



The African Renaissance

PACK

1



The African Union (AU)

PACK

2



New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD)

PACK

3

“Bridging gaps — forging partnerships”

Information packs for community groups and civil society engaging with the African Union (AU) and the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD)

*Prepared by the Peace and Development Platform (PAD),
a pilot project of Action for Conflict Transformation (ACTION)*

Overview of the packs

These information packs have been put together to build the capacity of local, national and community-based organisations to contribute to the peace and security initiatives of NEPAD and the AU. They will enable these communities to constructively engage with policy makers within these institutions.

They provide linkages between a call to A Reawakening – Renaissance of a continent, that began in the distant past made by leading personalities, the formation of NEPAD, a translation of the Rebirth into policy and programme – the path to the Rebirth, and the rethinking of the structure, mission and vision of the mammoth Organisation for African Unity (OAU) leading to the formation of the AU, the facilitator of the Renaissance.

These packs are a challenge to the reader to continue arising and seizing the moment. To continue arising in an African Renaissance initiated in the 18th century and continued in the 21st century by all those who have struggled together for liberation from slavery and colonialism of all types in Africa; a Renaissance that is epitomised by South Africa's liberation from apartheid. To seize the moment provided in the momentum of the formation of the AU and its participatory organs, specifically the PSC where peace and security is the absolute prerequisite for development and vice versa; the momentum provided in the formation of NEPAD, NEPAD being the vice versa for peace and security; to seize the moment where if the chance is lost in this era of globalisation, Africa may be rendered completely irrelevant in the global economy.

Finally the packs show the relationship between the rebirth philosophy, the continental structures and the existing conflict transformation and peace building initiatives that are striving to address conflict, challenge and change the roots of depravity, and weave a relationship that will become the social fabric of a future peaceful Africa.



Use the discussion points throughout the booklet to stimulate debate. Make the African Renaissance, the African Union, and the New Partnership for Africa's Development meaningful to your community!

Africa We Must!

People and nations,
they come together
For various reasons,
coming together
For freedom, for support,
vision, and love for country
They come together
seeking for answers,
And legitimacy
That gives them the mandate

Solutions are tough
Who is the legitimate voice,
who gave you the mandate?
People are dying,
who gave you the mandate?
Who gives us the mandate?
Put yourself in my shoe
Process?
I am dying! What process?

A time has come when
When the voices of the hungry,
de-limbed, displaced, dead
Give us the mandate
It must be the voices of the
hungry, destitute, homeless
That give us the mandate

Africa, we must!
A grain of wheat dies
To reproduce its own
Africa, we must!
Die to self to achieve peace

*Elizabeth Dena
African Renaissance, 21st Century*



Contents

- ↻ Acronyms...4
- ↻ Background...5
- ↻ Introduction...6
- ↻ Acknowledgements...7

Pack 1 - The African Renaissance...8

- ↻ Statements, poems and quotes...8
- ↻ What then is African Renaissance?...10
- ↻ What are the key elements of the current African Renaissance?...10
- ↻ Is peace and security a prerequisite for the African Renaissance?...11
- ↻ What are the threats today confronting people and human security?...11
- ↻ The Renaissance is alive. How do we live it?...12

Pack 2 - The African Union (AU)...14

- ↻ Where and when did the AU start?...14
- ↻ Assembly of the Heads of State of the AU...14
- ↻ What is the vision of the AU?...15
- ↻ What processes/events led to the formation of the AU?...15
- ↻ How different is the AU from the OAU?...16
- ↻ What is the structure of the AU and what are its organs?...16
- ↻ What is the progress so far in the implementation of the Constitutive Act of the AU?...18
- ↻ AU critiques and debates...18
- ↻ What are the opportunities for engagement with AU policy makers?...18
- ↻ The Peace and Development Platform (PAD) will be engaging with:...19

Pack 3 - New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD)...20

- ↻ What is NEPAD?...20
 - ↻ What is the history and background of NEPAD?...21
 - ↻ Where does NEPAD draw its inspiration from?...22
 - ↻ What is the relationship between NEPAD and the AU?...22
 - ↻ What makes NEPAD *different* from other development plans formulated for African development?...23
 - ↻ Who are the "partners" of NEPAD?...23
 - ↻ How does NEPAD plan to alleviate poverty in Africa?...24
 - ↻ NEPAD's Peer Review Mechanism...24
 - ↻ NEPAD critiques and debates...25
-
- ↻ PAD Info Packs in Action!...26
 - ↻ Contacts...Back cover

Produced by: The ACTION Support Centre **Funded by:** Christian Aid
Design & illustration by: Soweto Spaza cc, www.homepage.mac.com/inthestudio

Acronyms

ACTION

Action for Conflict Transformation

AEC

African Economic Community

ASC

ACTION Support Centre

AU

African Union

CBO

Community-Based Organisation

COPA

Coalition for Peace in Africa

CSO

Civil Service Organisation

CSSDCA

Conference for Security, Stability, Development and Cooperation in Africa

ECA

Economic Commission for Africa

ECOSOCC

Economic, Social and Cultural Council

FDI

Foreign Direct Investment

G8

Group of Eight

HDI

Human Development Index

HIV/AIDS

Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome

IDP

Internally Displaced Person

IGAD

Intergovernmental Authority on Development

MAP

Millennium Africa Recovery Plan

NAI

New African Initiative

NEPAD

New Partnership for Africa's Development

NGO

Non-Governmental Organisation

OAU

Organisation for African Unity

ODA

Overseas Development Assistance

PAD

Peace and Development Platform

PRC

Permanent Representatives Committee

PSC

Peace and Security Council

REC

Regional Economic Community

SADC

Southern African Development Community

UN

United Nations

UNDP

United Nations Development Programme

WANEP

West African Network of Peace Builders

WSSD

World Summit on Sustainable Development

Action for Conflict Transformation (ACTION)

ACTION is registered in South Africa as a non-profit organisation. The ACTION Support Centre (ASC) provides an institutional base to a global network of individuals and organisations that have developed diverse and innovative approaches to resolve, transform and prevent situations of injustice and violence. ACTION works for positive multi-level engagement in conflict situations in an effort to build sustainable peace and justice at grassroots level.

The Peace and Development Platform (PAD)

PAD was initiated in preparation for the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in June 2002, bringing together over 60 organisations working together as a platform of voices for peace and justice. Through the support of ACTION it has maintained itself as a strong and vibrant network.

Bridging gaps – forging partnerships

An initiative of PAD that seeks to explore opportunities through which local, national and community-based organisations can engage more with policy makers within the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) and the African Union (AU). It seeks to research and document the impact of this engagement on policy makers, particularly with regard to taking forward a set of peace and development recommendations drawn up in preparation for the WSSD.

In Oct 2005 participants from across Africa came together near Tshwane, South Africa for a five-week COPA course co-ordinated and supported by the ASC.

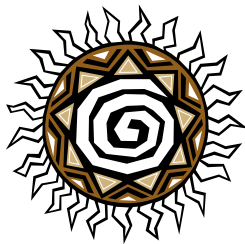


The African state has been a constantly active (or over-active?) volcano of woes, cause for deep discontent amongst the people as they have watched and (sometimes) reacted violently against their needs being submerged under those of the state on content that is the very essence of human existence: the right to make decisions about their life and destiny.

Far from being the protector and provider of its people, this state has many a time been the menace, the source of threat to its own people. There has now arisen a need for security to be defined not in terms of security of the state (state security) but security of the people (human security). The security of the state from external and internal aggression remains important. However, many a times aggression directed to the state came from dissatisfaction based on lack of participation of the people in making decisions and planning towards their health, education, environment, government and economic well-being.

The shift in thinking from state to human security has now defined human security as the interests of the people and humanity as a collective. **Hence security becomes that all encompassing condition in which individual citizens live in freedom, peace and safety and fully participate in the process of progressive governance.** Eradication of poverty is central to ensuring the security of all people as well as the security of the state.

