*Source: Creamer's Media Engineering News Online, 23 March 2008*

### UPCOMING EVENTS IN MARCH:

- 27-30 March** Third Africa's International Media Summit (AIMS) Tunis
- 31 March-2 April** First session of the Joint Annual Meetings of the AU Conference of Ministers of Economy and Finance and ECA African Conference of Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development: Meeting Africa's New Challenges in the 21st Century (Addis Ababa)

*This newsletter is published weekly by the NEPAD Support Unit of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa:  
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**DID YOU KNOW?** A young inventor is hoping to tap into the unbounded energy of children on a playground to power schools in Africa. Design student Daniel Sheridan has created a simple see-saw which generates enough electricity to light a classroom. Given the staggering need for electricity in sub-Saharan Africa the potential for this product is huge and the design could benefit numerous communities in Africa. He has calculated that five to 10 minutes use on the see-saw could generate enough electricity to light a classroom for an evening. The device works by transferring the power, created by a child moving up and down on it, to an electricity storage unit via an underground cable. **For more information:** [http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk\\_news/education/7301354.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/education/7301354.stm)