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Agenda item 7

Adoption of the report of the Committee on its fifty-second session

Draft report

Rapporteur: Ms. Imelda Smolcic (Uruguay)

Addendum

Coordination questions

New Partnership for Africa's Development (item 4 (b))

United Nations system support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development

1. At its 4th meeting, on 5 June 2012, the Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General on United Nations system support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) (E/AC.51/2012/5).
2. The Under-Secretary-General and Special Adviser on Africa introduced the report and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

3. Delegations welcomed and congratulated Maged Abdelaziz on his appointment as Special Adviser on Africa. Delegations also expressed their readiness to support him.
4. Delegations expressed their appreciation for the overall work of the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa and highly commended the excellent quality, comprehensiveness and clarity of the report.
5. Delegations expressed their appreciation for the important coordination role of the Office and emphasized the need to foster a system of coherence among United Nations system agencies, funds and programmes in supporting the New Partnership



for Africa's Development. Delegations acknowledged the critical role of NEPAD, as the blueprint and development agenda for Africa, noting the centrality of coordination efforts within NEPAD and the challenge it would pose to United Nations support to this flagship development programme.

6. Delegations noted the importance of establishing indicators to monitor the coordination efforts. Delegations seized the opportunity to enquire about the role of the United Nations in tracking and coordinating all partnership initiatives between Africa and emerging development partners.

7. Delegations expressed their strong support for the establishment of a United Nations-led monitoring mechanism to review commitments to Africa's development needs, and observed that that would require some adjustments in coordination efforts in the work of the United Nations system in Africa, as well as possible strengthening of the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa.

8. Delegations reiterated the importance to continue implementing the 2011 recommendation on the rationalization of the result-based monitoring system of United Nations support.

9. While appreciating the significant achievements with regard to economic, social and political issues, delegations underscored the remaining challenges and difficulties faced by Africa, including the financial economic crisis and the food crisis, the decrease in financial resources for development and political instability in North and West Africa. Delegations highlighted the importance of lifting the barriers to infrastructure development in Africa.

10. With regard to communications, advocacy and outreach, delegations fully recognized the need for advocacy and support for NEPAD at the global, continental, regional and national levels, and encouraged efforts of the Office in reaching out to a larger audience, using available modern communication means.

11. As a general comment, delegations urged caution on the involvement of civil society organizations in the activities led by the Office.

Conclusions and recommendations

12. **The Committee welcomed the annual report of the Secretary-General on United Nations system support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development (E/AC.51/2012/5), and recommended that the General Assembly endorse the conclusions and recommendations contained in paragraphs 101 to 109 of the report.**

13. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly request the organizations of the United Nations system to continue to promote greater coherence in its work in support of the New Partnership for Africa's Development, on the basis of the agreed clusters of the Regional Coordination Mechanism in Africa, and called upon the United Nations system to continue to mainstream the special needs of Africa into all of its normative and operational activities, including the financing of programmes and projects, resource mobilization and humanitarian assistance.**

14. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly request the organizations of the United Nations system to continue to coordinate closely with the New Partnership for Africa's Development Planning and Coordinating**

Agency, as the technical body of the African Union, and other structures of the African Union Commission and the Partnership in order to further strengthen the implementation of the African Union/New Partnership for Africa's Development African Action Plan 2010-2015.

15. The Committee recalled paragraph 131 of its report at its fifty-first session (A/66/16), and welcomed the appointment of the Under-Secretary-General and Special Adviser on Africa.

16. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly emphasize the need for the organizations of the United Nations system and intergovernmental bodies to fully take into account the views, comments and/or inputs of the African Union and other regional mechanisms in its policy formulation and decision-making, including in the areas of mediation, political affairs and peace and security.

17. The Committee reiterated its recommendation contained in its report on its fifty-first session (A/66/16) that the reports of the Secretary-General on NEPAD include tangible action and results in respect of United Nations system support for projects of the Partnership across the African continent, while stressing that future reports should further enhance the focus on the impact, in both quantitative and qualitative terms, of the activities implemented by entities of the United Nations system in support of the Partnership, with respect to the resources.