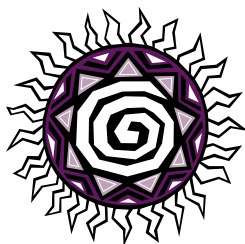
It is our hope that the information, questions and discussion points contained in the packs will be useful in generating debates and discussions on the future of all Africans.



PACK 1 contains visions for Africa as espoused by leaders of the African Renaissance, through the ages, as they sought to inspire the masses to arise against oppression. It includes quotes, poems and statements by leaders of the Pan African movement of the kind of life they envisioned for the people.

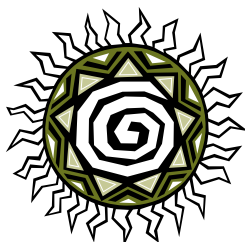
The “how to arise” is included, emphasising training and information sharing, learning and research, opening doors to policy makers in continental governance structures and building of grassroots platforms. Designing of advocacy strategies and action plans on how to engage with the new structures in the African Union is also enclosed.

Human security is discussed and the importance of peace and security for the attainment of the African Renaissance is reiterated.



PACK 2 looks at the history and background of the African Union, where and when it started, its vision, architects and the processes and events that led to its formation. The structure and organs of the AU are outlined, explaining the differences between the OAU and the AU.

The hope that the Union holds for Africa through its new interactive structures, intended to open up its intergovernmental system to greater oversight, accountability and public participation is discussed as well as critiques, debates and opportunities for engagement.



PACK 3 outlines the history and background of NEPAD’s initiative as the path towards an African Renaissance. NEPAD’s key focus areas are addressed and the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) is discussed. Critiques and debates on NEPAD are given and the link between NEPAD and the AU is explained.

Pack 1

Dr. Kwame Nkrumah (www.africawithin.com/nkrumah/nkrumah.htm)

Quotes from Malcolm X (www.members.aol.com/klove01/malquote.htm)

Mzamane, Mbulelo Vizikhungo, "Where there is no vision the people perish: reflections on the African renaissance" African Renaissance Institute (www.institutions.africadatabase.org)

Maloka, Eddy, 2001, "A United States of Africa?" (Pretoria: Africa Institute of Africa)

Butegwa, Florence, "Popularizing NEPAD Among Women in Africa" (www.unesco.org/women/nepad/butegwa)

Coalition for Peace in Africa, 2002, Advanced Conflict Transformation Course Report (Johannesburg: Coalition for Peace in Africa)

Commission on Human Security, 2003, "Human Security Now", (New York)

Fisher et al, 2000, "Working with Conflict: Skills and Strategies for Action", (Birmingham: Responding to Conflict)

Pack 2

www.african-union.org

Constitutive Act of the African Union (www.african-union.org)

Protocol Relating To The Establishment of the Peace And Security Council of the African Union (www.african-union.org)

Draft statutes of the Economic, Social and Cultural Council of the African Union (www.african-union.org)

Cilliers, Jakkie, "From Durban to Maputo: A Review of the 2003 Summit of the African Union", Institute of Security Studies, Paper No 76

Cilliers, Jakkie, "Peace, security and democracy in Africa? A summary of outcomes from 2002 OAU/AU summits in Durban", Institute of Security Studies, Paper No 60

Mohammed, Abdul, Tesfagiorgis Paulos and Alex de Wall, "Peace and Security Dimensions of the African Union", United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (Addis Ababa: InterAfrica group and Justice Africa)

Pack 3

www.nepad.org

www.allfrica.com/nepad/

Herbert, Ross, 2002, "Implementing NEPAD: A Critical Assessment," draft (Johannesburg: South African Institute of International Affairs)

Nobert Funke and Saleh M Nsouli, 2003, "The New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD): Opportunities and Challenges", IMF Working Paper 03/69 (Washington: International Monetary Fund)

Cilliers, Jakkie, 2002, "Nepad's Peer Review Mechanism," Institute for Security Studies, Paper No 64

The African Renaissance

Statements, poems and quotes

Mohlomi

Historical philosopher and leading influence in South Africa in the 18th century (1720-1794) – had this to say about a people's way of life:

*“Learn to understand men and know their ways
Learn to bear with their human weaknesses and shortcomings
In their disputes adjudicate with justice and sympathy
Your closest friends should be children
The poor and the troubled need you more than those with wealth and status.
The land you rule should be a home to travellers and fugitives
Always be slow to take up arms.
Lean heavily on the rod of Peace.”*



Kwame Nkrumah (1909-1972), said:



“Never before have a people had within their grasp so great an opportunity for developing a continent endowed with so much wealth. Individually, the independent states of Africa, some of them potentially rich, others poor, can do little for their people. Together, by mutual help, they can achieve much. But the economic development of the continent must be planned and pursued as a whole. A loose confederation designed only for economic co-operation would not provide the necessary unity of purpose. Only a strong political union can bring about full and effective development of our natural resources for the benefit of our people.

*The emergence of such a mighty stabilising force in this strife-worn world should be regarded not as the shadowy dream of a visionary, but as a practical proposition, which the peoples of Africa can, and should, translate into reality. There is a time in the affairs of every people when the moment strikes for political action. Such was the moment in the history of the United States of America when the Founding Fathers saw beyond the petty wranglings of the separate states and created a Union. **This is our chance. We must act now. Tomorrow may be too late and the opportunity will have passed, and with it the hope of free Africa's survival.”***

Florence Butegwa

Regional Programme Director,
UNIFEM Anglophone West Africa
– (a shortened verse) on the
participation of women in NEPAD:

“Equal access to quality education by girls and boys and the participation by women in governance and decision-making at different levels is a good starting point. Also required is a policy, legal and justice system that effectively guarantees and protects the right of women to access, manage and control economic resources, and protects them from gender-based violence in the family and community. Political will by the state and communities to give up negative aspects of culture, and its misuse by many, in favour of development is necessary. Access to information is a central feature of a conducive environment – information about personal health, protection against and prevention of HIV infection; information about more efficient ways of agriculture, of agro-processing, and of commerce and trade. Information about accessing finance, technology and markets. Information that indeed as women they have fundamental rights, including the right to equality, and that these rights are an integral part of the development that NEPAD seeks to promote.”



Steve Biko

1970s South African leader of the
Black Consciousness Movement:

“The greatest weapon in the hands of the oppressor is the mind of the oppressed.”

Malcolm X

(Malcolm Little, 1925-1965) –
civil rights movement leader in
North America:

“The economic philosophy of black nationalism only means that our people need to be re-educated into the importance of controlling the economy of the community in which we live...”



Bob Marley

“Movement of Jah People”, a reggae
song from the album, “Exodus”:

*We know where we are going
We know where we’re from
We’re leaving Babylon
We are going to our Father’s land*

The popular form of Rastafari music is reggae. “Nyabingi” drumming and chanting is Rastafari’s less known sacred core. Nyabingi derives from an anti-colonial resistance movement, which was active in southwest Uganda near the borders of Congo and Rwanda from about 1850 to 1950. The term, derived directly from the Nyabingi anti-colonial movement of Kigezi, Uganda, represents a significant ideological formation for Rastafari in that it recognises that black people can be agents of the oppressor/s. The song is emphasising repatriation to Africa and was sang during a difficult time for the Rastafari in Jamaica. Repatriation was seen as the only form of their liberation.

Aime Cesaire

from Martinique, one of the
founders of Negritude, a rebellion
by people of African descent
against physical alienation (from
Africa to France) and against
cultural estrangement foisted
by the French colonial policy of
assimilation. Published in 1938, his
poem “Return to My native land”
reflects the loss of the African
people through colonialism and
the way they have been regarded
as incapable of creativity.

*Heia for those who have never
invented anything
Those who never explored anything
Those who never tamed anything
Those who give themselves the
essence of all things
Ignorant of surfaces but struck by the
movement of all things
Free of the desire to tame but familiar
with the play of the world*

He also decries the people’s lack
of the desire of mastery and their
intent on accepting what others
have learnt, mastered and passed
on to them.



