General Assembly
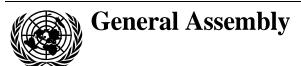
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Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005

Programme 8
Africa: New Agenda for Development

1.   The preparation, format and content of the medium-term plan and its revisions are governed by the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation (ST/SGB/2000/8).

2.   Regulation 4.13 provides, inter alia, that the medium-term plan shall be revised as necessary every two years to incorporate required programme changes and that the proposed revisions shall be as detailed as necessary to incorporate the programme implications of the resolutions and decisions adopted by intergovernmental organs and international conferences since the adoption of the plan.

3.   The revisions to the medium-term plan proposed in the annex are as follows: modification of the overall orientation (paras. 8.3, 8.5 and 8.6) and of subprogramme 1 (para. 8.9), subprogramme 2 (paras. 8.12 and 8.13) and subprogramme 3 (para. 8.18).

4.   The proposed revisions reflect action taken by the General Assembly, in particular through its resolutions 55/2, 55/216, 55/217, 55/279 and 56/95, as well as the ministerial declaration adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its high-level segment of 2001 (see A/56/3, chap. III).

5.   There is no specialized reviewing body for this programme. The revisions are submitted directly to the central reviewing bodies for their consideration.

6.   The medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 was adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/234 of 23 December 2000 and issued as document A/55/6/Rev.1. The proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 is contained in documents A/56/6 and Corr.1 and Add.1 and 2 (Introduction, Sects. 1-33 and Income sects. 1-3). It was revised and approved by the General Assembly in its resolutions 56/253 and 56/254 of 24 December 2001.

7.   In the proposed revisions, new text to be inserted appears in boldface type, and text to be deleted appears in strikeout type. An explanation of the changes is provided in italic type within brackets.

Annex

Proposed revisions to programme 8, Africa: New Agenda for Development

Overall orientation

8.3 The mandate of the programme derives from various General Assembly resolutions, especially 53/90, 54/232, ~~and~~ 54/234**, 55/2, 55/216, 55/217, 55/279 and 56/95. Section VII of the road map towards the implementation of the Millennium Declaration (A/56/326) and the ministerial declaration of the 2001 high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council articulated the priority actions for achieving Africa's development goals.** The activities to be undertaken within the framework of this programme are also derived from the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa, in which he made wide-ranging recommendations on the question of peace and development in Africa; the Organization of African Unity **(OAU)** resolution entitled "Relaunching Africa's economic and social development: the Cairo Agenda for Action"; ~~and~~ the Tokyo Agenda for Action, adopted by the Second Tokyo International Conference on African Development in 1998 **and the Africa-led New African Initiative (later renamed the New Partnership for Africa's Development), adopted by OAU in July 2001 and endorsed in the ministerial declaration of the Economic and Social Council.** *[changed to reflect new mandates of the General Assembly as well as the ministerial declaration of the Economic and Social Council]*

8.5 The efforts to address the problems of the development of Africa under this programme would need to continue over the plan period**, especially in relation to the United Nations system's support to the implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development**. A final review of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s will be carried out in 2002. It is expected that the outcome of this review would provide further guidance to the programme in the plan period. *[changed to reflect the ministerial declaration of the Economic and Social Council]*

8.6 The programme's strategy would be organized around three main sets of activities: (a) the mobilization and coordination of international support; (b) enhanced monitoring and assessment of activities **at the field level;** and (c) advocacy and global awareness of the region's critical economic and social situation. To that end, at the policy level the programme would facilitate the work of intergovernmental and ad hoc bodies that discuss Africa through the submission of high-quality studies, proposals for action and progress reports on the status of implementation of action programmes. At the operational level, it would be based on the utilization of regular consultations and information sharing on the priorities established by national Governments and intergovernmental processes with a view to enabling Africa to derive maximum benefit from improved coordination of the activities undertaken by the agencies of the United Nations system. The programme would actively promote partnership between Africa and the stakeholders in its development through a better flow of information and organizing forums for policy makers and experts. *[changed to clarify the focus of the activities]*

Subprogramme 1
Mobilization of international support and global coordination

Strategy

8.9 Substantive responsibility for the subprogramme is vested in the Office of the Special Coordinator for Africa and the Least Developed Countries of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs. The subprogramme's strategy will be geared to creating an environment that enables the international community to commit its support to initiatives on Africa and to give effect to its commitments, and to enhancing ownership by African countries of their development processes. To that end, it will promote and strengthen the partnership between Africa and its development partners through the exchange of experiences and improved flow of information, based on the priorities of the New Agenda for the Development of Africa**, as well as any other successor arrangement that the General Assembly might adopt at its fifty-seventh session**. The subprogramme will also encourage increased cooperation between Africa and the other regions, including through the Tokyo International

Conference on African Development process and other initiatives for greater South-South cooperation. At the policy level, it will contribute to the coordination of the response of the United Nations system to Africa through inputs, as necessary, to the work of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Committee for Programme and Coordination. In addition, the subprogramme will promote **the** implementation of the **relevant provisions of the road map towards the implementation of the Millennium Declaration and the 2001 ministerial declaration of the Economic and Social Council, as well as the** recommendations of the United Nations global conferences as they affect Africa, especially actions pertaining to the eradication of poverty and the integration of African countries into the global economy. *[changed to reflect new mandates adopted by the General Assembly and the ministerial declaration of the Economic and Social Council]*

Subprogramme 2
Monitoring, assessment, facilitation and follow-up to the implementation of action programmes for African development

Objective

8.12 The objective of the subprogramme is to ensure implementation**, at the field level,** of the action programmes and initiatives on African development. *[changed to clarify the focus of the activities to be carried out under this subprogramme]*

Strategy

8.13 Substantive responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the Economic Commission for Africa. The ~~element of the~~ strategy will include **utilizing the work of the subregional development centres, as well as** improving collaboration and coordination with agencies of the United Nations system with a view to ensuring effective implementation of the United Nations System-wide Special Initiative for the Implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s and of the agreed outcome of the final review and appraisal of the New Agenda. In that regard, the subprogramme will draw lessons from the experiences of Member States and agencies of the United Nations system in

implementing the action programmes and will disseminate the information and best practices to the various stakeholders in African development. *[changed to reflect the role that the subregional development centres will be playing to support special programmes for Africa]*

Subprogramme 3
Campaign for global awareness of the critical economic situation in Africa

Strategy

8.18 Substantive responsibility for the subprogramme is vested in the Africa Recovery Unit of the Department of Public Information. The strategy is based on maintaining the spotlight on Africa and ensuring international awareness of the region's social and economic crises and the efforts under way to address them. In so doing, the subprogramme will draw international attention to the relevant thematic issues, based on the priorities outlined in the action programmes, and policies and events at the global and regional levels and their impact on the development prospects of African countries. To that end, regular and ad hoc publications, including the quarterly *Africa Recovery* newsletter, a series of briefing papers, occasional press kits and press releases and radio programmes — in local languages and with greater emphasis on local content — will be prepared and disseminated as widely as possible**, both in print and through the Africa Recovery web site** *[changed to clarify the means of dissemination]*

Legislative mandates

Programme 8
Africa: New Agenda for Development

General Assembly resolutions

55/2	**United Nations Millennium Declaration**
55/210	**Implementation of the First United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006), including the initiative to establish a world solidarity fund for poverty eradication**
55/214	**Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries**
55/216	**Implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s**
55/217	**Causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa**
55/279	**Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010**
56/95	**Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit**

Economic and Social Council

Ministerial declaration adopted by the Council at its high-level segment of 2001

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