

NEPAD AND NAMIBIA

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Hanns
Seidel
Foundation
Namibia

New Partnership for Africa's Development

NEPAD is an economic development program of the African Union. The NEPAD was adopted at the 37th session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government in July in Lusaka, Zambia. It is meant to develop values and monitor their implementation within the framework of the African Union.

NEPAD is a merger of the Millennium Partnership for the African Recovery Program (MAP) and the OMEGA Plan. The merger was finalized on 3 July 2001. Out of the merger, NAI was born. The OAU Summit Heads of State and Government on 11 July 2001 approved NAI. The leaders of G8 countries endorsed the plan on 20 July 2001. The Heads of State Implementation Committee (HSIC) finalized the policy framework on 23 October 2001, and NEPAD was formed.

For further information: www.nepad.org

Table of contents

New Partnership for Africa's Development	2
Table of contents.....	3
Acronyms	4
Series of NEPAD Briefings.....	5
1. What is NEPAD?	6
2. Why is regional integration important?	7
3. The organisation structure of NEPAD	8
4. The Approach to Economic Policy.....	9
5. The Guest's Comment.....	11
6. The Focus on Good Governance	13
7. The peer review mechanism	14
8. How to fill Africa's resource gap	16
9. NEPAD and other Organisations.....	17
10. The Role of Development Partners	19
11. NEPAD and Namibia	20
12. The Ten Priorities of NEPAD.....	21

Acronyms

NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development
AU	African Union
APRM	African Peer Review Mechanism
IDGs	International Development Goals
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
REC	Regional Economic Community
UNECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
HSIC	Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee
CSSDCA	Conference on Security, Stability, Development and Cooperation in Africa
G8AAP	G8-Africa-Action Plan
NDP2	Second National Development Plan

Series of NEPAD Briefings

The Hanns Seidel Foundation has been committed to the development of Namibia for a long time now. As part of our current activities we would like to start with a series of briefings on NEPAD.

NEPAD stands for the “**New Partnership for Africa’s Development**”. This vision, developed by African leaders for Africa’s future, is a new approach and has the full support of the Hanns Seidel Foundation; actually we believe that NEPAD is a major opportunity, as well as a challenge, for Africa’s near future.

But we also realise that there is a lot of misunderstanding, misinformation and ignorance about NEPAD.

The Hanns Seidel Foundation therefore decided to start with a series of briefings on NEPAD. These papers will be compiled by NEPRU and will be distributed among the decision-makers in Namibia, especially the political leaders and the business community and other interested members of the Civil Society.

These series will cover at least ten different topics.

As part of the information we will also try to find politicians and members of the business committee to reflect their views on NEPAD.

Hanns Seidel Foundation

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1. What is NEPAD?

NEPAD stands for the „**New Partnership for Africa’s Development**“. It is a vision by African leaders about Africa’s future, a plan how to develop the continent, how to achieve economic growth and to overcome poverty.

Since independence of the first African countries in the 1960s, African leaders have realised that the fragmentation of the continent into many countries is a key problem. On top of that, the borders of these countries are often artificial, cutting through ethnic groups. Due to these reasons, the African states set regional integration high on their agenda and founded the “Organisation of African Unity” (OAU), which has now been transferred into the “African Union” (AU). The AU is seen as the key instrument for the future cooperation between the African countries.

Many development plans for Africa have been written during last decades. This contrasts with little progress in terms of economic growth, development and regional integration. Africa has lagged behind the progress of other regions – it is marginalised in the world economy. And it continues to be split into many countries.

What is new about NEPAD is that it is developed by African leaders – not by Western technocrats. And these leaders commit themselves to principles of good governance, or ensuring the rule of law, of setting conditions to attract investment. On this basis, NEPAD aims to get the countries of the First World to participate in NEPAD. Both donors and investors are expected to provide resources to Africa, in the form of foreign aid and investment.