Thabo Mbeki

President of the republic of
South Africa – the most recent
call to the African peoples to
rally around a common cause of
liberation from the vestiges of
poverty, insecurity and disease:

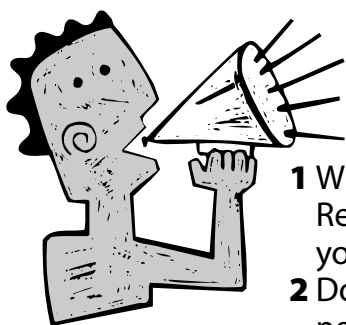
*“Our vision of an African
Renaissance must have, as one
of its central aims, the provision
of a better life for these masses
of the people whom we say must
enjoy and exercise the right to
determine their future.”*

What then is African Renaissance?

As a round up of the statements, poems and quotes above, coming from the Americas, the current Rastafari Diaspora, the African French Renaissance and from within Africa, a summary of the African Renaissance describes a situation where Africans underscore the importance of humanity – extending an arm of peace and justice to the needy.

The concept of collective humanity and partnership in solving problems/crises as well as the detrimental effect of arms on humanity is recognised. It looks at remembering the roots of the African people, positive images of culture and tradition and illuminates the impact of years of oppression on the psyche of people underscoring the need for mental liberation from oppression.

Finally, claiming of political, economic and other human rights and freedoms is reiterated with the reminder that African liberation has never been a dream but a practical reality through the ages. By way of the Rastafari, we see this liberation is not only from the west but liberation from our very selves, our minds, our leaders.



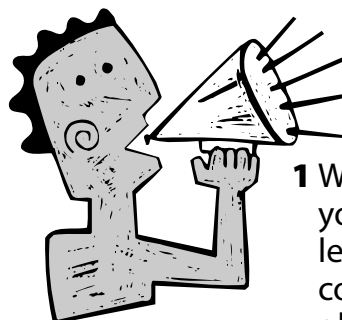
Discussion point

- 1 What does the African Renaissance mean to you?
- 2 Do you think there is a need for it? Why?

What are the key elements of the current African Renaissance?

The key elements to the 21st century African Renaissance, can be outlined as:

- ➔ Progressive and not submissive governance
- ➔ Participatory democracy
- ➔ Sustainable development
- ➔ Governance in the context of globalisation
- ➔ Peaceful resolution of conflicts
- ➔ Realising the effects of slavery/colonialism on our psyche and working towards the building of a new culture where we take our destiny into our own hands
- ➔ A call to the African Diaspora - a vital instrument that will enable securing of our space in the global economy
- ➔ A call to fight against neo-colonialism
- ➔ Engagement of women and other marginalised groups in decision making bodies
- ➔ Evolution of a social movement with leadership that will ensure that necessary advancements are made towards this revival



Discussion point

- 1 What elements do you think have been left out both in your context and in the global context?

Is peace and security a prerequisite for the African Renaissance?

In his speech at the launch of the South African chapter of the African Renaissance, deputy president of South Africa, **Jacob Zuma**, said **“we will know that the African Renaissance has been achieved once war and destruction are a mere chapter in history, rather than a daily reality for many Africans”**. He identifies the end of conflict as an *essential ingredient* for the realisation of the African Renaissance. This underscores the need for peace and security in the continent without which the African Renaissance would remain a vision without the possibility of realisation.

“It is frightening today that the danger of war looms as large as ever – that hundreds of millions of people do not feel secure enough to rebuild their houses or plow their fields or send their children to school. The agenda, vast and complex must be tackled starting from the pervasive and critical threats confronting people today”.

Sadako Ogata, a member of the United Nations Commission on Human Security

What are the threats today confronting people and human security?

Governance and political stability

Threats to governance and political stability may include such things as legitimate government control being contested in some parts of the country, discrimination incorporated in constitutional provisions and controversial electoral or plebiscite results.

Social and communal stability

Threats to social and communal stability may include the presence of refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs), inter communal hostility and recent riots and massacres where perpetrators go unpunished.

Economic and resource stability

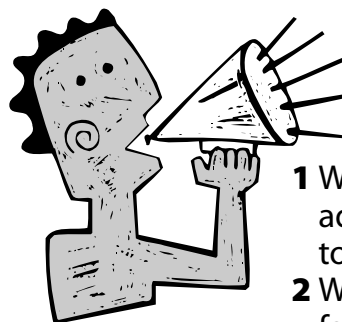
The overall decline in the Human Development Index (HDI) is one of the threats to economic and resource stability. The HDI, published annually by the United Nations (UN), ranks nations according to their citizens' quality of life rather than strictly by a nation's traditional economic figures. The criteria for calculating rankings include life expectancy, educational attainment, and adjusted real income. Other threats would include unequal access by groups to resources, growing unemployment among minority groups and youth, large scale environmental degradation, global warming, increasing desertification and dependence on a single crop or a single mineral source.

Personal security

Deliberate coercion of civilians, eg state terror, arrest of human rights activists or members of NGOs, restrictions upon the independence of judiciary to investigate, arbitrary travel restrictions and acts of violence directed at minority groups are some of the threats to personal security.

Military mobilisation and arms supply

Threats to human security here may include the growth of illicit arms trade, increased import of small arms and light weapons (justified by governments to be used for countering uprisings) and the appearance of paramilitary militias or death squads perceived to have government backing.



Discussion point

- 1 Would you have additional definitions to human security?
- 2 What could be other factors that are a threat to human security?

The Renaissance is alive. How do we live it?

1 Identifying opportunities and challenges, assessing strengths and weaknesses

With the advent of the AU whose organs provide for participation by civil society through the Peace and Security Council and the Economic Social and Cultural Council where Africans in the Diaspora will be represented, civil society has an opportunity to make their views known by the continental leadership to allow for continental processes to be informed and strengthened by grassroots practices. Challenges would appear on research and information on the AU/NEPAD.

The PAD process is committed to providing information on these bodies and to conduct further research and provide news updates to facilitate sharing of information on further possibilities of engagement with these bodies. Weaknesses related to lack of capacity in prevention, management and resolution of conflicts and in advocacy strategies will be strengthened through the training processes included in the information package.

2 Advocacy

Advocacy is the term given to extending our influence beyond ourselves and is often spoken of as "the art of influencing".

To change society, one must begin with one's self. The individual would then seek to influence his or her family, community, nation and continent, then, eventually, the globe. The **multi-level triangle** and **circles of influence** are ways of understanding how society works, how and where we fit into it and how we can positively influence society for change.

The multi-level triangle

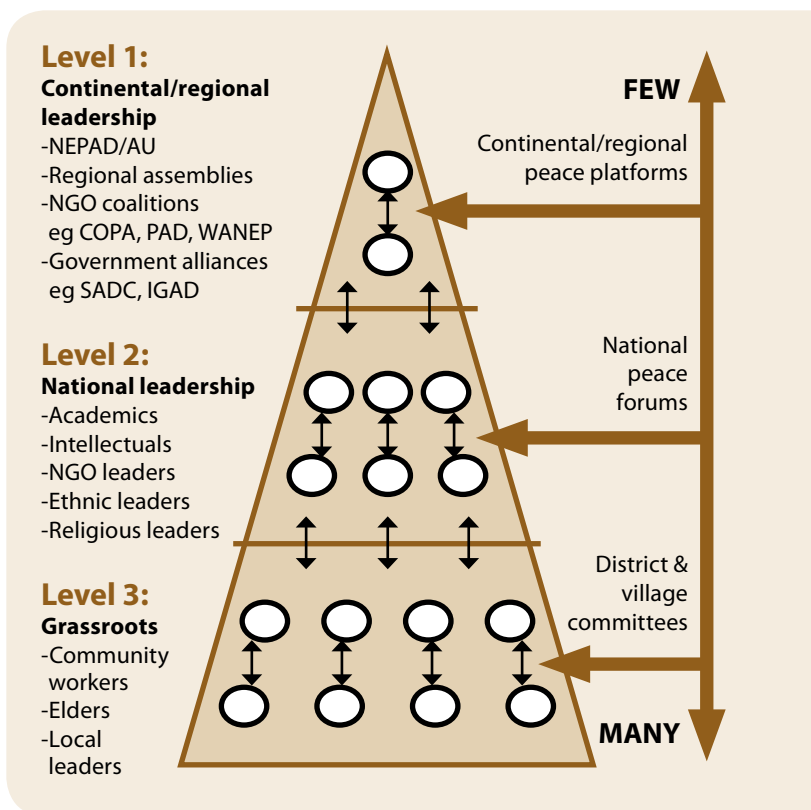
Influencing for change and building allies

This is a tool that shows the different levels of actors in a conflict. **Specifically it helps us:**

- ✓ Identify key actors, including leadership, at each level
- ✓ Decide at which level we are currently working and how we can include other levels
- ✓ Assess what types of approaches or actions are appropriate for work at each level
- ✓ Consider ways to build links between levels
- ✓ Identify potential allies at each level

This tool is used when analysing a situation that seems to include actors at various levels, when planning actions to address a multi-level conflict and when deciding where to focus one's energy.

