NMUN • NY

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA
BACKGROUND GUIDE 2013

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NATIONAL MODEL UNITED NATIONS

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17 - 21 March - Conference A
24 - 28 March - Conference B

POSITION PAPER INSTRUCTIONS

Two copies of each position paper should be sent via e-mail by 1 MARCH 2013

1. TO COMMITTEE STAFF

A file of the position paper (.doc or .pdf) for each assigned committee should be sent to the committee e-mail address listed here. Mail papers by 1 March to the e-mail address listed for your particular venue. Delegates should carbon copy (cc:) themselves as confirmation of receipt. Please use the committee name, your assignment, Conference A or B, and delegation/school name in both the e-mail subject line and in the filename (example: GA1st_Cuba_ConfA_MarsCollege).

2. TO DIRECTOR-GENERAL

• Each delegation should send one set of all position papers for each assignment to the e-mail designated for their venue: positionpapers.nya@nmun.org or positionpapers.nyb@nmun.org. This set (held by each Director-General) will serve as a back-up copy in case individual committee directors cannot open attachments.
Note: This e-mail should only be used as a repository for position papers.

• The head delegate or faculty member sending this message should cc: him/herself as confirmation of receipt. (Free programs like Adobe Acrobat or WinZip may need to be used to compress files if they are not plain text.)

• Because of the potential volume of e-mail, only one e-mail from the Head Delegate or Faculty Advisor containing all attached position papers will be accepted.

Please use the committee name, your assignment, Conference A or B, and delegation/school name in both the e-mail subject line and in the filename (example: GA1st_Cuba_Conf A_Mars College).

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Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice	ccpcj.nya@nmun.org
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OTHER USEFUL CONTACTS

Entire Set of Delegation Position Papers	positionpapers.nya@nmun.org
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THE 2013 NATIONAL MODEL UNITED NATIONS

SPONSORED BY THE NATIONAL COLLEGIATE CONFERENCE ASSOCIATION

17–21 March (Conference A) & 24–28 March (Conference B)   •   http://www.nmun.org

Dear Delegates,

We are pleased to welcome you to the 2013 National Model United Nations Conference! This year's Economic Commission for Africa staff is: Directors Monika Milinauskyte (Conference A) and Jennifer Villagomez (Conference B), and Assistant Directors Angela Shively (Conference A) and Alex Rudolph (Conference B). Monika holds a Bachelor's degree in Politics and International Relations from Royal Holloway, University of London, and is currently pursuing a Masters in International Development and Humanitarian Emergencies from the London School of Economics. This is her fifth NMUN Conference and third year on staff. Jennifer resides and works in Southern California, and holds a Bachelor's degree in Political Science with an emphasis in International Relations from the University of California Santa Barbara. This is her fifth NMUN Conference and third year on staff. Angela holds an Associate's degree in Liberal Arts and is completing her Bachelors in Political Science and Communications. She currently works in banking and finance. This will be Angela's fourth NMUN conference and her second year on staff. Alex is originally from Southern California, but currently attends the University of Manitoba to pursue a Bachelors in Psychology and Political Science. This is Alex's fourth NMUN conference and his first year on staff.

The topics under discussion for the Economic Commission for Africa at the 2013 NMUN are:
1.   Pursuing Socially and Environmentally Sustainable Practices in the Mineral Trade
2.   Enhancing Good Governance through the New Partnership for Africa's Development
3.   Improving Youths' Access to Education and Employment Opportunities

The Economic Commission for Africa is the United Nations' primary body to address and participate in the promotion of the economic and social development of Africa. Cooperation between the Economic Commission for Africa and the African Union remains of the utmost importance to both bodies. As many conferences take place, we encourage delegates to follow developments.

This background guide will serve as a brief introduction to the three topics listed above. However, it is not an exhaustive analysis. It is an introduction to your research and preparation for the Conference. The references listed for each topic provide a good starting point for your own research, but we highly encourage you to read beyond the Background Guide and consult various scholarly materials: journals, international news, the United Nations website and other sources. You also need to be familiar with the work and current projects of the Economic Commission for Africa.

Each delegation is requested to submit a position paper that reflects your research on the topics. Please take note of the NMUN policies on the website and in the delegate preparation guide regarding plagiarism, codes of conduct/dress code/sexual harassment, awards philosophy/evaluation method, etc. Adherence to these guidelines is mandatory.

If you have any questions regarding preparation, please feel free to contact any of the Economic Commission for Africa substantive staff or the Under-Secretaries-General for the Department of Economic and Social Council, Yvonne Jeffery (Conference A) and Harald Eisenhauer (Conference B). We wish you all the best in your preparation for the Conference and look forward to seeing you in March.

Conference A
Monika Milinauskyte
Director

Angela Shively
Assistant Director

Conference B
Jennifer Villagomez
Director

Alexander Rudolph
Assistant Director

**Message from the Directors-General Regarding Position Papers for the
2013 NMUN Conference**

For NMUN-New York 2013, each delegation submits one position paper for each assigned committee. A delegate's role as a Member State, Observer State, Non-Governmental Organization, etc. should affect the way a position paper is written. To understand these differences, please refer to the Delegate Preparation Guide.

Position papers should review each delegation's policy regarding the topics of the committee. International and regional conventions, treaties, declarations, resolutions, and programs of action of relevance to the policy of your State should be identified and addressed. Making recommendations for action by your committee should also be considered. Position papers also serve as a blueprint for individual delegates to remember their country's position throughout the course of the Conference. NGO position papers should be constructed in the same fashion as position papers of countries. Each topic should be addressed briefly in a succinct policy statement representing the relevant views of your assigned NGO. You should also include recommendations for action to be taken by your committee. It will be judged using the same criteria as all country position papers, and is held to the same standard of timeliness.

Please be forewarned, delegates must turn in entirely original material. ***The NMUN Conference will not tolerate the occurrence of plagiarism***. In this regard, the NMUN Secretariat would like to take this opportunity to remind delegates that although United Nations documentation is considered within the public domain, the Conference does not allow the verbatim re-creation of these documents. This plagiarism policy also extends to the written work of the Secretariat contained within the Committee Background Guides. Violation of this policy will be immediately reported and may result in dismissal from Conference participation. Delegates should report any incident of plagiarism to the Secretariat as soon as possible.

Delegation's position papers may be given an award as recognition of outstanding pre-Conference preparation. In order to be considered for a Position Paper Award, however, delegations must have met the formal requirements listed below and be of high substantive standard, using adequate language and showing in-depth research. While we encourage innovative proposals, we would like to remind delegates to stay within the mandate of their respective committee and keep a neutral and respectful tone. Similarly to the minus point-policy implemented at the conference to discourage disruptive behavior, position papers that use offensive language may entail negative grading when being considered for awards. Please refer to the sample paper following this message for a visual example of what your work should look like at its completion. The following format specifications are **required** for all papers:

- All papers must be typed and formatted according to the example in the Background Guides
- Length must **not** exceed two single-sided pages (one double-sided paper, if printed)
- Font must be Times New Roman sized between 10 pt. and 12 pt.
- Margins must be set at one inch for the whole paper
- Country/NGO name, school name and committee name must be clearly labeled on the first page,
- National symbols (headers, flags, etc.) are deemed inappropriate for NMUN position papers
- Agenda topics must be clearly labeled in separate sections

To be considered timely for awards, please read and follow these directions:

1. **A file of the position paper** (.doc or .pdf format <u>required</u>) **for each assigned committee** should be sent to the committee email address listed in the Background Guide. These e-mail addresses will be active after November 15, 2012. Delegates should carbon copy (cc:) themselves as confirmation of receipt.

2. Each delegation should also send **one set of all position papers** to the e-mail designated for their venue, Conference A: positionpapers.nya@nmun.org or Conference B: positionpapers.nyb@nmun.org. This set will serve as a back-up copy in case individual committee directors cannot open attachments. These copies will also be made available in Home Government during the week of the NMUN Conference.

Each of the above listed tasks needs to be completed no later than **March 1, 2013 (GMT-5)**.

Please use the committee name, your assignment, Conference A or B, and delegation/school name in both the e-mail subject line and in the filename (example: GA1st_Cuba_ConfA_Mars College).

A matrix of received papers will be posted online for delegations to check prior to the Conference. If you need to make other arrangements for submission, please contact Hannah Birkenkötter, Director-General (Conference A), or Nicholas Warino, Director-General (Conference B), at dirgen@nmun.org. There is an option for delegations to submit physical copies via regular mail if needed.

Once the formal requirements outlined above are met, Conference staff use the following criteria to evaluate Position Papers:

- Overall quality of writing, proper style, grammar, etc.
- Citation of relevant resolutions/documents
- General consistency with bloc/geopolitical constraints
- Consistency with the constraints of the United Nations
- Analysis of issues, rather than reiteration of the Committee Background Guide
- Outline of (official) policy aims within the committee's mandate

Each delegation can submit a copy of their position paper to the permanent mission of the country being represented, along with an explanation of the Conference. Those delegations representing NGOs do not have to send their position paper to their NGO headquarters, although it is encouraged. This will assist them in preparation for the mission briefing in New York.

Finally, please consider that over 2,000 papers will be handled and read by the Secretariat for the Conference. Your patience and cooperation in strictly adhering to the above guidelines will make this process more efficient and it is greatly appreciated. Should you have any questions please feel free to contact the Conference staff, though as we do not operate out of a central office or location, your consideration for time zone differences is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Conference A	*Conference B*
Hannah Birkenkötter	Nicholas Warino
Director-General	Director-General
hannah@nmun.org	nick@nmun.org

Position Paper for the General Assembly Plenary

The issues before the General Assembly Plenary are: The Use of Economic Sanctions for Political and Economic Compulsion; Democracy and Human Rights in Post-Conflict Regions; as well as The Promotion of Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa. The Mexican Delegation first would like to convey its gratitude being elected and pride to serve as vice-president of the current General Assembly Plenary session.

I. The Use of Economic Sanctions for Political and Economic Compulsion

The principles of equal sovereignty of states and non-interference, as laid down in the Charter of the United Nations, have always been cornerstones of Mexican foreign policy. The legitimate right to interfere by the use of coercive measures, such as economic sanctions, is laid down in Article 41 of the UN-charter and reserves the right to the Security Council.