Contrary to previous plans, NEPAD does not start by blaming the past and the outside world for Africa’s underdevelopment. Instead, NEPAD emphasises the responsibility of African leaders for Africa’s development.

Also NEPAD does not see the solution to Africa’s problems in a development on its own, separated from the outside world – a

tendency of previous plans. Instead, the way ahead is seen in accelerated integration into the world economy. NEPAD is intended as a pact between Africa and the developed world economy. NEPAD is intended as a pact between Africa and the developed countries. On this basis, NEPAD hopes to achieve growth, eradicate poverty, and join the those countries that have recently managed to close up with industrialised countries.

In many respects, NEPAD is a new start and Namibia's development partners see it very positively. At the same time, NEPAD continues the tradition of the grand and highly ambitious schemes for Africa that have a reputation of failing. The success of NEPAD depends critically on the ability of the African leaders to implement what they have committed themselves to do.

2. Why is regional integration important?

All concepts of economic development in Africa focus on regional integration as an important element. This is true for the first plans and institutions as well as the present – from OAU to the African Union (AU) and NEPAD. Not only the African programmes, also the externally prescribed – e.g. 'structural adjustment' – focus on it. 'One Africa' has been a vision since the early days of independence in the 1950s and 1960s.

However, the success of regional integration lags far behind these ambitions. In fact, Africa is less integrated than other regions in the world. Has the commitment of African leaders to regional integration been more rhetoric than real? Is it important after all?

The most prominent argument for regional integration was and still is the integration of markets. Most of Africa's 53 states are very small markets and this limits their scope for development. The markets of Africa's 53 states are small and isolated by trade barriers. So, integration of these markets would be a major step ahead? Well, not quite – Africa's most important markets, where people have highest incomes, lie in Europe, America and Asia. Also what African countries produce is very similar and limited in range – African countries' economies are not complementary to each other, they rather compete with each other. Only in a longer term would Africa be increasingly

able to produce what it needs and be able to buy much of it. At this time, global markets are more important as a destination for Africa's exports and as a source of its imports. Because of the low incomes, this would not change even if all trade barriers would be abolished immediately (which is not a reasonable assumption anyway). Thus the hopes on trade integration should not be overstated. The importance of integration lies elsewhere.

One is the higher credibility of policies that countries have committed themselves to in international agreements. These are 'locked in', they cannot be reversed as national policies can. Such a certainty about future policies is important for investors.

Regional economic blocs have a stronger voice internationally. Pooling their resources, small African countries can take informed positions at international negotiations, for example trade negotiations. Presently they are seriously handicapped because of their limited capacity to develop informed positions. However, there is a snag: Before realising this, African countries need to develop a common position. This will not be easy for countries that are very different after all. Policy makers have to weigh up costs and benefits of developing common policies. It is advisable to move in steps.

3. The organisation structure of NEPAD

The New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) is run by a number of organs at different layers. These include the Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee (HSIC), the Steering Committee, the Secretariat and special task teams.

The Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee is tasked with the execution of top decisions and the implementation of NEPAD policies. It comprises of 15 states. Of these are 5 initiating states (Algeria, Egypt, Nigeria, Senegal & South Africa). These initiating states are permanent members, while other 10 states have been selected according to the five OAU regional groupings of the continent, with each region to be represented by a total of 3 countries (initiating states included). Present members are Cameroon, Gabon and São Tome & Príncipe from the Central Africa region, Ethiopia, Mauritius and Rwanda from East Africa, Algeria, Egypt and Tunisia

from North Africa, Botswana, Mozambique and South Africa from Southern Africa, Mali, Nigeria and Senegal from West Africa. Five more members are planned, one from each region.

The Steering Committee is made up of personal representatives of five initiating presidents. This committee is responsible for the development of terms of reference for identified programmes and projects and it oversees the secretariat.