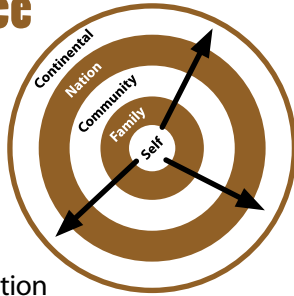
It helps locate critical resource people who are strategically placed and embedded in networks that connect them vertically within the setting and horizontally in the conflict. These are people who have the ability to work with counterparts across the lines of division and therefore can be key allies for working within the various levels as well as working simultaneously at all levels.



Circles of influence

Power in extending influence

Circles of influence is an advocacy strategy which realises that conflict has a ripple effect. Conflict resolution mechanisms therefore require building of alliances and coalitions in the various circles of influence of the individual to achieve the desired change.



The desired change, in line with the objectives of the Peace and Development Platform (PAD), is:

- ⊙ To build a non-violent culture of peace and transform structural barriers to sustainable development
- ⊙ To promote peace, justice and demilitarisation as the focal issues of development debates
- ⊙ To create an inclusive, long-term coalition that will strengthen programmes of peace and justice in the global civil society movement
- ⊙ To provide opportunities for grassroots voices and concerns to be heard by policy makers and decision takers at all levels

Advocacy

- ✓ Speaking out about a problem or issue in your community in order to improve the situation
- ✓ Actions to influence decision-makers to adopt and change policies and practices
- ✓ A means to guarantee implementation and monitoring of policies and practices

Two main methods can be used in advocacy:

1 Campaigning Involves applying pressure, mobilising support and primarily creating a climate amongst the wider public which could culminate in change of policies. *Campaign methods include:* public education; research; public events; lobbying; media and publicity; and direct action.

2 Lobbying A face-to-face encounter. It involves direct approaches to decision-makers and those who have access to them. It can be done at all levels, eg village elders, national governments, AU commissioners.

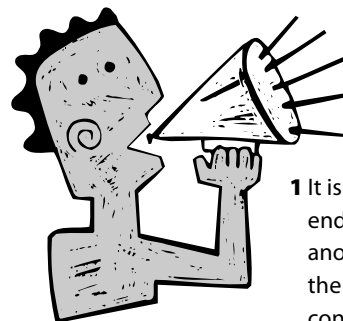


Discussion point

- 1 Do you have personal experiences in advocacy work?
- 2 How did they work?
- 3 Do these experiences compare in any way to the above advocacy tools?

3 Designing intervention strategies

Specific contexts and conflicts require specific strategies and action plans to address the conflicts. Designing of strategies needs to take into consideration that without peace there cannot be sustainable development and without sustainable development there cannot be peace. Strategies therefore need to be of an integrated nature encompassing several elements of human security as shown in the human security categories.



Discussion point

- 1 It is one thing to proclaim the end of conflict in Africa, and quite another to devise a strategy for the eradication of war on the continent.
- 2 Advocacy, lobbying and campaigning non-violently is necessary in pushing for democratic reforms and igniting the political will of leaders towards peace and sustainable development for their populations.
- 3 Debates and caucuses in communities regarding the roots of, and the possible resolutions to conflicts is necessary.



"The main thing is that we keep a united front wherein our most valuable time and energy will not be wasted fighting against each other!"

Malcolm X

The African Union (AU)

Where and when did the AU start?

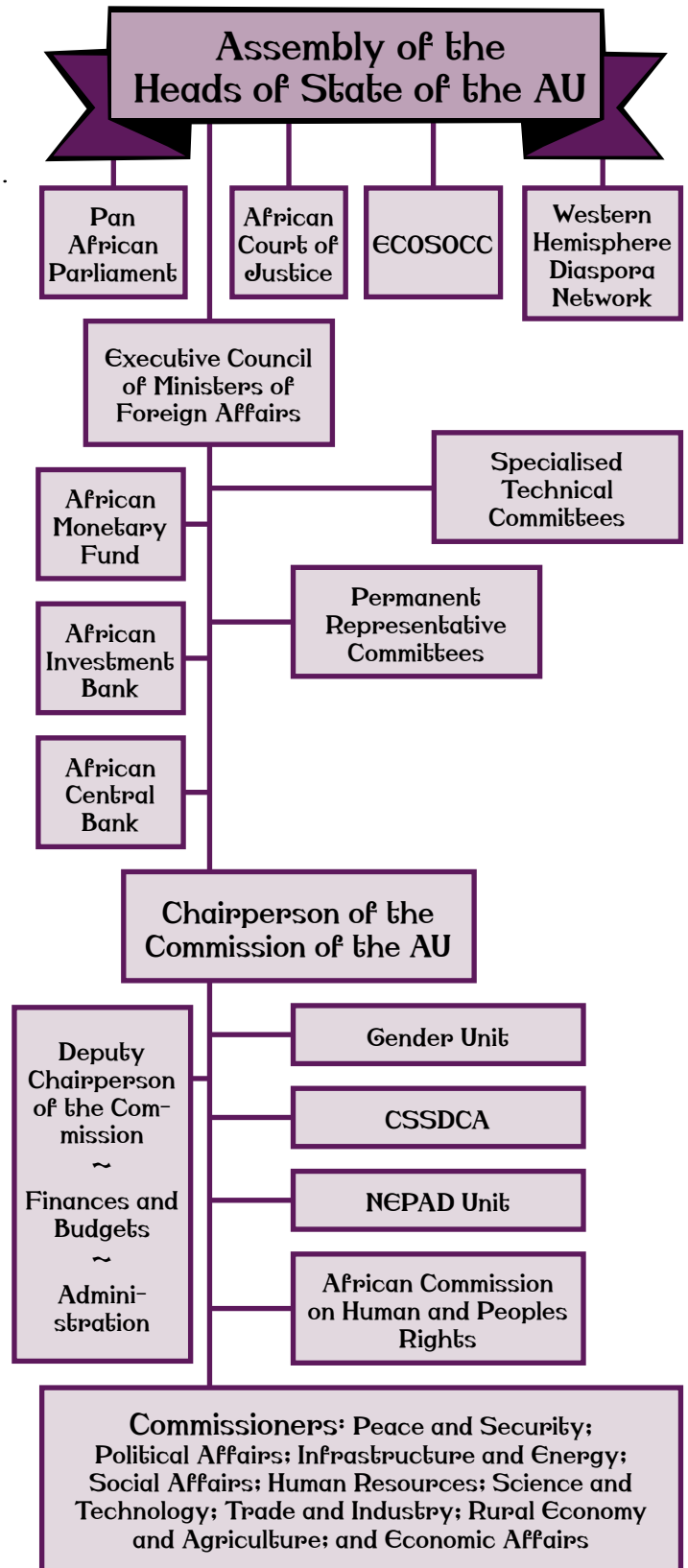
On the ninth of September 1999, the Heads of State and Government of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) issued a Declaration (the Sirte Declaration) calling for the establishment of an African Union (AU).