Concerning the violation of this principle by the application of unilateral measures outside the framework of the United Nations, H.E. Ambassador to the United Nations Enrique Berruga Filloy underlined in 2005 that the Mexico strongly rejects "the application of unilateral laws and measures of economic blockade against any State, as well as the implementation of coercive measures without the authorization enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations." That is the reason, why the United Mexican States supported – for the 14th consecutive time – Resolution (A/RES/60/12) of 2006 regarding the *Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba*.

In the 1990s, comprehensive economic sanctions found several applications with very mixed results, which made a critical reassessment indispensable. The United Mexican States fully supported and actively participated in the "Stockholm Process" that focused on increasing the effectiveness in the implementation of targeted sanctions. As sanctions and especially economic sanctions, pose a tool for action "between words and war" they must be regarded as a mean of last resort before war and fulfill highest requirements for their legitimate use. The United Mexican States and their partners of the "Group of Friends of the U.N. Reform" have already addressed and formulated recommendations for that take former criticism into account. Regarding the design of economic sanctions it is indispensable for the success to have the constant support by all member states and public opinion, which is to a large degree dependent on the humanitarian effects of economic sanctions. Sanctions must be tailor-made, designed to effectively target the government, while sparing to the largest degree possible the civil population. Sanction regimes must be constantly monitored and evaluated to enable the world-community to adjust their actions to the needs of the unforeseeably changing situation. Additionally, the United Mexican States propose to increase communication between the existing sanction committees and thus their effectiveness by convening regular meetings of the chairs of the sanction committees on questions of common interest.

II. Democracy and Human Rights in Post-Conflict Regions

As a founding member of the United Nations, Mexico is highly engaged in the Promotion of Democracy and Human Rights all over the world, as laid down in the *Universal Declaration on Human Rights (UDHR)* in 1948. Especially since the democratic transition of Mexico in 2000 it is one of the most urgent topics to stand for Democratization and Human Rights, and Mexico implements this vision on many different fronts.

In the Convoking Group of the intergovernmental Community of Democracies (GC), the United Mexican States uphold an approach that fosters international cooperation to promote democratic values and institution-building at the national and international level. To emphasize the strong interrelation between human rights and the building of democracy and to fortify democratic developments are further challenges Mexico deals with in this committee. A key-factor for the sustainable development of a post-conflict-region is to hold free and fair election and thus creating a democratic system. Being aware of the need of post-conflict countries for support in the preparation of democratic elections, the United Mexican States contribute since 2001 to the work of the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA), an intergovernmental organization operating at international, regional and national level in partnership with a range of institutions. Mexico's foreign policy regarding human rights is substantially

based on cooperation with international organizations. The Inter American Commission of Human Rights is one of the bodies, Mexico is participating, working on the promotion of Human Rights in the Americas. Furthermore, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights is the regional judicial institution for the application and interpretation of the *American Convention of Human Rights*.

The objectives Mexico pursues are to improve human rights in the country through structural changes and to fortify the legal and institutional frame for the protection of human rights on the international level. Underlining the connection between democracy, development and Human Rights, stresses the importance of cooperation with and the role of the High Commissioner on Human Rights and the reform of the Human Rights Commission to a Human rights Council.

Having in mind the diversity of challenges in enforcing democracy and Human Rights, Mexico considers regional and national approaches vital for their endorsement, as Mexico exemplifies with its *National Program for Human Rights* or the *Plan Puebla Panama*. On the global level, Mexico is encouraged in working on a greater coordination and interoperability among the United Nations and regional organizations, as well as the development of common strategies and operational policies and the sharing of best practices in civilian crisis management should be encouraged, including clear frameworks for joint operations, when applicable.

III. The Promotion of Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa

The United Mexican States welcome the leadership role the African Union has taken regarding the security problems of the continent. Our delegation is furthermore convinced that The New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) can become the foundation for Africa's economic, social and democratic development as the basis for sustainable peace. Therefore it deserves the full support of the international community.

The development of the United Mexican States in the last two decades is characterized by the transition to a full democracy, the national and regional promotion of human rights and sustainable, economic growth. Mexico's development is characterized by free trade and its regional integration in the North American Free Trade Agreement. Having in mind that sustainable development is based not only on economic, but as well on social and environmental development, President Vicente Fox has made sustainable development a guiding principle in the Mexican Development Plan that includes sustainability targets for all major policy areas.

The United Nations Security Council has established not less than seven peace-keeping missions on the African continent, underlining the need for full support by the international community. In post-conflict situations, we regard national reconciliation as a precondition for a peaceful development, which is the reason why Mexico supported such committees, i.e. in the case of Sierra Leone. The United Mexican States are convinced that an other to enhance durable peace in Africa is the institutional reform of the United Nations. We therefore want to reaffirm our full support to both the establishment of the peace-building commission and the Human Rights Council. Both topics are highly interrelated and, having in mind that the breach of peace is most often linked with severest human rights' abuses, thus need to be seen as two sides of one problem and be approached in this understanding.

As most conflicts have their roots in conflicts about economic resources and development chances, human development and the eradication of poverty must be at the heart of a successful, preventive approach. Lifting people out of poverty must be seen as a precondition not only for peace, but for social development and environmental sustainability.

The United Mexican States want to express their esteem for the decision taken by the G-8 countries for a complete debt-relief for many African Highly-Indebted-Poor-Countries. Nevertheless, many commitments made by the international community that are crucial for Africa's sustainable development are unfulfilled. The developed countries agreed in the *Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development* (A/CONF.198/11) to increase their Official Development Aid (ODA) "towards the target of 0,7 per cent of gross national product (GNP) as ODA to developing countries and 0,15 to 0,20 per cent of GNP of developed countries to least developed countries". Furthermore, the United Mexican States are disappointed by the result of the Hong Kong Ministerial conference of the World Trade Organization, which once more failed to meet the needs of those, to whom the round was devoted: developing countries and especially African countries, who today, more than ever, are cut off from global trade and prosperity by protectionism.

Committee History

Introduction

As African states began to gain independence from colonial rule in the 20th century, the help needed for underdeveloped countries resulted in the adoption of resolution *1155 (XII)* by the General Assembly in 1957, which called for the creation of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA).[1] The call for a regional commission for Africa was met in 1958 with Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) resolution *671 A (XXV)* which created the ECA and joined ECOSOC's subsidiary bodies as one of the five regional commissions of the United Nations (UN).[2] Since its creation, the Addis Ababa based ECA has become the UN's main force for cooperation and action in Africa by working closely with the African Union (AU) and their strategic socio-economic development framework known as the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD).[3]

The task of improving the economic and social development of Africa is addressed by the ECA in large part by working jointly with the AU, a relationship that dates back to 1965 with the *Agreement on Cooperation between the Organization of African Unity* (OAU), which the AU would come to replace in 2002, and the ECA.[4] The ECA's current relationship with the AU, described by former ECA Executive Secretary Abdoulie Janneh, has moved from a consultation forum to a new period as a coordination mechanism to support the AU and NEPAD.[5] This new relationship has broadened the work with the AU by no longer functioning in only an advisory aspect, but has increased their assistance to Member States and the AU by creating mechanisms for dialogue and planning including the African Development Forum (ADF), a biennial development cooperation forum.[6]

History of the ECA

Article 73 (d) of the *UN Charter*, which states that Member States should "promote constructive measures of development, to encourage research, and to co-operate with one another" especially in view of non-self governing territories was crucial in the run-up to the inception of the ECA.[7] The creation of the ECA came at a critical point in Africa's development, as the following decade witnessed the independence of 34 African states and most of Africa as is known today, thus raising the importance of the ECA.[8] During this time, Africa experienced an initial growth, but a lack of economic sustainability led to economic stagnation in the 1970's which continued through the 1990s, despite ECA's efforts to increase regional integration and international investment and aid.[9]

The ECA noted in 1983 that despite a $84.7 billion increase in trade since 1960, Africa only accounted for 3.4% of the world's exports.[10] The realization of the lack of serious economic development in Africa, caused by a dependence on foreign trade and capital, would come to steer the ECA's role for the next 25 years, as goals were set to achieve economic sustainability and independence by 2008.[11] Efforts to achieve this self-sustainability during the 1980s and 1990s began with the *Lagos Plan of Action* by the OAU, but this plan fell out of favor for the *UN New Agenda for the Development of Africa (UN-NADAF)* and *UN System-wide Special Initiative (UNSIA)*.[12] These initiatives did not provide the economic growth that was hoped for and it was not until the early 2000's when commodity prices began to rise that Africa began to experience a modest growth rate, showing a reliance on

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[1] United Nations General Assembly, *Proposed Economic Commission for Africa (Resolution 1155(XII)),* 1957.
[2] United Nations Department of Public Information, *The United Nations System*, 2011.
[3] New Partnership for Africa's Development, *About NEPAD*, 2012.
[4] Organization of African Unity; United Nations, *Agreement on Co-operation between the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa,* 1967, p. 315-323.
[5] Abdoulie Janneh, *A Goodwill Statement,* 2012.
[6] Jolly, *The Economic Commission for Africa: Fighting to be Heard,* 2009, Briefing Note Number 21.
[7] United Nations, *Charter of the United Nations and Statute of the International Court of Justice,* 26 June 1945, Ch. 11.
[8] United Nations Department of Public Information, *Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories (1945-1999).*
[9] United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, *Globalization and Development in sub-Saharan Africa*, 2011.
[10] United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, *ECA and Africa's Development, 1983-2008: A Preliminary Perspective Study*, 1983.
[11] United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, *ECA and Africa's Development, 1983-2008: A Preliminary Perspective Study*, 1983.
[12] Jolly, *The Economic Commission for Africa: Fighting to be Heard*, 2009, Briefing Note Number 21.

international trade still existed.[13] The improving economic landscape of Africa in the early to mid-2000s was disrupted by the global financial crisis, causing the 4.9% growth rate in Africa in 2008 to drop to a 1.6% in 2009.[14] The growth rate in Africa has been welcomed and may be attributed to the AU and ECA's efforts in developing partnerships to support African owned endeavors as well as playing a key role in working with the World Bank to provide greater flexibility in lending.[15]