The Secretariat is a small team of professionals based at the Development Bank of Southern Africa in Midrand, South Africa. It carries out the functions of liaison and coordination; administration and logistics. It also outsources work on technical detail to lead agencies and/or continental experts. There are five task teams, led by representatives of the five founding member states:

Peace and security, democracy and political governance initiative (South Africa)

Economic and corporate governance / Banking and financial standards / Capital flows initiatives (Nigeria)

Market access and agriculture initiatives (Egypt)

Human resources development initiative (Algeria)

Infrastructure (Senegal)

NEPAD's organisational structure is young and evolving. To be successful, it will need a growing secretariat with increasing independence. For this to become reality, secure financial resources are necessary.

4. The Approach to Economic Policy

The New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) is based on a number of principles of economic policy: Economic integration of Africa, emphasis on trade as an engine of growth, focus on markets, privatisation and the role of governments. While the emphasis on African integration and the emphasis on the role of governments have

been there since the 1960s, the other principles reflect a fresh approach.

In the first place, NEPAD is realising that economic welfare does not automatically result from political independence – it depends critically on the right economic policies. People will act in a way that results in general higher well-being if they face the right incentives to do so.

Since independence of the first African states the continent's leaders have recognised the need to overcome the limitations of small and fragmented national markets. Regional market integration also promises to increase efficiency through competition. A regional bloc will raise a stronger voice internationally.

What is new is a higher emphasis on international trade and the gains to be reaped by it. Even though Africa is appealing for aid in form of debt cancellation and Official Development Assistance (ODA), the medium to long term objective is to put the continent in the position where Africans can more effectively participate in mutually beneficial trade with the rest of the world. NEPAD is therefore lobbying for the opening up of developed countries' markets for African products. So the removal of tariffs, trade subsidies and financial restrictions are important actions that need to be taken.

The approach of NEPAD is also more generally emphasising the gains of the efficient operation of free market economies, where markets allocate the resources in the most efficient manner. Governments that may have best intentions do not have the information to do a better job through central planning.

NEPAD is also in favour of privatisation and commercialisation of state-owned enterprises, especially the ones rendering services that are not vital for the poor can be privatised. This means putting state-owned enterprises in the hands of the private sector, which is generally more efficient because here people are driven by profit motives, and by other factors that are characteristic of competitive markets.

NEPAD recognises the important roles of governments in making sure that markets work and addressing issues such as poverty reduction, income re-distribution, and providing necessary services to its nationals.

The emphasis on the correct economic principles creates a sound basis for the development of Africa. The success of this approach will critically depend on the degree to which day-to-day policies of African governments will in fact be guided by these principles.

5. The Guest's Comment

Dr. Uschi Eid

Parliamentary State Secretary of the Ministry for Economic Co-operation and Development (BMZ)

German Chancellors's G8 Personal Representative for Africa

NEPAD and the peer review

Within the framework of the G8 states, Germany supports NEPAD through the G8-Africa-Action Plan as a crucial political reform project. The G8-Africa-Action Plan was adopted at the G8 summit of 2002 in Kananakis. At the summit in Evian in June 2003, the G8 states presented the first progress report on the implementation of the said action plan. It further had been resolved to continue the G8's high-level dialogue with NEPAD.

In addition, an important signal of a long-term partnership with Africa is the jointly-drafted peace initiative between NEPAD, the AU, the UN and G8, of which Germany had been a substantial proponent, and which had also been adopted in Evian. According to the plan, by 2010, through strengthening of regional organisations, including the AU, Africa is to be in a position to carry out peace-keeping operations independently.

Basic to the NEPAD initiative is the extensive process of mutual evaluation and support of African states - the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM). At the sixth meeting of the NEPAD implementation committee on 9 March, 2003, the implementation modalities of this evaluation process were decided upon and are now carried out independently by the NEPAD secretariat.

So far, 16 African states have pledged their commitment to participate in the process¹. The originally envisaged launch of 1 April 2003 could not take place. Until the end of July 2003, seven members of the panel of eminent persons were nominated which are to supervise the mutual evaluation² (2). The first peer reviews are expected to start 2003 in Uganda, Ghana or South Africa.