The main objective for this was to, among others, accelerate the process of integration on the continent. This would enable Africa to play its rightful role in the global economy while addressing the multifaceted social, economic and political problems faced that are compounded by certain negative aspects of globalisation.

An extraordinary session was therefore convened in Libya by the Libyan president, Colonel Muammar Gaddafi. Since then, five summits have been held, leading to the official launching of the AU and the inauguration of its various new organs.

The five summits held were:

- 1 The Sirte Extraordinary Session (1999), where the decision was made to establish the AU
- 2 The Lome Summit (2000), during which the Constitutive Act of the AU was adopted
- 3 The Lusaka Summit (2001), that drew the road map for the implementation of the AU
- 4 The Durban Summit (2002), when the AU was launched and the 1st Assembly of the Heads of States of the AU convened
- 5 The Maputo Summit in Mozambique (2003), that mainly sought to maintain the momentum of transforming the OAU to the AU through the election of its 10 commissioners



What is the vision of the AU?



- ➔ The AU is Africa's premier institution and principal organisation for the promotion of accelerated socioeconomic integration of the continent, which will lead to greater unity and solidarity between African countries and peoples.
- ➔ The AU is based on the common vision of a united and strong Africa and on the need to build a partnership between governments and all segments of civil society, in particular women, youth and the private sector, in order to strengthen solidarity and cohesion amongst the peoples of Africa.
- ➔ As a continental organisation it focuses on the promotion of peace, security and stability on the continent as a prerequisite for the implementation of the development and integration agenda of the Union.

"The political philosophy of black nationalism means that the black man should control the politics and the politicians in his community – no more."

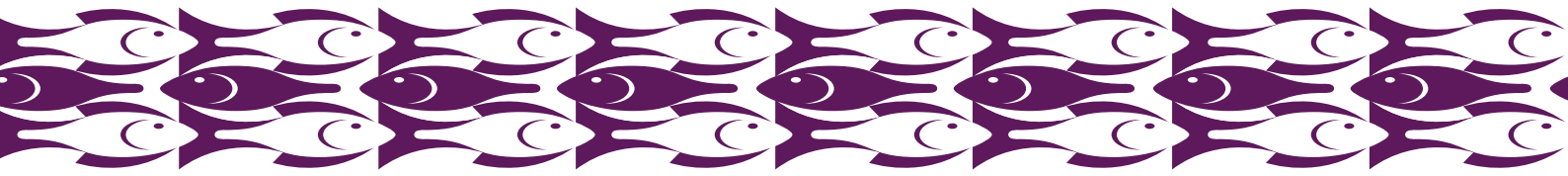
Malcolm X

What processes/events led to the formation of the AU?

African countries, in their quest for unity and economic and social development under the banner of the OAU, took various initiatives and made substantial progress in many areas which paved the way for the establishment of the AU.

Noteworthy among these are:

- The Lagos Plan of Action (LPA) and the Final Act of Lagos (1980): incorporating programmes and strategies for self-reliant development and cooperation among African countries.
- The African Charter on Human and People's Rights (Nairobi 1981) and the Grand Bay Declaration and Plan of Action on Human Rights: two instruments adopted by the OAU to promote human and people's rights in the Continent. The Human Rights Charter led to the establishment of the African Human Rights Commission located in Banjul, The Gambia.
- Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery (APPER) (1985): an emergency programme designed to address the development crisis of the 1980s, in the wake of protracted drought and famine that had engulfed the continent and the crippling effect of Africa's external indebtedness.
- OAU Declaration on the Political and Socioeconomic Situation in Africa and the Fundamental Changes taking place in the World (1990): this underscored Africa's resolve to seize the moment, to determine its destiny and to address the challenges of peace, democracy and security.
- The Charter on Popular Participation adopted in 1990: a testimony to the renewed determination of the OAU to endeavour to place the African citizen at the centre of development and decision-making.
- The Treaty establishing the African Economic Community (AEC) (1991), commonly known as the Abuja Treaty: it seeks to create the AEC through six stages culminating in an African Common Market using the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) as building blocks. The Treaty has been in operation since 1994.
- The Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution (1993): a practical expression of the determination of the African leadership to find solutions for conflicts and to promote peace, security and stability in Africa.
- Cairo Agenda for Action (1995): a programme for re-launching Africa's political, economic and social development.
- African Common Position on Africa's External Debt Crisis (1997): a strategy for addressing the Continent's External Debt Crisis.
- The Algiers decision on Unconstitutional Changes of Government (1999) and the Lome Declaration on the framework for an OAU Response to Unconstitutional Changes (2000).
- The 2000 Solemn Declaration on the Conference on Security, Stability, Development and Cooperation: establishes the fundamental principles for the promotion of Democracy and Good Governance in the Continent.
- Responses to other challenges: Africa has initiated collective action through the OAU in the protection of the environment, fighting international terrorism, combating the scourge of the HIV/AIDS pandemic, malaria and tuberculosis and dealing with humanitarian issues such as refugees and displaced persons, land mines and small and light weapons, among others.
- The Constitutive Act of the African Union: adopted in 2000 at the Lome Summit (Togo), entered into force in 2001.
- The New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD): adopted as a Programme of the AU at the Lusaka Summit (2001).



Discussion point

- 1 Are there parts of the AU vision that are similar to those of your organisation?
- 2 What are your comments on the many steps taken to get to the point that the AU is at now?
- 3 What learning do we draw from this with regard to an African Renaissance?

How different is the AU from the OAU?

The main objectives of the OAU were, among others:

- ✓ To rid the continent of the remaining vestiges of colonisation and apartheid
- ✓ To promote unity and solidarity among African States
- ✓ To coordinate and intensify cooperation for development
- ✓ To safeguard the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Member States through the principle of non-interference
- ✓ To promote international cooperation within the framework of the United Nations.

Through the OAU coordinating committee for the liberation of Africa, the continent worked and spoke as one with undivided determination in forging an international consensus in support of the liberation struggle and the fight against apartheid.

The OAU was however seen as a “trade union of the African heads of state” to quote the late Julius Nyerere, Tanzania’s first president and one of the founding fathers of the OAU. It was seen to protect dictators by the non-interference principle and by the delicate way that heads of state violating human rights were handled.

The AU now seeks to be participatory and offers to bridge the distance between African governments and their peoples with the inclusion of: the Pan African Parliament, the African Court of Justice, the Economic Social and Cultural Council and the Peace and Security Council.

What is the structure of the AU and what are its organs?

The Assembly of the AU – the supreme organ of the Union

The assembly is made up of the heads of state and government or their duly accredited representatives of all member states. It meets once a year and elects a chairperson. Decisions are made by consensus or two-thirds majority. The assembly has the function of deciding on common policies for the AU, considers applications for membership, adopts the budget and directs the process of conflict resolution among other duties.

The Executive Council

Composed of ministers of foreign affairs or authorities designated by the governments of members states, the executive council is responsible to the assembly and decides on matters such as foreign trade, social security, food, agriculture and communications. The council prepares material for the assembly to discuss and approve.

The Permanent Representatives Committee (PRC)

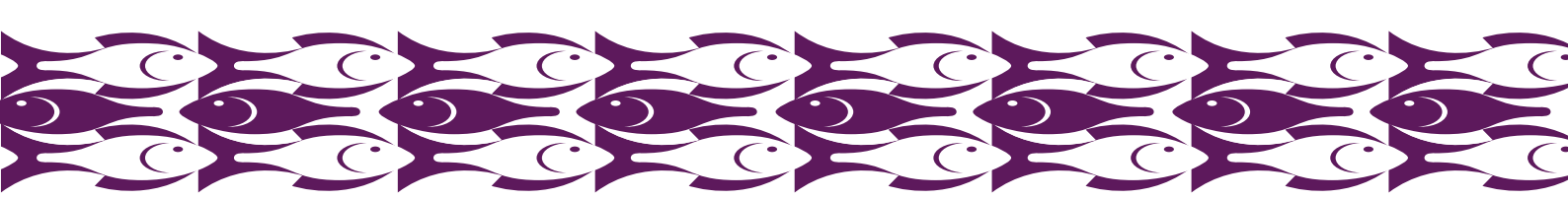
The PRC is composed of ambassadors to the AU and has the responsibility of preparing the work for the executive council.