Mandate and Scope

The task of the ECA is to "promote policies and strategies to increase economic cooperation and integration among its 53 member countries, particularly in the production, trade, monetary, infrastructure and institutional fields."[16] In recent years, the ECA has undergone repositioning and internal reform to increase its effectiveness, which resulted in the creation of two central pillars of the ECA.[17] These pillars represent the core ideas of the ECA's framework in Africa, which are to increase regional integration in cooperation with the AU under the first pillar and focus on the special needs of Africa, particularly towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), under the second pillar.[18]

As a means to accomplish these pillars, the ECA divides its work between regional and sub-regional activities.[19] Regionally, in cooperation with the AU, the ECA is monitoring and reporting on progress towards commitments in Africa and contributes to advocacy and consensus building.[20] Sub-regionally, focus is placed in Regional Economic Communities (RECs), regional groups that have integrated economically, and assisting through advisory services and direct technical assistance to support the eight RECs that exist in the pursuit of their economic integration.[21] Through the RECs, the ECA aims to use them as building blocks with the goal of establishing an African Common Market and thereby increasing self-sufficiency. Activities conducted in these regions are determined by Member States and the RECs according to their needs, giving the power to the Member States to determine the direction of the ECA.[22] Furthermore, the ECA autonomously holds committees and conferences throughout the year, including the African Development Forum; 9 meetings alone having occurred in October 2012.[23]

Implementation and Activities

Under the thematic focuses, the ECA conducts activities, such as providing direct technical assistance to states and organizations to implement policy, analysis and advocacy of sound economic policies, and publishing of documents.[24] The ECA divides these numerous activities between their seven programs or "clusters" which include the African Centre for Statistics; Food Security and Sustainable Development; Gender and Social Development; Governance and Public Administration; ICT and Science Technology; NEPAD and Regional Integration; as well as Trade, Finance and Economic Development and Sub-Regional Activities for Development.[25]

For administrative purposes, the ECA divides Africa into five regions.[26] These regions are Central Africa, Eastern Africa, North Africa, Southern Africa, and West Africa, of which each has a dedicated office to administer ECA's efforts and outreach services.[27] Internally, the ECA conducts work through its seven subsidiary committees which includes: the Committee on Development Information, Science and Technology, Committee on Sustainable Development, Committee on Natural Resources and Science and Technology, Committee on Human Development

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[13] Jolly, *The Economic Commission for Africa: Fighting to be Heard*, 2009, Briefing Note Number 21.

[14] African Union; United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, *Economic Report on Africa 2010, 2010.*

[15] Jolly, *The Economic Commission for Africa: Fighting to be Heard*, 2009, Briefing Note Number 21.

[16] United Nations Department of Public Information, *The United Nations Today,* 2008.

[17] United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, *Repositioning ECA: Harnessing Regional Resources to meet Africa's Development Priorities,* 2006.

[18] New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, *United Nations Handbook 2008/09*, 2008, p. 149.

[19] United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, *Overview of the ECA,* 2012.

[20] United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, *Overview of the ECA,* 2012.

[21] The World Bank Group, *Africa's Regional Institutions, 2011.*

[22] United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, *Meetings and Events,* 2012.

[23] United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, *Meetings and Events,* 2012.

[24] United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, *Overview of the ECA*, 2012.

[25] New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, *United Nations Handbook 2008/09*, 2008, p. 149.

[26] United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, *Sub-regional Activities for Development,* 2012.

[27] United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, *Sub-regional Activities for Development*, 2012.

and Civil Society, Committee on Women and Development, Committee on Trade, Regional Co-operation and Integration, Committee on Industry and Private Sector Development and the Committee on Governance and Popular Participation.[28] It is between these committees that the ECA ensures equitable focus in each area, functioning in a similar manner to other committees in the UN by providing expert advice to Member States of the ECA, such as the sustainable use of natural resources in the Committee on Natural Resources and Science and Technology.

Conclusion

Though Africa came out of the 2008 financial crisis successfully and reached growth rates comparable to before the financial crisis, many factors continue to make Africa one of the most economically fragile regions.[29] Among these factors contributing to the fragile economic state of Africa, as noted by the World Bank, are conflict-affected states that struggle with poverty, a continuing dependence on agriculture, a rising work force with little improvement in employment opportunities, and a need for improvement in good governance.[30] ECA's methods to overcome these issues continue to focus on regional integration through AU and using RECs as the building blocks to achieve an African Common Market and increase domestic trade.

The difficulty the ECA faces comes from improving the conditions of the 33 states classified as least developed countries (LDCs) in Africa, 15 of which are landlocked developing countries (LLDCs), making Africa the region with the greatest number of LDCs as well as LLDCs.[31] The ECA has sought to address this by meeting at two major trade conferences in the second half of 2012 at the Africa Trade Forum 2012 and African Development Forum.[32] Topics discussed at these conferences include the large amount of natural resources still unused by Member States and how to increase inter-African trade.[33] The ECA understands that in order to overcome many of these economic challenges, Africa must be able to cooperate through integration and build dialogue between states in the face of the lack of domestic and inter-African trade.

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[28] United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, *ECA Committees, 2012.*
[29] The World Bank Group, *Africa's Future and the World Bank's Support to it,* 2011.
[30] The World Bank Group, *Africa Development Indicators 2011,* 2011.
[31] United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, *Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs),* 2012.
[32] United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, *Meetings and Events,* 2012.
[33] United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, *Meetings and Events,* 2012.

Annotated Bibliography

African Union Commission; United Nations Economic Commission for Africa. (2012). *Unleashing Africa's Potential as a Pole of Global Growth.* Retrieved August 29, 2012 from: http://new.uneca.org/Portals/cfm2012/CrossArticle/1/Papers/English/IssuesPaper-UnleashingAfricaPotential-as-a-NewPole.pdf.

> *This document reviews the recent 31st and Seventh meeting of the Committee of Experts by the ECA and AU respectively in early 2012. The report provides detailed information of the economic state of Africa, both currently and in previous years and how it relates to the current economic landscape. With the document emphasizing economic courses of action in Africa as well as being a recent document, this report is an important read to understand current actions and views of both the ECA and AU.*

Janneh, Abdoulie. (2012). *A Goodwill Statement.* Retrieved August 25, 2012 from: http://www.au.int/en/sites/default/files/A%20Goodwill%20statement%20by%20Abdoulie%20Janneh%20UN%20Under-Secretary-General%20and%20Executive%20Secretary%20of%20ECA1.pdf.

> *This goodwill statement from Abdoulie Janneh, the former Executive Secretary of the ECA, was given at the NEPAD 10th Anniversary Colloquium and Congress. The speech highlights the relationship between the ECA and NEPAD. Of particular note in his speech are specific details of action that the ECA has taken in cooperation with the AU and NEPAD to help African states. The revealing details from the head of the ECA give a very close look at the ECA's relationship with the AU and NEPAD and are a recommended read for any to understand the ECA's role in Africa.*

United Nations Economic and Social Council. (1958, October 22). *Terms of Reference of the Economic Commission for Africa (Resolution 671 A (XXV)).* Retrieved August 18, 2012 from: http://repository.uneca.org/bitstream/handle/10855/16002/Bib-64579.pdf?sequence=1.

> *This resolution from ECOSOC was the document that created the ECA. The resolution lays forth the mandate and work that the ECA is to perform in Africa. In the preamble, information is given that pertains to what had led to the creation of the ECA at that time. The great importance of this document is that it is simply what created the ECA and, despite some reform that has been undertaken since then, is what guides the ECA in all its work.*

United Nations Economic Commission for Africa. (2012). *Overview of the ECA.* Retrieved August 17, 2012 from: http://new.uneca.org/AboutECA/OverviewofECA.aspx.

> *This section of the ECA's website is a very useful and important part of the website to understand the ECA's work. Some of the information includes, but is not limited to, a note on the creation of the commission, division of work and what work is conducted by the ECA. Though the overview does not give too specific or in-depth review or analysis of the ECA, this part of the ECA's website makes for a key introduction to the ECA.*

United Nations Economic Commission for Africa. (2006). *Repositioning ECA: Harnessing Regional Resources to meet Africa's Development Priorities.* Retrieve on September 1, 2012 from: http://www.uneca.org/eca_resources/Publications/RepositioningECA_ENG.pdf.

> *This report from the ECA was created following the recommendations of a Task Force on how to modify the new direction of the ECA which was established by the ECA Executive Secretary. The report details the repositioning of the ECA's efforts beginning in 2006 that remains a guiding document today for the commission. This repositioning stands as a crucial point for the ECA and makes it not only a pivotal read to understand the changes and current aims, but to understand the future of the ECA and Africa.*

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I. Pursuing Socially and Environmentally Sustainable Practices in Mineral Trade

Introduction

As a continent, Africa ranks first and second in the world for their mineral reserves in bauxite, chromite, cobalt, industrial diamond, manganese, phosphate rock, platinum-group metals (PGM), soda ash, vermiculite and zirconium.[34] It is estimated that Africa contains 30% of the world's mineral reserves including 40% of gold, 60% of cobalt, and 90% of platinum.[35] The net profits for the top mining companies in Africa increased by over 156% in 2010, yet the benefits are not having a direct effect upon African people.[36] Since colonial times, the mining industry in Africa has been overrun by more powerful foreign investors, even in conditions where small-scale producers have more bountiful resources.[37] As stated in the Economic Commission for Africa's (ECA) publication *Minerals and Africa's Development*, "the paradox of Africa's mineral (and indeed natural resource wealth), on the one hand, and the pervasive poverty of its people, on the other, remains a deep and oft-noted feature of its economic landscape."[38] This has created a social imbalance that affects facets of life not directly involved in mining, ranging from high levels of social unrest to soil degradation.[39] It is the responsibility of African states to amend these conflicts in order to bring about the basic human needs and rights of the African community.