The aim of the NEPAD skeleton agreement is that participating states jointly strive for improved standards with regard to government activities, and that in addition they mutually evaluate and support each other within the frame of the peer review. This constant and transparent process is to be open to all member states of the AU. For the first time, contents of "Good Governance" thus become the topic of a formal dialogue between African states. The process of mutual evaluation practically would underpin the emergence of a new comprehension of the African state system - viz. the departure from the earlier sacrosanct principle of non-intervention -, even if the peer review as a new process will only be able to produce first detectable effects on political behaviour of African states on a long-term basis.

Though Namibia has accepted NEPAD, it hitherto has restricted itself to the role of spectator, which, in view of the contribution Namibia could make with regard to the inter-African exchange on issues of

¹ Algeria, Ethiopia, Burkina Faso, Gabon, Ghana, Cameroon, Kenya, Democratic Republic of Congo, Mali, Mauritius, Mozambique, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa and Uganda.

² Professor Adebayo Adedeji, Ambassador Bethuel Kiplagat, Dr. Grace Machel, Ms Dorothy Njeuma, Ms Marie-Angelique Savane, Mr Chris Stals.

governance, is regrettable. Countries not participating in the peer review surely will experience medium-term disadvantages with regard to their position in foreign private investments.

During talks in Namibia I frequently realised that information on the peer review varied to a great extent. The peer review is an African idea embedded in the NEPAD document. Neither the G8, the World Bank or the International Monetary Fund have ever demanded such a mutual evaluation. The results of such processes are not to be presented to donors as proof of positive results, but rather to give impetus to a process of mutual learning and improvement.

Countries participating in the peer review have not only committed themselves to a closer inspection of own structures and processes, but to familiarise themselves with those of others. Namibia could make a substantial contribution to peer learning, seeing that the country has an exemplary constitution and a government legitimised democratically that in future could assume an important role within the NEPAD process.

6. The Focus on Good Governance

The New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) has recognised good governance as one of the pre-conditions for sustainable development. Such governance can be broken down into two main elements, namely democracy and political governance, and economic and corporate governance.

The notion of democracy and political governance refers to the state of political affairs where there is:

A multi-party political system (free & fair elections, independent electoral management, participation of trade unions and other interest groups in the society);

Protection of human rights (via the respect for the rule of law, freedom of speech and freedom of association);

Gender balance in political representation and the re-distribution of wealth

The presence of the principles above will strengthen the political and administrative frameworks within the member states of NEPAD and lead to a more coordinated interests and commitments of the continent. Good political governance reflects durable stability within the society or low levels of internal social conflict, which are best achieved through a political system.

Economic and corporate governance refers mainly to institutional arrangements within which the public and private organisations operate. The main concern here is about the capacity of national governments to promote economic growth and development, through their policy, their regulatory frameworks for private sector-led growth, and to implement social programmes aimed at reducing poverty.

NEPAD is therefore taking the initiative to assess capacities of national governments and to provide appropriate support, especially in areas of:

Public expenditure management (budgeting, spending, reporting and auditing)

Corporate governance (including auditing)

Financial regulation – macro policy, institutional and market infrastructure, regulation of banking, securities, insurance etc.

The limits to good governance in Africa, both in the political and economic fields, is identified as one of the stumbling blocks to development. So it is essential that it is prioritised to ensure that there is a common goal for all member states of NEPAD.

7. The peer review mechanism

As an important precondition for development NEPAD identifies economic and corporate governance. NEPAD also acknowledges that there are many weak states in Africa that are unlikely to accomplish

governance improvements by themselves, without external assistance. In this context, a key element of NEPAD is the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM). It refers to the systematic examination and assessment of the performance of a state by other states (peers), by designated institutions, or by a combination of states and designated institutions.

The overall responsibility for the APRM is vested with the members states of the AU, who have voluntarily chosen to participate in the process. Reviews of individual states will start with a careful analysis of the governance and development environment in the country – drawn heavily on the existing country self-assessment –, a country visit by a country review team, discussion of the review findings by the participating heads of states and the respective government, and a formal and public tabling of the peer review reports. Reviews will be made regularly and at signs of impending political and economic crisis.