The AU Commission

This forms the secretariat of the AU and is made up of the chairperson, a deputy chairperson, eight commissioners and staff members. Each commissioner is responsible for a portfolio.

“We’re all pretty sick and tired of being sold globally as the motherland of skulls and dismembered bodies. We know there is more – we have culture, art, tradition and instances of peace.”

Phylcia Oppelt
South African Sunday Times, 1999



What are the portfolios of the commission?

- 1 Peace and Security** – conflict prevention, management and resolution, and combating terrorism...
- 2 Political Affairs** – human rights, democracy, good governance, electoral institutions, civil society organisations, humanitarian affairs, refugees, returnees and internally displaced persons...
- 3 Infrastructure and Energy** – energy, transport, communications, infrastructure and tourism...
- 4 Social Affairs** – health, children, drug control, population, migration, labour and employment, sports and culture...
- 5 Human Resources, Science and Technology** – education, information technology communication, youth, human resources, science and technology...
- 6 Trade and Industry** – trade, industry, customs and immigration matters...
- 7 Rural Economy and Agriculture** – rural economy, agriculture and food security, livestock, environment, water and natural resources and desertification...
- 8 Economic Affairs** – economic integration, monetary affairs, private sector development, investment and resource mobilisation...

The Peace and Security Council (PSC)

The PSC is responsible for monitoring and intervening in conflicts. It will be alerted by an early warning system to any threats to security on the continent. The council will be funded by a peace fund, advised by a panel of the wise, and will have an African Standby Force and a Military Staff Committee at its disposal.

The Pan African Parliament

The Pan African Parliament is the organ that will ensure the full participation of African peoples in governance, development and economic integration of the continent.

Economic, Social and Cultural Council (ECOSOCC)

ECOSOCC is an advisory organ that will be composed of different social and professional groups of the member states of the AU. It will be tasked with ensuring that African people effectively contribute to policy formulation processes and to the implementation and evaluation of AU programmes. Its primary objective is, among others, to promote permanent dialogue between the African people and their leadership on vital issues concerning Africa and its future.

The African Court of Justice

The main function of the African Court of Justice will be to arbitrate in matters decided by the Union on behalf of the Union.

The Specialised Technical Committees

The following Specialised Technical Committees are meant to address sectoral issues and are at ministerial level:

- 1** The committee on Rural Economy and Agricultural Matters
- 2** The committee on Monetary and Financial Affairs
- 3** The committee on Trade, Customs and Immigration Matters
- 4** The committee on Industry, Science and Technology, Energy, Natural Resources and Environment
- 5** The committee on Transport, Communications and Tourism
- 6** The committee on Health, Labour and Social Affairs
- 7** The committee on Education, Culture and Human Resources

The Financial Institutions

These will be set up under the auspices of the AU to provide funding for projects and programmes. **They are: the African Central Bank, the African Monetary Fund and the African Investment Bank.**

What is the progress so far in the implementation of the Constitutive Act of the AU?

Since the Lusaka Summit decisions on the transition from the OAU to the AU, progress has been made as follows:

- ✓ The preparation and adoption of the legal instruments for the operationalisation and the launching of the four principal organs: the Assembly, the Executive Council, the Commission and the PRC
- ✓ The elaboration of the structure of the Commission and the conditions of service of staff
- ✓ Completion of the studies and legal instrument for the operationalisation of ECOSOCC
- ✓ Completion of the studies on the financing of the AU
- ✓ Preparation of the statutes of the Court of Justice
- ✓ Transfer of assets and liabilities from the OAU to the AU
- ✓ Preparation of a protocol on relations between the AU and the RECs
- ✓ Finalisation of the protocol on the Pan African Parliament, selection of the president and inauguration of the parliament
- ✓ Finalisation and ratification of the protocol of the PSC
- ✓ Preparation of the policy framework for the establishment of the African Standby Force and the Military Staff Committee
- ✓ Finalisation of the process of electing members of the Commission by the Assembly of the Union in Maputo

AU critiques and debates

- 1 How will the Pan African Parliament function effectively if many of the governments in place do not have democratically elected representatives?
- 2 How can the Union uphold the principle of self-reliance and self-determination of the African Renaissance by accepting support for conflict prevention, management and resolution from western nations?
- 3 How will the Court of Justice function when many countries do not have independent judiciaries and records of human rights violations?
- 4 How will the AU, which has more than twice the number of staff than the OAU, sustain itself especially since many members of the Union do not pay membership fees?
- 5 How will the AU, seeing that its success is very much dependent on the proper functioning of the RECs, achieve its goals with the economic gap between nations and conflicts persisting between region members?

What are the opportunities for engagement with AU policy makers?

- ★ Civil service organisations (CSOs), specifically community-based organisations (CBOs), can find out their country representatives on ECOSOCC and begin forwarding issues to these CSOs
- ★ The AU summit provides a general exhibition where CSOs can present their critiques and debates on policy formulated in the Union
- ★ It is important for CSOs to know when their countries will be sitting on the PSC so they can actively engage their representative in the Union
- ★ Possibilities for engagement also arise for CSOs to find out the countries that are friends of the reigning country chair of the AU and to influence policy through these countries
- ★ CSOs can approach their foreign affairs minister, who is their country representative on the Executive Council (council of foreign ministers).

The Peace and Development Platform (PAD) will be engaging with:

1 The AU Commission

The commission is the key organ playing a central role in the day-to-day management of the AU. Among others, it represents the Union and defends its interests; elaborates, promotes, coordinates and harmonises the programmes and policies of the Union with those of the RECs and ensures the mainstreaming of gender in all programmes and activities of the Union.

2 The Peace and Security Council (PSC)

The PSC serves as the standing decision-making organ for conflict prevention, management and resolution. It has equitable regional representation on a rotation basis and is responsible for monitoring and intervening in conflicts.

Some of the PSC's provisions into conflict intervention that were formally not in the OAU:

- ✓ The right to intervene in a member state following a decision made by the assembly in respect of grave circumstances, namely war crimes, genocide and crimes against humanity in accordance with the Constitutive Act.
- ✓ The right to institute sanctions whenever an unconstitutional change of government takes place.
- ✓ Ensures the implementation of the OAU Convention on the prevention and combating of terrorism and harmonises and coordinates efforts at regional and continental levels to combat international terrorism.

3 The Conference on Security, Stability, Development and Cooperation in Africa (CSSDCA)

The CSSDCA initiative began being discussed in Kampala and culminated in a Solemn Declaration by the 36th Ordinary Session of the assembly of heads of state and government in Lome, Togo in July 2000. It was set up as being a peer review/monitoring and evaluation mechanism for the OAU.

The memorandum, adopted at the Durban, South Africa, AU assembly, includes a series of clear undertakings to standards of democracy, human rights and other issues that would, if implemented, have far-reaching implications for the continent.

4 The Economic Social and Cultural Council (ECOSOCC)

Among ECOSOCC's objectives is to promote peace, security and stability in Africa. It shall be composed of 150 CSOs, selected to represent from each of the member states of the Union, the RECs and the African Diaspora, taking into account the established sectoral clusters of the commission. Two CSOs shall be selected to represent each member of the Union and 20 CSOs from the African Diaspora shall be selected as members of ECOSOCC.



Discussion point

- 1 What is your reaction towards the information about the AU?
- 2 Does the AU get your organisation closer to the vision of the African Renaissance?

PACK
3

New Partnership for Africa's Develop- ment (NEPAD)

What is NEPAD?

The New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD)
is a vision and strategic framework for Africa's renewal.



"It is a call for a new relationship of partnership between Africa and the international community, especially the highly industrialised countries, to overcome the development chasm that has widened over centuries of unequal relations.