A Brief History on the Mineral Trade in Post-Colonial Africa

European colonies were quick to find ways to export minerals such as gold and diamonds while conceding rights to employment and access of minerals to their own immigrants, while African workers were coerced into dangerous work at lower wages.[40] In the early stages of extracting natural resources in post-colonial Africa, small amounts of revenue were generated through taxes dispersed to the state by foreign mining companies.[41] After centuries of colonialism, the countries of Africa had to adapt to the global economy by finding competitive exports they could put against other goods and services in the global market.[42] Although commercial-scale mining accounted for about one-half of Africa's exports by the early 1990s, the revenues generated were not beneficial in making African states self-sufficient.[43] The lack of information on states' natural resource endowment for areas that were still unexplored left these states vulnerable to powerful transnational corporations.[44] When developed countries discovered that Africa was rich in minerals, the Bretton Woods institutions came together in the early 1990s to help the African States develop their economies through trade with the developed countries by exporting minerals.[45] The World Bank created a strategic mining plan for Africa that encouraged African states to limit state control of mining operations and turn toward attracting private foreign investors and taking on a smaller role as regulators and promoters of the industry.[46] Although an emphasis was placed on foreign direct investment (FDI) and reducing the costs for companies, the mining industry failed to ignite spin-off sectors and thus, maintain sustainable growth for African states.[47]

In order to break free from complete dependency on FDI in 1980, the Organization for African Unity (which was replaced by the African Union in 2002) developed the *Lagos Plan of Action* to address some of Africa's main problems transitioning into economic independence. Two of the main issues addressed by African States through the *Lagos Plan of Action* were their lack of proper knowledge for their natural resource endowment for unexplored areas throughout the continent and the power of transnational corporations.[48] Although the *Lagos Plan of Action* was a

[34] United States Geological Survey, *The Mineral Industries of Africa*, 2010, p. 1.
[35] Encyclopedia of Earth, *Mining and Oil Extraction in Africa*, 2007.
[36] Dovi, *Beyond Mining taxes, to development*, 2012.
[37] Economic Commission for Africa, *Minerals and Africa's Development*, 2011, p. 13.
[38] Economic Commission for Africa, *Minerals and Africa's Development*, 2011, p. 13.
[39] Economic Commission for Africa, *Minerals and Africa's Development*, 2011, p. 13.
[40] Economic Commission for Africa, *Minerals and Africa's Development*, 2011, p. 12.
[41] Economic Commission for Africa, *Minerals and Africa's Development*, 2011, p. 14.
[42] World Bank, *Strategy for African Mining*, 1992.
[43] World Bank, *Strategy for African Mining*, 1992.
[44] Organisation for African Unity, *the Lagos Plan of Action for the Economic Development of Africa*, 1980, p. 23.
[45] World Bank, *Strategy for African Mining*, 1992, p. 9.
[46] World Bank, *Strategy for African Mining*, 1992, p. 9.
[47] Economic Commission for Africa, *Africa Review Report on Mining*, 2009, p. 3.
[48] Organisation for African Unity, *The Lagos Plan of Action for the Economic Development of Africa*, 1980, p. 23.

great step toward unifying Africa on taking control of its natural resources, implementing policies favoring African economies proved difficult.[49] The 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg which was called to review the 1992 *Rio Declaration* and its *Agenda 21*, provided a global arena in which to address both cross-cutting issues on the global and regional scale.[50] The resulting *Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI)* was a major attempt to address the need for enhancing industrial productivity while creating an attractive and conducive position for the mining industry to flourish.[51] Throughout the *JPOI* are calls to commitments regarding development, protection of individuals developing sustainable practices, and making tenable plans of action.[52]

Environmental Impacts in the Mineral Trade

Mineral extraction is often criticized for the detrimental effect it can have on the environment during the mining process. Deforestation can result not only directly from mineral extraction, but also as a result of mine workers and their families moving into areas, such as the rainforests in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and use slash and burn agriculture techniques to sustain themselves.[53] Deforestation contributed to approximately 20% of CO_2 greenhouse gas emissions with the immediate release of carbon from the destruction of trees in the 1990s.[54] Estimates for the average annual deforestation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo were at 3190 km^2 per year.[55] Land degradation can occur as a result of improper irrigation techniques in which salt deposit build-ups in the soil result in lower yields of food production due to mineralization.[56] In addition to food production, irrigation is often used to divert water sources when water is needed for parts of mining production.[57] Groundwater pollution is another major problem faced by the mining industry. Groundwater pollution occurs when run-off of minerals and chemicals mixes with the water from rivers, wells and other major water sources used locally.[58] Effluents run into groundwater and can comprise of cyanide, organic chemicals, heavy metal oxides, and acid mine drainage.[59] These effluents can be increasingly dangerous for mining areas located near fisheries or major agriculture sites and can result in the death of living organisms in affected bodies of water.[60] Although acid drainage can occur naturally through the weathering of rocks, it is exacerbated by the mining process and results in higher acidity levels in water sources.[61]

A conscious effort to reduce the environmental risks associated with excavating minerals has been made through mechanisms such as corporate social responsibility (CSR), the *Kyoto Protocol*'s Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), and Environmental Impact Assessments. Corporate social responsibility calls for the implementation of regulations and policies, set both by the governments and corporations, in an attempt to reduce the negative environmental effects by setting guidelines and conducting evaluations.[62] In addition to decreasing environmental issues, CSR has also helped decreased resource-based conflicts in areas where it is difficult for governments to control mineral production due to fighting.[63] Another effort to decrease negative impacts on the environment is creating incentives through CDM. Defined in Article 12 of the *Kyoto Protocol*, it offers credits as incentives for reducing emissions for projects that are approved through a rigorous process and reduce detrimental impacts on the environment while keeping in mind the goals of the *Kyoto Protocol*.[64] However, new challenges arise for implementing CDM as well as the other two mechanisms of emissions trading and joint implementation when the *Kyoto Protocol* expires in December 2012.[65] In 2009, the Copenhagen Climate Change Conference opened a new dialogue for addressing climate change and improving the CDM chapter of the *Kyoto Protocol* through the

[49] Organisation for African Unity, *The Lagos Plan of Action for the Economic Development of Africa*, 1980.
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[58] Africa Mining Vision, *Managing Impacts*, n.d.
[59] Economic Commission for Africa, *Minerals and Africa's Development*, 2011, p. 46.
[60] Economic Commission for Africa, *Minerals and Africa's Development*, 2011, p. 46.
[61] Pollution Issues, *Mining*, n.d.
[62] United Nations, *Our Common Future*, 2010, p. 186.
[63] Economic Commission for Africa, *Africa Review Report on Mining*, 2009, p. 3.
[64] United Nations, *Framework Convention on Climate Change*,
[65] United Nations, *Framework Convention on Climate Change*, n.d.

Copenhagen Accord, and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is currently working with the West African Development Bank (WADB) to set up a regional support office for CDM in *Lomé*, Togo to aid in the advancement of CDM development projects.[66] Environmental Impact Assessments are used to provide information to both the decision-makers and the affected public about the environmental, health, and socio-cultural implications of a project on a particular area and possible alternatives that could be used to limit the negative aspects through a collaboration between the public and private sectors.[67] For example the Global Mercury Project, a joint project by the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the Global Environmental Facility, was an attempt to help combat the effects of small-scale artisanal gold mining by providing assessments, training, and introducing miners to cleaner technologies in order to limit the risks of mercury contamination; it played an important role in raising awareness in the dangers of mercury amalgamation for miners, their communities, and investors in gold mining.[68]

Social Impacts of the Mineral Trade

In addition to environmental factors, the mineral trade also has vast social impacts in Africa. Conflict resources, displacement, internal inequalities within communities, and economic dependence are some of the major social impacts present in the mineral trade.[69] Inequalities can occur in communities when both the migrant workers and local residents clash culturally and when certain groups benefit from the spoils of mining resources.[70] The disparities between the groups that benefit from mineral production are exacerbated by the belief that although the mining occurs in these small communities, the minerals extracted belong to the state.[71] This economic division also impacts socio-cultural beliefs of the locals who put their hard work into helping these mining industries thrive, only to see the profits benefiting the state as a whole rather than their own communities.[72] It has been noted that the stress stemming from environmental degradation and control over mineral assets can lead to military and civilian conflict.[73] By destroying the environment, poverty is increased in areas that rely heavily on subsistence farming and a heavy reliance on the mining industry causes economic "booms and busts" in communities that abandon exploited mines.[74]

In addition to addressing the social impacts of mineral trade, it is also important to highlight the international consumer response to help offset the negative social impacts. Other countries, such as the United States, have taken steps to help alleviate some of the adverse effects of conflict minerals. The United States Congress passed legislation, known as the *U.S. Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act,* to place provisions on companies and their products.[75] Under these provisions, registered companies must provide proof of the origins of the resources used in their products to ensure that they do not finance military operations in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.[76]

Focusing attention to capacity building has been suggested in the African Review on Mining as a solution to combating some of the negative social impacts of mineral trade.[77] The *Lagos Plan of Action* also attempted to address the effects of mining on the underrepresented indigenous communities by calling for the need to "take all necessary measures through the development of relevant human and institutional infrastructure to establish indigenous technological capabilities in exploration, processing, and exploitation of their natural resources."[78] Artisan and small-scale mining (ASM) is also an area of concern for the social impacts of mineral trade, with over 8 million ASM workers supporting over 45 million dependents off the industry.[79] Major challenges related to ASM throughout Africa are the need for policy frameworks flexible enough to accommodate ASM, long-term funding,

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[66] United Nations, *UNFCCC forges first-of-its-kind partnership to assist development of emission-reduction projects*, 2012.
[67] Felleman, *Environmental Impact Assessments*, 2010.
[68] UNIDO, *Global Mercury Project*, 2007.
[69] Africa Mining Vision, *Managing Impacts*, n.d.
[70] Africa Mining Vision, *Managing Impacts*, n.d.
[71] Economic Commission for Africa, *Africa Review Report on Mining*, 2009, p. 11.
[72] Economic Commission for Africa, *Africa Review Report on Mining*, 2009, p. 11.
[73] Africa Mining Vision, *Managing Impacts*, n.d.
[74] Economic Commission for Africa, *Africa Review Report on Mining*, 2009, p. 11.
[75] United States Geological Survey, *The Mineral Industries of Africa*, 2010, p. 1.
[76] United States Geological Survey, *The Mineral Industries of Africa*, 2010, p. 1.
[77] Economic Commission for Africa, *Africa Review Report on Mining*, 2009, p. 15.
[78] Organisation for African Unity, *The Lagos Plan of Action for the Economic Development of Africa*, 1980, p. 24.
[79] Africa Mining Vision, *Boosting Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining*, n.d.