Benchmarks and indicators, reference points for measuring performance, need to be established. A country's performance may be compared with an international standard or agreement, with an AU agreement or decision, or with the best performer in the group of participating countries in a specific area. The overarching objective is to move all participating countries towards the best practice with respect to each benchmark. However, since African states are at different stages of development, there will be intermediate benchmarks along the way.

The APRM can really be called revolutionary as it marks a departure from a sacred principle of African development, that of non-interference. Although African heads of states have always committed themselves to regional integration, it was not supposed to compromise the sovereignty of African states. Other novelties to the way policies are made in Africa is the transparency and publication of a process that has until now largely be seen as confidential. Not least important, the external pressure is not coming from donors or the IMF, but from African states themselves.

Not surprisingly, the APRM is disputed. Many states, including Namibia, have not acceded to the APRM. A key concern is the questioning of national sovereignty. This is a valid point. At the same

time, in today's world even industrial countries are no longer fully sovereign, but bound by a multitude of international agreements and obligations. In case of the APRM, participating countries may expect high gains not only through their commitments to good governance as such, but also through the increased credibility of such commitments as they are subject to external review and can thus not easily be refrained from.

However, it is important to note that this gain depends on the credibility of the APRM itself, which can only be established over time and through accessions of countries that are seen as voluntary, rather than the result of donor pressure. Such domestic ownership can only be gained in a process of debate about the pros and cons of the APRM.

8. How to fill Africa's resource gap

In its pursuit for economic and social welfare for Africa, NEPAD has committed itself to stop further impoverishment of the continent and put Africa on the path towards sustainable growth and development. One of the objectives of NEPAD is to ensure that Africa achieves the agreed International Development Goals (IDGs). So, NEPAD aims to achieve and sustain a 7% annual GDP growth rate for all the participating countries by the year 2015.

NEPAD says that Africa needs resources and has identified the need for US\$64 billion annual capital inflows into Africa per year, to be shared between Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and aid. The aid is to be in form of Official Development Assistance (ODA), grants, debt relief and loans. The International community is expected to bear most of the financing responsibility, as a total of US\$56 billion is expected to come from outside Africa each year. It is not however specified as to how much of this will be in FDI and how much will be in form of aid. The remaining US\$8 billion is expected to be generated from sources within the continent every year. The lump sum of US\$64 billion is not an additional capital inflows needed, but rather the total net capital inflows required.

Using the World Bank data from 1990 to 1999, Africa has managed to attract an annual average of US\$20.1 billion in form of net ODA, US\$5.7 billion in form of net loans (short-term and long-term loans),

US\$5.05 billion in form of net FDI and US\$3.9 billion in form of net capital grants, making up a total annual average of US\$34.74 billion per annum. This figure does not include debt relief flows, but it is a close estimate of what the African continent has been generating from international sources for the last decade. The growth pattern in total net capital flows to Africa has been disappointing over the last decade or so, averaging at a negative 5.1% per annum from 1990 to 1999, and this means that the continent has been facing an annual resource gap of about US\$29 billion on average over the same period.

What can Africa do about the resource gap? African countries need to create incentives for investment by improving operations of their markets and strive to achieve economic stability; they need to formulate effective and credible policies that are favourable for investment and for attracting more aid.

Africa has also built a reputation as a net exporter of financial capital, mostly in form of debt service. From 1990 to 1999, Africa has been paying about US\$26 billion in debt service to the rest of the world, so we need to reduce the rate at which African capital leave the continent each year. This means that African countries need to increase net capital inflows by putting mechanisms in place that are aimed at attracting investment, aid and increasing trade on one hand; and by reducing their borrowing and increasing credibility and competitiveness of their financial markets in order to reduce capital flight in form of investment abroad.