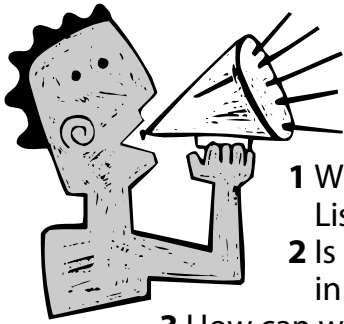
In this regard, we are not asking for favours, but for fairness and justice, a better life for Africans and a secure future for all humanity.

This is a programme premised on African ownership, African control of the projects and programmes, with African leaders accepting openly and unequivocally that they will play their part in ending poverty and bringing about sustainable development.

We agreed that we must strengthen democracy on the continent; we must entrench a human rights culture; we must end existing conflicts and prevent new conflicts.

We have to deal with corruption and be accountable to one another for all our actions. Clearly these measures of ensuring democracy, good governance and the absence of wars and conflicts, are important both for the well-being of the people of Africa and for the creation of positive conditions for investment, economic growth and development."

South African president, Thabo Mbeki



Discussion point

- 1 What is democracy?
List all the elements.
- 2 Is democracy present
in your organisation?
- 3 How can we strengthen
democracy and good
governance nationally and on
the continent?

What is the history and background of NEPAD?

NEPAD's history can be traced to three parallel initiatives.

In 2000, the Group of Eight (G8) extended an invitation to presidents Mbeki (South Africa), Obasanjo (Nigeria) and Bouteflika (Algeria) to attend the G8's annual meeting hosted by Japan in July of the same year. The three leaders were at the time chairpersons of the three largest intergovernmental groups representing the developing world: the Non-alignment Movement (NAM), the G-77 and the Organisation for African Unity (OAU) respectively. The OAU used the invitation to request the three leaders to draft a development plan for the continent. This request led to the establishment of a steering committee after the UN Millennium Summit in September 2000, tasked to formulate the plan.

The plan, which became known as the **Millennium Africa Recovery Plan (MAP)**, was unveiled by President Mbeki at the World Economic Forum in Davos in January 2001.

At the same time another draft plan was being formulated on the African continent. Known as the **Omega Plan**, this plan was crafted by Senegal president, Abdoulaye Wade, and was presented to the Francophone Summit in Cameroon, also in January 2001.

The third initiative was the **Compact for African Recovery** initiated by the executive secretary of the UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), K.Y. Amoako, in response to a mandate provided by African ministers of finance in late 2000. The ECA Compact was based on ideas of enhanced partnership, mutual accountability towards development outcomes and peer review.

MAP and Omega bore the same vision about redressing Africa's development challenges but differed in focus and content. MAP was broad ranging in content and focused on enhanced partnerships as a way of addressing Africa's development challenges. Omega, on the other hand, was more specific in selecting priority sectors: regional infrastructure and education. The ECA Compact was crucial to the implementation of both development plans since it anchored them in a process of transparency and accountability related to development outcomes.

Between January and May 2001, Senegal and Egypt were invited to serve on the MAP steering committee. In May 2001, a joint conference of Africa's finance and economic planning ministers was held in Algiers and resolved that these three initiatives must be merged into a single document, which was then called the **"New African Initiative"** (NAI). In July 2001, the NAI was presented to the OAU Summit in Lusaka which mandated an implementation committee of 15 heads of state to manage the process. In October 2001, the implementation committee held its first meeting in Abuja, Nigeria where they renamed the plan **NEPAD** and established a secretariat in Pretoria.

Where does NEPAD draw its inspiration from?



“Africa is beyond bemoaning the past for its problems. The task of undoing the past is ours, with the support of those willing to join us in a continental renewal. We have a new generation of leaders who know that we must take responsibility for our own destiny, that we will uplift ourselves only by our own efforts with those who wish us well.”

Nelson Mandela

NEPAD’s inspiration is seen as being drawn partly from Pan Africanism and also from the growing enthusiasm for regional free trade areas like the European Union (EU). It draws its momentum for change from globalisation and agitation from African civil society and aid agencies for democracy and good governance.



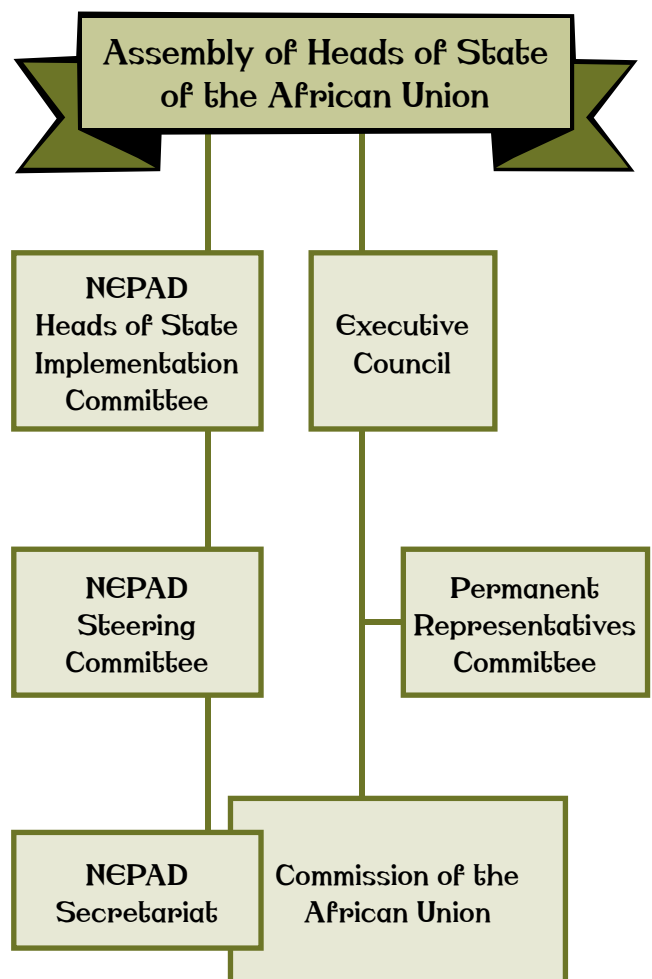
Discussion point

- 1 What events with regard to globalisation are being seen as providing momentum for change in Africa?
- 2 What do you think are the strengths and weaknesses of regionalism as a way towards achieving the goals of NEPAD, the AU and the African Renaissance?

What is the relationship between NEPAD and the AU?

NEPAD and the African Union (AU) have an interesting relationship. The child (NEPAD) is older than the parent (the AU). The AU was launched in the 2002 OAU/AU summit in Durban and NEPAD had already been launched in October 2001 in Abuja, Nigeria. Its secretariat, based in Midrand, South Africa is the only secretariat of an organ of the AU to be based outside Addis Ababa, the headquarters of the AU.

The NEPAD secretariat gets support from the South African government for its various committees. It currently has a programme and policy unit, a communications unit and an administrative unit.



What makes NEPAD *different* from other development plans formulated for African development?

It is the first...

- ✓ serious and visible collective attempt made to overcome the generally low level of international credibility towards Africa.
- ✓ earnest endeavour arising from within African countries, without any external pressure or conditionality, to escape from its probable fate of being left out of the present globalisation process.
- ✓ effort ever made in Africa to introduce clear benchmarks and targets in all the different initiatives to be implemented according to a preestablished calendar and to periodic transparent and objective peer policy reviews as well as to internal controls to check and audit their true compliance.

NEPAD therefore distinguishes itself from past development plans through its **explicit emphasis on African ownership of ideas and its pledge to uphold norms of democratic governance and market policies in exchange for a partnership with the G8** (Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Russia, the United States and the United Kingdom).

NEPAD seeks genuine partnership between Africa and its external partners based on mutual accountability and responsibility as a framework for triggering sustainable development in Africa and for managing Africa's re-integration into the global economy.



Discussion point

NEPAD can be seen as yet another development plan for Africa. How can we, as Africans, ensure that this time, this plan succeeds where others have failed?

Who are the “partners” of NEPAD?