short-term mining whose remnants may be damaging to the environment, and ASM's unregulated nature, which can lead to the victimization of miners through organized crime and paramilitary groups.[80]

Case Study: South Africa

South Africa receives eight percent of its gross domestic product (GDP) from its mining sector.[81] One of South Africa's major mining industries is gold mining.[82] 94% of South Africa's gold derives from the Witwatersrand Basin region, where other resources such as pyrite, silver, uranium and osmiridium are also found.[83] In recent years, the South African government has made great strides toward better mining practices as it outlined in the *Mining Charter* of 2004, developed by the Department of Mineral Resources.[84] Since the creation of the *Mining Charter*, South Africa has become involved in credit earning schemes, which are popular in African mining countries.[85] One of these credit programs developed and implemented by Gold Fields Mining Company is the Beatrix methane-capture project.[86] This project has been registered as the first to be approved by the Designated National Authority for the Clean Development Mechanism in South Africa.[87] It has also earned carbon credit allowances by the United Nations as approved through the requirements of the UNFCCC.[88] The Beatrix methane-capture project reduces carbon emissions, harnesses an alternative source of energy and increases safety by capturing methane gas at its source deep in the gold mines where it is piped to the surface where it can be used to generate electricity or be flared.[89] Robbie Louw, director at Promethium Carbon who worked with Gold Fields to develop the project, stated that the project is expecting to "reduce carbon emissions at the operation by 1.7 million tons during the period of 2011 to 2018."[90] The Beatrix mine project was also awarded the European Energy Risk Deal of the Year due to its magnitude and ability to not only decrease emissions but promises to generate energy as well.[91]

In an attempt to combat some of the social hardships facing mineral trade in South Africa, the Department of Mineral Resources pays special attention to protecting the small-scale mining projects through encouraging community clusters and providing government incentives for those that are particularly vulnerable to the hardships of poverty.[92] Another social problem that the Department of Mineral Resources has tried to address post-Apartheid is increasing black economic empowerment throughout the mining industry by making 26% of South Africa's mining assets Black Economic Empowerment compliant by 2014.[93] South Africa's Black Economic Empowerment (BEE) policy aims to broaden the economic base of the country to stimulate further economic wealth to overcome ethnically defined wealth disparities and overall inequalities by empowering disadvantaged communities and generating new employment opportunities, but it has not reached its targeted goals.[94] Despite the large-scale progress made by South Africa, the recent miner's strike threatens to destabilize its mining sector.[95] South African miners have been on strike at one gold and six platinum mines since 34 miners striking for higher wages were killed by the police in August 2012.[96] This strike is very controversial because of speculation that the strikes are partially instrumental for a power struggle amongst rival unions, which argue that the National Union of Mine Workers and the African National Congress (ANC) are complacent and no longer representing their best interests.[97] In addition, it is illegal to go on strike without the approval of the government labor conciliation board.[98] On October 5, 2012, the big platinum producer Anglo American Platinum fired 12,000 mine workers on strike that refused to return to work

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[80] Africa Mining Vision, *Boosting Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining*, n.d.
[81] South African Government Information, *Mineral Resources*, 2012.
[82] South African Government Information, *Mineral Resources*, 2012.
[83] South African Government Information, *Mineral Resources*, 2012.
[84] Department of Mineral Resources, *Department of Mineral Resources Structure*, 2011.
[85] Africa Mining Vision, *Boosting Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining*, n.d.
[86] Economic Commission for Africa, *Minerals and Africa's Development*,2011.
[87] Economic Commission for Africa, *Minerals and Africa's Development*,2011.
[88] South Africa Info, *SA Miners Register for Carbon Credit Project*, 2011.
[89] South Africa Info, *SA Miners Register for Carbon Credit Project*, 2011.
[90] South Africa Info, *SA Miners Register for Carbon Credit Project*, 2011.
[91] South Africa Info, *SA Miners Register for Carbon Credit Project*, 2011.
[92] South African Government Information, *Mineral Resources*, 2012.
[93] Department of Mineral Resources, *Department of Mineral Resources Structure*, 2011.
[94] South Africa Info, *Black economic empowerment*, n.d.
[95] Hadebe, *South Africa Mine Strikes: Police Fire Tear Gas, Force People into Shacks*, 2012.
[96] Hadebe, *South Africa Mine Strikes: Police Fire Tear Gas, Force People into Shacks*, 2012.
[97] Polgreen, *Platinum Company Fires 12,000 Striking Miners in South Africa*, 2012.
[98] Hadebe, *South Africa Mine Strikes: Police Fire Tear Gas, Force People into Shacks*, 2012.

that day; this resulted in a decline of stock markets and the rand, South Africa's currency.[99] With work attendance below 20% at the Anglo American Platinum mine in Rustenburg, mines were unsafe to operate and resulted in a loss of over $126 million in revenue.[100] This recent turmoil in the South African mining industry – one of the most elaborate on the continent – illustrates that the realization of social sustainability remains a challenge.

Case Study: Nigeria

Nigeria, like many African states, has suffered from the 'resource curse' of having a highly valuable global commodity, yet little benefits for its society as a whole. One infamous manifestation of the curse is the fact that revenues from fossil fuel finance regional rebellions in the oil-rich Niger Delta, located in the south of Nigeria.[101] Nigeria ranks number eight in the world (and first in Africa) for proved reserves of natural gas at 5.292 trillion cubic meters.[102] Estimates find the oil industry in Nigeria bringing in roughly £30 million/day, which explains why actors at the state and local level have fought over the industry.[103] By the 1980s and 1990s, there was a shift towards reclaiming these resources to gain profit for the national government through its resurgence of "[i]ndigenization."[104] In the 1970s, the Nigerian government had issued an indigenization decree to prohibit foreign companies from investing in specified businesses, and set aside employment in certain trades strictly for Nigerians.[105] The resurgence of indigenization in Nigeria was an attempt to counteract the effects of colonization on the Nigerian people and their further exploitation through foreign investment. But it also made the oil industry a subject for conflicts between different rebel and ethnic groups over commodities such as oil rents, oil contracts, and even the locations of government offices.[106] The financial losses for Nigeria, estimated at $1.5 billion per year, can lead to conflict and further degradation if unchecked.[107] Nigeria has also faced ongoing hardships due to corruption throughout its economy, but has tried to combat it with the help of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) and the Independent Corrupt Practices and other related offenses Commission (ICPC).[108] The EFCC is focused on enhancing good governance practices and financial accountability while working to reduce problems such as fraud, waste, and corruption.[109]

In addition to suffering from internal conflict, Nigeria has also dealt with the environmental effects of extracting crude oil.[110] In the 1990s, most of Nigeria's gas and oil production occurred in onshore and shallow water fields.[111] Nigeria committed to *Agenda 21*, which is the voluntary plan of action created to attain sustainable development during the UN Conference on Environment and Development (known as the "Rio Conference") in 1992.[112] Various stages have been implemented for tasks such as advising the government on sustainable development issues and strategies to help implement the provisions of *Agenda 21*, with the creation of the National Advisory Committee (NAC) on *Agenda 21*.[113] Nigeria is able to overcome some of its environmental hardships through its Federal Environmental Protection Agency (FEPA), which pays particular attention to environmental protection and conservation of natural resources.[114] Nigeria faces problems as a result of mining including deforestation, soil and coastal erosion, various pollutants of natural resources and flooding.[115] Oil development and production has also resulted in Nigeria having one of the highest gas flare rates in the world.[116] These gas flares, which often occur during the production of oil, have contributed to the country's air pollution.[117] The United Nations Environmental

[99] Polgreen, *Platinum Company Fires 12,000 Striking Miners in South Africa*, 2012.
[100] Letourneau, *Recap of the Major Mines Impacted by the South African Mine Strikes*, 2012.
[101] Nwajiaku-Dahou, *The Political Economy of oil and Rebellion in Nigeria's Niger Delta*, 2012, p. 296.
[102] Central Intelligence Agency, *Country Comparison: Natural Gas- Proved Reserves*, 2011.
[103] Nwajiaku-Dahou, *The Political Economy of oil and Rebellion in Nigeria's Niger Delta*, 2012, p. 296.
[104] Nwajiaku-Dahou, *The Political Economy of oil and Rebellion in Nigeria's Niger Delta*, 2012, pp. 298-299.
[105] Mongabay, *Nigeria- Economic Development*, 2010.
[106] Nwajiaku-Dahou, *The Political Economy of oil and Rebellion in Nigeria's Niger Delta*, 2012, p. 308.
[107] United Nations, *Institutional Aspects of Sustainable Development in Nigeria*, 1997.
[108] African Economic Outlook, *Nigeria*, 2012.
[109] United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, *Nigeria's Corruption Busters*, 2011.
[110] World Bank, *Oil and Gas Resources in the Federal Republic of Nigeria*, 2010, p. 1
[111] World Bank, *Oil and Gas Resources in the Federal Republic of Nigeria*, 2010, p. 1
[112] United Nations, *Institutional Aspects of Sustainable Development in Nigeria*, 1997.
[113] United Nations, *Institutional Aspects of Sustainable Development in Nigeria*, 1997.
[114] United Nations, *Institutional Aspects of Sustainable Development in Nigeria*, 1997.
[115] United Nations, *Institutional Aspects of Sustainable Development in Nigeria*, 1997.
[116] World Bank, *Oil and Gas Resources in the Federal Republic of Nigeria*, 2010, p. 5.
[117] UNCTAD, *Investment Policy Review of Nigeria*, 2009, p. 47.