9. NEPAD and other Organisations

NEPAD is an African plan that coexists with other organisations on the continent. These organisations include the African Union (AU), the Regional Economic Communities (RECs), the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and the Conference on Security, Stability, Development and Cooperation in Africa (CSSDCA).

While almost all African countries are members of the AU, NEPAD membership is voluntary and entails commitment to a number of principles. Initially, NEPAD was set to operate independently and separate from the AU structures and programmes, but the AU Summit in Maputo in July 2003, decided that the NEPAD Secretariat should be

integrated into the AU Commission gradually, with a possible duration of 3 years or until the AU structures are fully operational. The Head of State and Government Implementation Committee (HSIC) of NEPAD has to report annually to the AU summit, the AU chair and the secretary general are ex-officio members of the HSIC and the AU Secretariat participates in NEPAD's Steering Committee meetings.

The Regional Economic Communities (RECs) refer to trade and investment agreements of regions within Africa. They aim at the promotion of integration, co-ordinating and harmonising policies of member countries. These Regional Cooperation Agreements are crucial to the success of NEPAD's quest to bring about economic growth and development in Africa through regional cooperation and integration.

The RECs have been consulted and they are part & parcel of NEPAD plan, which is encouraging them to speed up regional integration within Africa, the process that is expected to result in a full economic integration for the whole continent.

The role of the UNECA is to support socio-economic development of Africa through the fostering of regional integration in Africa and the promotion of international cooperation for Africa's development. Like NEPAD, the UNECA tries to harmonise interests of African Countries with those of their Development Partners (donors). UNECA is a United Nations institution, while NEPAD is a continental body, but both are striving for the common goal, which is the economic development for Africa.

The Conference on Security, Stability, Development and Cooperation in Africa CSSDCA is aimed at promoting political stability and economic development on the continent by tackling issues ranging from security, stability and cooperation, which are not only interrelated, but also necessary conditions for economic development. NEPAD has its Peace and Security Initiative as well. Since the CSSDCA has not been fully active, NEPAD is more likely to take over this function.

Although AU, UNECA, the RECs and CSSDCA should complement NEPAD, there is a danger that in reality they may compete and undermine each other. While competition is good in principle, in the context of scarce institutional and human capacity in Africa the proliferation of institutions may better be limited.

10. The Role of Development Partners

It has been emphasised that Africa can only develop through partnership and cooperation, as many other regions did. NEPAD is an African plan that is trying to develop Africa through partnership and cooperation. NEPAD's Development Partners constitute of the Group of 8 industrialised countries (the G8), African organisations, international and local organisations with commitments to support NEPAD for the development of the continent, and other donor countries. The G8 consists of Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Russia, United Kingdom and the United States of America.

The G8 is probably the most active development partner of NEPAD, having developed the G8 Africa Action Plan (G8AAP) in June 2002, in response to the initiation of NEPAD, followed by the setting up of the G8 Representatives to NEPAD. The G8AAP has set out commitments for both the member countries of NEPAD (to uphold good governance and respect of human rights as spelt out in the NEPAD plan) and for the G8 member counties (to mobilise resources for NEPAD) in order to make NEPAD a success. The G8 Representatives to NEPAD are there to monitor the progress on governance and respect of human rights in Africa and to provide a communication link between NEPAD and the G8.

Institutions such as the African Development Bank, the UN Economic Commission for Africa and the United Nations at large are set to coordinate their activities towards supporting NEPAD. Other development partners of NEPAD are the developed and developing countries, which are already giving assistance to Africa in many forms (Official Development Assistance, soft loans, providing experts etc). The Industrial Development Cooperation (IDC) and Cell C are two examples of local development partners based in South Africa, but there are many others.

The role of development partners of NEPAD is to increase the flow of resources to Africa and to provide technical assistance where necessary, based on the condition that NEPAD countries fulfil their commitments of maintaining good governance, the respect for human rights as covered by the African Peer Review Mechanism. This also

included the reviewing of international trade policy to give more market access for African products.