- The G8 developed the G8 Africa Action Plan which rests on demonstrated commitment to good governance and the rule of law, human investment, poverty reduction and economic growth policies. The G8 pledged direct development assistance to peace and security efforts in Africa, building institutions to engendering commerce growth and sustainable development, to improving education, bridging the digital divide, improving health care and HIV/AIDS treatment and prevention, and increasing Africa's agricultural output. It is not a Marshall plan but a political commitment.
The G8 met in Kananaskis and adopted an Africa Action Plan in 2002 in response to NEPAD.
- Other NEPAD donors include the World Bank and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The UNDP seeks to support a publicity programme for NEPAD.
- NEPAD has already received financial support from India for its programmes.
- Currently, African civil society and the people of Africa are seeking to be more involved and recognised as partners of NEPAD.
- Cell C, a communications company.

How does NEPAD plan to alleviate poverty in Africa?

NEPAD's Implementation Strategy



NEPAD's framework is based on a three-pronged strategy:

1 Preconditions for development

- Peace, security, democracy and political governance
- Economic and cooperative governance, focusing on public finance management, regional corporation and integration

2 Priority sectors

- Infrastructure and development
- Information and communication technology
- Human development and poverty reduction, focusing on health and education
- Agriculture
- Promoting diversification of production and exports, focusing on market access for African exports to industrialised countries

3 Mobilising resources

- Increased debt relief
- Encouraging domestic private savings
- Increased ODA and private investment flows
- Proper management of public revenue

NEPAD's plan is to channel resources to the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) in Africa where the main implementation of NEPAD programmes will be carried out. Countries are therefore encouraged to submit development plans which would be financed through regions. These regions include the Community of Sahel Saharan States (CEN-SAD), Southern African Development Community (SADC), Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), Union du Maghreb Arabe (UMA), Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), Intergovernmental Authority for Development (IGAD) and Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS).

NEPAD has established special task teams for the priority programmes. The **eAfrica Commission** is the special task team for the priority programme in the Information Communication and Technology Sector.

NEPAD's Peer Review Mechanism

The African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) is a purely voluntary instrument to which the member states of NEPAD have acceded. This is to ensure that the policies and practices of participating states conform to the agreed political, economic and corporate governance values, codes and standards contained in the Declaration on Democracy, political and economic corporate governance adopted at the AU in July 2002.

Within the NEPAD plan, peer review will be used to create the preconditions for development. These preconditions, aforementioned, will be monitored and evaluated by the peer review teams.

It is then hoped that the following programmes, among others, will have room for developing and growing:

- 1 Bridging the infrastructure gap: water, sanitation facilities for health and education, ports, roads, electricity, telecommunication and information
- 2 Human resources development: facilitating growth in all sectors of the economy
- 3 Capital flows: through investment promotion (Foreign Direct Investments) debt reduction, increased Overseas Development Assistance and aid reforms
- 4 Market access: involving trade issues and diversification of production and increased manufacturing
- 5 Environment conservation and sustainable exploitation of biodiversity for economic use

Previously, peer review on governance was included in NEPAD. However, recently, discussions have been around having the political peer review being done by the CSSDCA arm of the AU instead of by NEPAD.

NEPAD critiques and debates

1 *The process in designing NEPAD was not participatory. NEPAD therefore appears to be elitist and excludes the masses. There has been more marketing and discussion on NEPAD outside the continent of Africa than amongst Africans themselves such that the West knows more about NEPAD than Africans.*

Critics say that ownership of NEPAD must relate to African people and their governments. However, without the requisite effort being made and tangible results being produced by these efforts, NEPAD could easily follow the path of earlier initiatives – little known and having limited impact.

Besides creating a sense of ownership, the involvement of civil society in the NEPAD process can help to provide solutions for bridging the gap between the articulation and implementation of policy.

2 *Sustainable development cannot come through being dependent on funds from outside Africa. Aid comes with conditions of allowing the donor country's multi-national companies to invest in the recipient country.*

NEPAD claims to be African owned yet the document states that most of the funds required for the development of Africa will come through Foreign Direct Investments (FDIs) and Overseas Development Aid (ODA). Aid has been used to gain unfair access to African markets on behalf of multinational corporations. To avoid dependence on ODA and FDI for Africa's development, and foster the principle of self reliance, African leaders must manage public funds well and eradicate corruption to free up funds for development.

3 *Africa's problems are about development, not about trade.*

NEPAD recognises that African products need access to the markets of developed countries and has identified this as one of its top priorities. Market access may be necessary but it is certainly not sufficient. Although trade barriers to African exports discriminate and are complicated, the basic issue for most African countries is their productivity level. African countries have a problem in supply capacities and have a low level of productivity, volumes, quality and price competitiveness.

4 *Sustainable development cannot come about through top down interventions – through policy makers telling the masses what to do.*

Critics argue that sustainable development has to grow naturally from within society. It has to be the outcome of a society's values, perceptions, concerns and endeavours.

5 *African countries do not have the capacity to implement the funds NEPAD aims to generate.*

It would be difficult for countries which are unable to implement their modest capital budgets and are pleading for massive investment to acquire the human resources needed to handle these funds. Such capacity can be imported but this could result in growth without development.

6 *Traditionally, Africa has received overseas income through Overseas Development Aid (ODA).*

Investment in African countries has been negligible. NEPAD argues that without FDI, ODA simply gets absorbed and no infrastructure with long term income generating capacity is developed. Critics are concerned that the focus on FDI reduces the need for the international community to take moral responsibility for the legacy of colonialism and slavery in Africa and to address poverty directly.



Discussion point

- 1 Who are the NEPAD staff in your country/region?
- 2 What projects or programmes are being designed for your country/region under NEPAD?
- 3 What do you think would be the priority sectors for your country?
- 4 How can you/your organisation be involved in the policy and programmes of NEPAD?



ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ

The challenges of Partnership: Conditionalties.

“One of the things I abhor is the threat to withhold aid.”

Nigerian president, Olusegun Obasanjo



PAD Info Packs in Action!



PAD planning meeting at the ASC in Johannesburg, South Africa.



PAD community workshop in Burundi.



PAD community workshop in Cameroon.

A Vision for Africa

A united, vibrant continent where progressive governance is guided by the ideals of participatory collective decision making, justice, gender equity and respect for human rights.

Diversity will be celebrated, unrestricted trade and free movement will be guaranteed, human resources will be empowered and African solutions will be promoted to achieve integrated sustainable peace and development.

The participants outlined the importance of civil society engagement in society, arguing that it is needed to promote the interests, views and ideas of ordinary citizens so that they can find both expression within the public space and recognition by governments. They concluded that if a country claims to be democratic, but does not have a developed civil society, then there is something wrong with its democracy.



PAD parallel conference at the 2004 AU Heads of State Summit in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

As a result of the training the communities involved stand for their rights, and respect the rights of others.



PAD community workshop in Soweto, South Africa.



PAD helped to run a conflict transformation theatre workshop in Tshwane, South Africa.

Bridging gaps - forging partnerships for the voices of peace and justice



PAD

**the Peace and Development Platform
Johannesburg, South Africa +27 11 331 0671**



Contacts

ACTION Support Centre (ASC), Johannesburg, South Africa



Telephone +27 11 331 2944/0671 **Fax** +27 11 331 0671

Physical #7 Troye cnr Marshall, Johannesburg, 2001

Postal Postnetsuite #145, Private bag X9, Melville, 2109, South Africa

E-mail enquiries@actionsupport.co.za **or** copa@actionsupport.co.za

For more information

Action for Conflict Transformation (ACTION) www.action-global.org

African Union (AU) www.african-union.org **Coalition for Peace in Africa (COPA)** www.copafrica.org

New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) www.nepad.org **Safer Africa** www.saferfrica.org

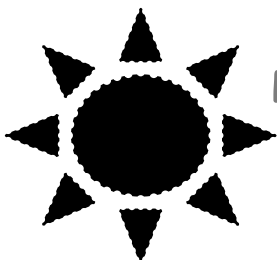
Please contact us for copies of our other three packs:

4 - Regional Economic Communities (RECs),

5 - Good Governance and Democracy, and

6 - The Path to Sustainable Peace

or access them from our website www.action-global.org



PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT
PLATFORM