Programme (UNEP) conducted an assessment report of Ogoniland in 2011 at the request of the Federal Government, which revealed that the world's third largest wetland, located in the Niger Delta, had been heavily polluted by over 6,800 recorded oil spills in over 50 years of oil operations.[118] This has polluted mangroves and abundant fish creeks, while also having huge environmental impacts on the health of the Ogoni residents.[119] Some Ogoni residents drink from wells contaminated with dangerous levels of hydrocarbons (mostly the carcinogen benzene) with contamination levels over 900 times higher than the World Health Organization guidelines.[120] In December 2011, the oil and gas company Royal Dutch Shell leaked 40,000 barrels of oil into the mangrove creeks at the Bonga oilfield located in the Ogoniland region.[121] Since the spill caused environmental damage offshore and the National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (NOSDRA) did not have the power to impose a legal fine on Shell for the spill, the Nigerian Senate is currently working to amend the *NOSDRA Act* of 2006 to empower the agency to take a more assertive approach in holding parties responsible for the damage and clean up after an oil spill.[122] Another response Nigeria has taken to fix their environmental degradation is the development of the Hydrocarbon Pollution Restoration Project (HYPREP) which will use research and data to investigate and evaluate other areas that might also be affected by hydrocarbon pollution throughout the state, while also making recommendations to counteract its affects.[123]

UNECA Partnerships monitoring the Mineral Trade

The Economic Commission for Africa and the African Union (AU) have worked closely together for the creation of the *African Mining Vision (AMV)*, adopted in 2008 during the First AU Conference of Ministers Responsible for Mineral Resources Development, held in Addis Ababa in October 2008.[124] The First AU Conference of Ministers Responsible for Mineral Resources Development worked in conjunction with the ECA's International Study Group (ISG) on Africa's mineral regimes to advocate for "transparent, equitable and optimal exploitation of mineral resources to underpin broad-based sustainable growth and socio-economic development."[125] The *AMV* puts African states at the forefront of excavating their own resources and gives them an active role in discovering how mining communities can be used to develop Africa at the local, national, and regional levels.[126] By implementing the Action Plan of the *AMV* after the Second AU Conference of Ministers Responsible for Mineral Resource Development in December 2011, African states were able to develop strategies that would help ensure more environmentally friendly and socially responsible methods such as developing guidelines for disaster response and protection of communities from costs of litigation instituted on behalf of public interest.[127] One of the United Nations organizations working closely with the ECA on this issue is UNEP, which accumulates knowledge and understanding of the natural resources found in Africa's regions and publishes the findings through the *Africa Environment Outlook (AEO)*.[128] In addition to disseminating information on what natural resources are in existence, the *AEO* also highlights what type of environmental management is happening to ensure sustainable practices and sheds light on what work needs to be done with their specific case studies.[129] Another organization that works in conjunction with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization is the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP). The IDEP is a subsidiary body of the Economic Commission for Africa and is unique in that it focuses on overcoming linguistic barriers amongst African states in an attempt to help providing training and information across Africa.[130] The Eighth African Development Forum (ADF-VIII) on "Governing and Harnessing Natural Resources for Africa's Development" , scheduled for October 23-25, 2012, will focus on finding productive ways to use Africa's rich resources to overcome the hardships of prevailing poverty.[131] ADF-VIII will also bring to light new research and information helping to bridge the gap between African states and create more

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[118] Globalpost, *Nigeria's Ogoniland region could take 30 years to recover from oil spills, UN says*, 2012.
[119] Globalpost, *Nigeria's Ogoniland region could take 30 years to recover from oil spills, UN says*, 2012.
[120] Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization, *Ogoni: Calling on President to take action*, 2012.
[121] Al Jazeera, *Shell could face huge fine for Nigeria spill*, 2012.
[122] Wakili, *Nigeria: Senate Seeks Penalty for Oil Spill*, 2012.
[123] Nigerian Oil and Gas Intelligence, *FG Establishes Hydrocarbon Pollution Restoration Project*, 2012.
[124] Economic Commission for Africa, *Africa Review Report on Mining*, 2009, p. 2.
[125] Economic Commission for Africa, *Africa Review Report on Mining*, 2009, p. 2.
[126] African Mining Vision, *About the African Mining Vision*, 2012.
[127] African Union, *Action Plan for Implementing the AMV*, 2012, p. 33.
[128] UNEP, *UNEP Division of Early Warning Assessment- Africa*, 2012.
[129] UNEP, *UNEP Division of Early Warning Assessment- Africa*, 2012.
[130] IDEP, *African Institute for Development and Economic Planning*, 2012.
[131] Economic Commission for Africa, *Eighth African Development Forum*, 2012.

sustainable economies with stronger linkages.[132] The main themes to be discussed at ADF-VIII will be policy issues, economic participation and ownership, institutional capabilities, environmental issues and climate change, governance, and social issues that play a crucial role in shedding light as to where Africa stands with its natural resources, how to harness these resources, and what needs to be done to increase economic independence in Africa and decrease dependency on foreign direct investments. [133]

Conclusion

Although African states are still in the process of gaining economic control of their mineral development, it is important to note that the continent is growing overall as an economic force.[134] The mineral trade in Africa and its abundant natural resources represent great opportunities for wealth, yet there is not yet enough control over how to prosper from them. After decades of exploitation and environmental degradation, there is still hope for African states to reach into their untapped potential with many opportunities still existing and new resources still being discovered as research into Africa's vast landscape continues. With African states feeling the impacts of exploitation, it is now more urgent than ever to ensure that African governments take the correct steps to ensure sustainability not only for their economies, but also for the people of Africa and its future generations. Although it is important for African states to make reforms within their own governments to protect their natural resources, it is also important to note the need for transnational corporations and their home countries to adopt policies that work toward diminishing the environmental and social impacts of the mineral trade.

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[132] Economic Commission for Africa, *Eighth African Development Forum*, 2012.
[133] Economic Commission for Africa, *Eighth African Development Forum*, 2012.
[134] Bio-Tchane and Wang, *Africa's Burgeoning Ties with China*, 2008.

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AfDB, OECD, UNDP, and UNECA. (2012). *African Economic Outlook: Nigeria*. Retrieved September 25, 2012 from: http://www.africaneconomicoutlook.org/en/
> This Web site is a great source for delegates to check out because not only does it provide a thorough overview of Nigeria's economy, there are also links to other countries. The data obtained by these four partner organizations will be helpful when considering which social and environmental practices will be economically feasible considering the economic means of the represented country.

African Union. (2009). *Africa Mining Vision*. Retrieved August 6, 2012 from: http://www.africaminingvision.org/index.htm.
> The Africa Mining Vision was adopted February 2009 as Africa's effort to address the disparities between their great mineral wealth and extreme poverty. Africa Mining Vision focuses on how mining can contribute better to local development while still protecting their environment and making sure nations are able to negotiate contracts with mining multinationals. Delegates should use this Web site as a great source for seeing what the ECA was able to accomplish while involving Africa in the problem-solving process.

Organization for African Unity. (1980). *Lagos Plan of Action for the Economic Development of Africa*. Retrieved August 6, 2012, from: http://www.uneca.org/itca/ariportal/docs/lagos_plan.PDF.
> The Lagos Plan of Action for the Economic Development of Africa was adopted in an attempt to protect Africa from structural adjustment programs and other effects of post-colonialism. Delegates should use this document because it focuses on the imperative need to build up Africa's natural resource base while understanding the need to develop economic planning to protect African nations.

United Nations. (2002, September 4). *Johannesburg Declaration*. Retrieved August 6, 2012 from:http://www.un.org/jsummit/html/documents/summit_docs/0409_l6rev2_pol_decl.pdf.
> The Johannesburg Declaration calls on states to commit to finding ways to achieve sustainable development. It also draws attention to the major threats to sustainable development such as armed conflict, corruption, and environmental degradation. Delegates will find this declaration helpful when considering both the social and environmental aspects of finding sustainable practices in mineral trade.

United Nations. (2002, September 4). *Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development*. Retrieved August 7, 2012, from: http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/documents/WSSD_POI_PD/English/WSSD_PlanImpl.pdf.
> The Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development is the action participants created in order to move forward with the ideas developed at the summit. Although the full document involves many facets of sustainable development, delegates should focus on the parts specific to protecting the natural resource base of economic and social development and sustainable development in Africa.

United Nations Economic Commission for Africa. (2009, September 29). *Africa Review Report on Mining*. Retrieved August 5, 2012 from:http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/csd/csd_pdfs/csd-18/rims/AficanReviewReport-on-MiningSummary.pdf.
> The African Review Report on Mining is a very thorough overview of the mining sector in Africa. The ECA's report highlights the major issues addressing the continent, challenges and issues faced in achieving progress, and what progress has already been made.

United Nations Economic Commission for Africa. (2011, November). *Minerals and Africa's Development*. Retrieved August 6, 2012 from:http://www.africaminingvision.org/amv_resources/AMV/ISG%20Report_eng.pdf.
> This document is the most thorough overview of the mining industry and the role it plays in Africa's economic development. Delegates will find it exceptionally helpful because the context is not full of technical terminology and remains fairly easy to follow.

United Nations Economic Commission for Africa. (2012). *Economic Commission for Africa.* Retrieved July 31, 2012 from: http://new.uneca.org/.

> *This Web site is a great overall source for information regarding the ECA. It is easy to navigate and provides valuable resources such as current news, reports published by the ECA, upcoming events and the links to the different programs working under the ECA. Delegates should first check out this site as it provides valuable information regarding what work the ECA has done both with and without other organizations in order to protect mineral trade in Africa.*

United Nations Environmental Programme. (2012). *UNEPs Division of Early Warning Assessment-Africa.* Retrieved August 6, 2012 from: http://www.unep.org/dewa/Africa/.

> *This Web site provides data on environmental information that is useful in deciding what actions to take. The United Nations Environmental Programme's DEWA-Africa site will provide delegates with helpful links to reports, issues and partnerships that work closely with the UNEP. The UNEP Web site also provides links to their Country operations that are kept current and include news articles.*

World Commission on Environment and Development. (1987, March). *Our Common Future*. Retrieved August 29, 2012 from: http://www.un-documents.net/our-common-future.pdf.