Of course all donor countries and organisations are accountable themselves for the resources they give to NEPAD and they will have to make sure that such resources are put to good use. Still unresolved issues include the question as to whether human rights violations by African countries, which are not members of NEPAD can be ignored by development partners.

11. NEPAD and Namibia

NEPAD encourages African countries to achieve and maintain a good standard of governance in social, economic and political aspects, in return for an enhanced development assistance, better cooperation in trade, technology transfer etc. The need to increase the credibility if domestic policies is realised and it is expected to increase confidence among foreign and domestic investors and thereby speed up the level of private investment for complying countries.

Until the year 2002, Namibia's official position on NEPAD was unclear, except that the civil society in Namibia has expressed reservations concerning the plan: The civil society questioned the authenticity of NEPAD's ownership by Africans as it was not developed in consultation with the grassroots people of Africa; the lack of a clear relation to the existing African institutions; the fear that it is bound to terminate social welfare programmes similar to the Structural Adjustment Programmes of the IMF and the World Bank in early 1990's. From the Government side, the inclusion of the political component in NEPAD's African Peer Review Mechanism was questioned on several occasions.

After some adjustments to the original plan, which included the incorporation of NEPAD into AU structures, leaving the responsibility of the political review to AU rather than NEPAD and after several information sharing workshops on NEPAD, Namibia accepted the plan in principle. Namibia has its own development agendas such as the second National Development Plan (NDP2) and the vision 2030, which are not different from NEPAD's development programmes. Furthermore, Namibia can claim to have one of the good governance systems in Africa, from all social, economic and political perspectives. Namibia would not need to make any major changes in order to qualify for the membership to NEPAD or to the peer review system of NEPAD,

which is in fact voluntary and based on major three principles i.e. *good political governance, good corporate governance and good economic performance*.

Even though Namibia has set a good standard in terms of above requirements, there is still room for improvement for Namibia, especially in the case of corporate governance. Namibia is also set to benefit tremendously, through regional cooperation in areas of trade and investment, mainly if Namibia's weak neighbours (Angola, Zambia and Zimbabwe) will take up a challenge to raise their standards of governance and become better trading partners for Namibia and the whole of the Southern African Region. The NEPAD approach is now welcome in Namibia, especially following its endorsement by the Government, but the larger part of the civil society has still to come out loud and clear about NEPAD.

12. The Ten Priorities of NEPAD

1. Good Public Governance

Political stability and social peace are essential for sustainable development: democratic institutions, free and fair elections, openness in management, respect of human rights.

2. Good Corporate Governance

In order to become attractive for productive capital Africa needs an honest and clear management of private businesses, and to have an independent and honest justice that secures a favourable climate for business.

3. Infrastructure

Infrastructure as roads, motorways, airports, seaports, railways, navigable ways and installations of telecommunications are essential parameters and amplifiers of economic growth.

4. Education

Investment in human resources is the most important for sustainable development. Creativeness, inventiveness and productivity are necessary inputs for economic growth.

5. Health

Improved health is crucial for Africa with its very high death rate due to endemic sicknesses, malaria, tuberculosis and HIV/Aids. The population's good health improves productivity whereas poor health is a source of expenses.

6. New Technologies of Information and Communications (NTIC)

NTIC are important for the future economy that will be crucially based on knowledge in all sectors. Access to NTIC must be assured for African populations from the early childhood.

7. Agriculture

Improvement of agricultural performance is a prerequisite for economic development. Africa has an enormous delay in agricultural development, despite its abundance in land and water.

8. Environment

The battle of environment imposes the protection of land, water, and non-renewable resources in order to safeguard the quality of life, a healthy and productive environment.

9. Energy

Africa abounds in energy resources of all kinds, but these are badly shared. The research of accessible and sufficient sources of energy will be focussed on the rationalisation of territorial distribution and the growth of abundant resources of solar energy.

10. Access to Markets of Developed Countries

Africa's agriculture can only develop and diversify if developed countries open up their markets for African products.

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