> *This historic document, also referred to as the Brundtland Report, will be helpful for delegates searching for long-term environmental solutions. Our Common Future encourages cooperation as it is needed to achieve reductions in environmental degradation. In addition to offering solutions, Our Common Future also addresses the wide array of issues facing our environment in the quest to achieve economic development.*

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II. Enhancing Good Governance through the New Partnership for Africa's Development

Introduction to the New Partnership for Africa's Development and the African Peer Review Mechanism

The African continent has been and remains to be a focus area of utmost importance in the global community. In 2001, at the 37th Organization of African Unity (OAU) Summit in Lusaka, Zambia, the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) was created "to consolidate democracy and sound economic management on the continent" to be run by the OAU's successor, the African Union (AU).[135] The program was created due to the failures of previous pan-African development initiatives including the Lagos Plan of Action (1980), the Final Act of Lagos (1980), Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery (1986-1990), the African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programme (1989), the African (Arusha) Charter for Popular Participation and Development (1990), the Abuja Treaty (1991) and the Cairo Agenda (1994).[136] NEPAD came to fruition through the combination and compromises of three similar initiatives: the Millennium Africa Recovery Plan (MAP), the Omega Plan, and the New African Initiative (NAI), all created in 2001.[137] At the same Lusaka summit that NEPAD was produced, three NEPAD Governance Structures also originated: the Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee which is now known as the NEPAD Heads of State and Government Orientation Committee (HSGOC), the NEPAD Steering Committee, and the NEPAD Secretariat which is now the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency.[138] The NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency, amongst its many responsibilities, maintains fiscal records and projections that are useful to determining multi-level progress in the region.[139]

Under the NEPAD Framework Document, the program is to address six thematic areas: Agriculture and Food Security, Regional Integration and Infrastructure, Climate Change and National Resource Management, Economic and Corporate Governance, and Human Development and Cross-Cutting Issues including capacity development, Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs), and gender issues.[140] Along with the creation of NEPAD and its Governance Structures, the AU devised and implemented the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) in 2003 to assist in bringing to fruition the success of NEPAD, propel the program's initiatives, and ensure that Member States adhere to the outlined principles and cooperatively produce positive results.[141] APRM defines its objective as "[fostering] the adoption of policies, standards and practices that lead to political stability, high economic growth, sustainable development and accelerated sub regional and continental economic integration through experience sharing and reinforcement of successful and best practices, including identifying deficiencies and assessment of requirements for capacity building."[142] The AU and the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency also created the *Capacity Development Strategic Framework (CDSF)*.[143] In addition, the United Nations (UN) and the AU compiled the *United Nations Ten Year-Capacity Building Programme for the African Union*.[144]

The APRM's four thematic areas are Socio-Economic Development, Economic Governance, Corporate Governance, and Democracy and Political Governance.[145] While APRM was still in its developmental stages, what is now the HSGOC requested input from the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) on Economic and Corporate Governance. The result was the publication of *Guidelines for Enhancing Good Economic and Corporate Governance in Africa* and included suggestions for the range and effectiveness of APRM.[146] ECA contributes suggestions and volunteers' support in many different areas to NEPAD, APRM, and to the AU regarding these programs. Many facets of the international community raised questions on the potential effectiveness of NEPAD because of the lack of progress from the programs that preceded it. There were, however, organizations like the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH), a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) that championed the

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[135] AU, *The New Partnership for Africa's Development*, 2001, p. 59.
[136] NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency, "History," 2010.
[137] NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency, "History," 2010.
[138] NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency, "NEPAD Governance Structures," 2010.
[139] NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency, *NEPAD Agency Business Plan 2012*, 2012
[140] NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency, "About," 2010.
[141] APRM, "About APRM," 2012.
[142] APRM, "About APRM," 2012.
[143] NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency, *Capacity Development Strategic Framework*, 2009.
[144] NEPAD, *United Nations Ten Year-Capacity Building Programme for the African Union*, 2010.
[145] APRM, "About APRM," 2012.
[146] UNECA, *Guidelines for Enhancing Good Economic and Corporate Governance in Africa*, 2002, p 52.

concept of the APRM and the promise that it presented, whilst remaining wary of the possible decrease or removal of allocated funds and resources for then-current efforts.[147] The FDIH came to support NEPAD and recognized the program's legitimacy and effectiveness.[148] Implementation and effectiveness of NEPAD has not been extraordinarily successful thus far in terms of concrete measures but throughout the decade, the program revealed its capacity to grant some small-scale successes in the region. On the other hand, NEPAD and APRM have been strongly criticized by several individuals and states in the global community, as well as several member states to the AU, who accuse both programs of being weak and ineffective in their objectives and thematic concerns.[149]

In *The AU, NEPAD, and the Promotion of Good Governance in Africa,* Dr. John Akokpari, a professor of Political Science and African Studies at the University of Cape Town, declares that NEPAD and APRM have a "truncated capacity" for any improvements in their missions.[150] In speaking further about APRM specifically, Akokpari determines that "[the] challenge [is] how a regime persisting in Human Rights violations, for example, can be made to reform if it withdraws from the [APRM] or simply refuses to sign up. Worse yet, the [APRM] lacks any definite elements of compulsion; the process has no clearly defined ways of obligating deviant states to reform."[151] The International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA) published *NEPAD's Contribution to Democracy and Good Governance in Africa* in 2010 by Halfdan Lynge Ottosen in which Ottosen defends NEPAD and the successes that have come to fruition through the program while also urging for continued support from the European Union (EU) for the program.[152]

Institutional Cooperation

As NEPAD is a program of the AU, a large amount of cooperation between institutions takes place in order to exacerbate the resources needed by the AU to keep the program working. On November 16, 2006 in Addis Ababa, the United Nations (UN) Secretary-General and the Chairperson of the African Union Commission signed a Declaration for *Enhancing UN-AU Cooperation: Framework for the Ten-Year Capacity Building Programme for the African Union (A/61/630)* which outlines the shared goals and cooperation of both organizations and expands on previous cooperation agreements between the UN and OAU.[153] This declaration for the enhancement of UN-AU Cooperation was further supported by UN Security Council (SC) resolution 1809 in 2008.[154] The UN General Assembly (GA) passed resolutions 57/2 in September 2002 and 57/7 in November of 2002 which brought to a close the *United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s* and institutionalized cooperation between NEPAD and the UN System.[155] Resolution 57/7 further emphasized the need for action and support from other UN bodies.[156] The UN Secretary-General created the Office of the Special Advisor on Africa (OSAA) in May of 2003 with *ST/SGB/2003/6*.[157] This was done through GA resolution 57/300 of February 7, 2003 that called for an interdepartmental task force on affairs in Africa.[158]

OSAA's functions are listed as supporting the GA and the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) deliberations regarding Africa and NEPAD, coordinating reports for and by the UN system and the international community on African issues and NEPAD, supporting global advocacy for NEPAD, and answering to the UN Secretariat on its works.[159] OSAA has ongoing work in the public and private sectors and collaborates with NGOs,

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[147] The International Federation for Human Rights, *NEPAD and Human Rights: A Link to Clarify, 2002.*

[148] The International Federation for Human Rights, *A Human Rights Approach to the NEPAD and the APRM*, 2004.

[149] Akokpari, The AU, NEPAD, and the Promotion of Good Governance in Africa, 2004

[150] Akokpari, *The AU, NEPAD, and the Promotion of Good Governance in Africa*, 2004, p. 243.

[151] Akokpari, *The AU, NEPAD, and the Promotion of Good Governance in Africa*, 2004, p. 253.

[152] Ottosen, *NEPAD's Contribution to Democracy and Good Governance in Africa*, 2010.

[153] United Nations Secretary-General, *Enhancing UN-AU Cooperation: Framework for the Ten-Year Capacity Building Programme for the African Union (A/61/630),* 2006.

[154] United Nations Security Council, *Resolution 1809 (S/Res/1809),* 2008.

[155] United Nations General Assembly, *Resolution 57/2*: *United Nations Declaration on the New Partnership for Africa's Development (A/Res/57/2),* 2002.

[156] United Nations General Assembly, *Resolution 57/7: Final review and appraisal of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s and support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development (A/Res/57/7), 2002.*

[157] United Nations Secretary-General, *Office of the Special Adviser on Africa (ST/SGB/ 2003/6)*, 2003.

[158] United Nations General Assembly, *Resolution 57/300: Strengthening of the United Nations: an agenda for further change (A/Res/57/300)*, 2003.

[159] United Nations Secretary-General, Office of the Special Adviser on Africa (ST/SGB/ 2003/6), 2003.

while maintaining individual country profiles and updated records on various NEPAD issues.[160] The ECA is responsible for managing UN support to NEPAD at the regional level.[161] ECA administers the Regional Mechanism of Support, which systematically has UN agencies working to address nine thematic areas of NEPAD and the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa (RCM-Africa), which has held 12 annual sessions.[162] The nine thematic clusters of NEPAD under the ECA are: Governance; Infrastructure Development; Environment, Population and Urbanization; Social and Human Development; Science and Technology; Advocacy and Communication; Agriculture, Food Security and Rural Development; Industry, Trade and Market Access; and Peace and Security.[163]

Good Governance

Poor political governance in Africa and destabilization has weakened the capability of states to sustain any substantial economic growth or make progress in poverty reduction.[164] Quality of a country's governance is determined by taking into account several aspects of governmental institutions and processes. Good governance and the measure of a government's success is seen through governmental transparency, the amount of citizen and private sector participation seen within the country, and the extent to which a government is responsive and accountable to its people.[165] Good governance is also measured by individual and collective human rights (such as rights to assemble and speak freely) and the promotion and maintenance of sustainable human development and the rule of law.[166] There have been numerous efforts to improve political governance and promote democratization in Africa, especially with the assistance of intergovernmental organizations and Specialized Agencies. For instance, the United Nations Development Programme's (UNDP) program for Democratic Governance led twelve projects with anti-corruption components in 2005 in Africa.[167] The number of these active projects with anti-corruption components jumped to 35 in 2010.[168] Impediments to good governance in Africa are derived from violence, corruption and poverty which is perpetuated by the lack of governmental transparency, security, civil participation and undermined fundamental freedoms and the African continent has historically been plagued with all aspects that are associated with poor governance.[169] At the Thirty-Eighth Ordinary Session of the OAU on July 8, 2002, what is now the HSGOC produced the *Declaration on Democracy, Political, Economic, and Corporate Governance [AHG/235 (XXXVIII) Annex 1]* which outlined the goals of implementing good democratic governance throughout the continent while simultaneously producing positives outcomes of the implementation of NEPAD.[170]

Good Political, Economic and Corporate Governance
Political, economic, and corporate governance are all interconnected; poor corporate and economic governance is a direct repercussion of poor political governance and without efficient economic and corporate governance, political governance will not be efficient or effective.[171] In its *Guidelines for Enhancing Good Economic and Corporate Governance in Africa*, the ECA explains the key issues preventing good economic and corporate governance and the obstacles that must be overcome.[172] Additionally, in her report on *Peace and Security through Good Governance: A Guide to the NEPAD African Peer Review Mechanism* Jakkie Cilliers (Institute for Security Studies, Addis Ababa) highlights that lack of development, HIV/AIDS, poverty, and hunger are the most obvious calls for improvement in African governance issues.[173]

According to the ECA, good economic governance exists where governments are able to formulate, implement and enforce sound policies and regulations; can be monitored and be held accountable; and in which there is respect for

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[160] United Nations Office of the Special Adviser on Africa, *OSAA: Office of the Special Adviser on Africa—About OSAA*, 2012.

[161] UNECA, *UN Support to AU and its NEPAD Programme*, 2011.

[162] UNECA, *UN Support to AU and its NEPAD Programme*, 2011.

[163] UNECA, *UN Support to AU and its NEPAD Programme*, 2011.

[164] UNECA, *Guidelines for Enhancing Good Economic and Corporate Governance in Africa*, 2002, p. 8.

[165] United Nations Cyber School Bus, *"What is Governance?"* 2001.

[166] United Nations Cyber School Bus, *"What is Governance?"* 2001.

[167] UNDP, *Fast Facts: Anti-Corruption and Democratic Governance,* 2011, p. 2.

[168] UNDP, *Fast Facts: Anti-Corruption and Democratic Governance,* 2011, p. 2.

[169] United Nations Cyber School Bus, *"What is Governance?"* 2001.

[170] NEPAD Secretariat*, Declaration on Democracy, Political, Economic, and Corporate Governance [AHG/235 (XXXVIII) Annex 1]*, 2003.

[171] UNECA, *Guidelines for Enhancing Good Economic and Corporate Governance in Africa*, 2002, p. 8.

[172] UNECA, *Guidelines for Enhancing Good Economic and Corporate Governance in Africa*, 2002.

[173] Cilliers, *Peace and Security through Good Governance: A Guide to the NEPAD African Peer Review Mechanism*, 2003, p. 2.

the rules and norms of economic interactions.[174] Governments must also manage resources and economic activity must not be impeded by corruption and other activities inconsistent with the public trust.[175] Economic governance in this respect is comprised of issues such as regulatory framework; integrity of the Monetary and Financial system; and Public Financial Management and Accountability.[176] The ECA further explains that "[c]orporate Governance refers to the mechanisms through which corporations [be they private, state owned, or publicly traded] and their management are governed."[177] All of these facets of governance are affected by and through public institutions where continued capacity building, reform and management are required.[178] In terms of these public institutions, focus is needed in strengthening parliamentary oversight; promotion of participatory decision making; civil and administrative services; undertaking judicial reforms; and effectively combating corruption and embezzlement.[179] In regards to the significance of the private sector, OSAA summarizes,

> "As a major stakeholder in Africa's development, the private sector has a key role to play in the successful implementation of NEPAD. The private sector is an important force for growth and development. A vibrant domestic private sector promises to be a virtuous link in the cycle of improving the competitiveness of African economies, signaling the existence of an enabling environment for business, and attracting foreign investment, which in turn strengthens international competitiveness of African economies. Successful development experiences over recent decades consistently confirm that good governance, a sound economic environment and well-functioning physical and social infrastructure are essential for fostering private sector-led growth."[180]

There are many hindrances to good corporate governance that require some level of change including relationships between governments and financial sectors; ownership structures of corporate sectors; lack of and underdeveloped institutions; limited human resources; and weak or ineffective legal and judiciary systems.[181] The ECA provided NEPAD with a collection of suggestions, standards and codes of good economic and corporate governance as well as diagnostic tools to gauge the necessity of attention needed for individual member states in both their civil societies and private sectors.[182] This has been a crucial document to the programs for outlining the protocols and ensuring implementation. In 2012, the ECA also published a decade review of NEPAD that highlights accomplishments through NEPAD in enhancing good corporate governance.[183] The interconnectedness of all of these levels of governance are further agreed upon by Cilliers as she stated that "[both] economic and corporate governance [take their] cues from political governance and it would be naïve to suggest that the latter could improve within a corrupt and self-serving political system."[184] In order to bring resolution to corruption throughout Africa in local, state, sub-regional, and regional levels, 45 AU Member States signed the *African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption* at the 2nd Ordinary session of the Assembly of the Union on July 11, 2003 as a foundation for the enrichment of its governments.[185] The African Union also created the African Union Advisory Board on Corruption. In 2011, the Board released its Strategic Plan 2011- 2015 where it endeavors to provide support to AU Member States for implementation of the AU Convention and the Fight Against Corruption in Africa by 2015.[186]

In efforts to maintain growth and document governance affairs throughout Africa, ECA has produced two reports, the most recent being from 2009. The *African Governance Report II* highlights improvements in most facets of governance that have been presented from political, economic, and corporate governance, to public and private sector development, accountability of the executive, institutional checks and balances, human rights issues and the

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[174] UNECA, *Guidelines for Enhancing Good Economic and Corporate Governance in Africa*, 2002, p. 2.
[175] UNECA, *Guidelines for Enhancing Good Economic and Corporate Governance in Africa*, 2002, p. 2.
[176] UNECA, *Guidelines for Enhancing Good Economic and Corporate Governance in Africa*, 2002, p. 18.
[177] UNECA, *Guidelines for Enhancing Good Economic and Corporate Governance in Africa*, 2002, p.5.
[178] UNECA, *Guidelines for Enhancing Good Economic and Corporate Governance in Africa*, 2002, p. 9.
[179] UNECA, *Guidelines for Enhancing Good Economic and Corporate Governance in Africa*, 2002, p. 9.
[180] United Nations Office of the Special Advisor on Africa, *Private Sector*, 2012.
[181] UNECA, *Guidelines for Enhancing Good Economic and Corporate Governance in Africa*, 2002, p. 33.
[182] UNECA, *Guidelines for Enhancing Good Economic and Corporate Governance in Africa*, 2002, p. 9.
[183] UNECA, *A Decade of NEPAD: Deepening African Private Sector and Civil Society Ownership and Partnership*, 2012.
[184] Cilliers, *Peace and Security through Good Governance: A Guide to the NEPAD African Peer Review Mechanism*, 2003, p. 2.
[185] AU, *African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption*, 2003.
[186] African Union Advisory Board on Corruption, *African Union Advisory Board on Corruption: 2011-2015 Strategic Plan*, 2011.

rule of law, to capacity development.[187] This publication also glances at ECA's Project on Good Governance and enhancements that have been made throughout Africa, in terms of both governance and improvements to socio-economics, on the local, sub-regional and regional levels.[188] The ECA also published *The Mutual Review of Development Effectiveness in Africa: Promise and Performance* in order to determine progress made in enhancing the local qualities of governance.[189]

Case Studies

Angola
Angola, a Member State to the UN and AU in the southern region of the continent, is still in a reconstruction period after a 27-year-long civil war. Angola has been recognized through extensive research to be in desperate need of enhancement in good governance.[190] According to the Electoral Institute for Sustainable Democracy in Africa (EISA), in 2004, Angola was ranked as having one of the poorest qualities of government in Africa and one of the poorest records of governance globally.[191] Politically, Angola maintains a very centralized government with the majority of power belonging to its president.[192] The interconnectedness of the different types of governance inevitably concludes that political, economic, and corporate governance are impacted by the successes of each other.[193] Angola is known for its determined lack of transparency, government domination of its resources and economy, lack of corporate diversity, extreme poverty, and lack of basic fundamental human rights for its citizens.[194]

Angola was not immediately committed to APRM and obtaining reform through NEPAD, but acceded to it at the last minute at the HSGIC meeting that officially launched APRM on February 15, 2004.[195] However, motives behind Angola's commitment to APRM and enhancing good governance were and remain to be questionable.[196] Since acceding to APRM, Angola is still in its preliminary stages of the program and has not made any progress in participation.[197] UNDP defines the key areas of attention in regards to governance reform in Angola as being: Crisis Prevention and Recovery, Poverty Reduction, Environment and Energy, and Democratic Governance.[198] A great deal of attention from the AU and other members of the global community is placed on assisting Angola during this reconstruction period and this would be perpetuated if Angola takes active steps to complete its first APRM review. Reform through the key objectives of NEPAD, APRM, and ECA in reference to NEPAD gives hope to a prosperous and functional Angola in the future, which will be enriched through good governance.

Ghana
Ghana is recognized as being a "trailblazer and shining example" in its proactive participation in NEPAD and the APRM.[199] Despite the country's long history of colonial rule in centuries past and being located in an African sub-region that has seen perpetual turmoil recently, Ghana is a more peaceful state that embraced democratization and

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[187] UN ECA, *African Governance Report II*, 2009.

[188] UN ECA, *African Governance Report II*, 2009

[189] UN ECA, *The Mutual Review of Development Effectiveness in Africa: Promise and Performance*, 2012.

[190] Masterson, *Governance Quality and Government Commitment to the NEPAD African Peer Review Mechanism (EISA Research Report No 5)*, 2004.

[191] Masterson, *Governance Quality and Government Commitment to the NEPAD African Peer Review Mechanism (EISA Research Report No 5)*, 2004.

[192] Masterson, *Governance Quality and Government Commitment to the NEPAD African Peer Review Mechanism (EISA Research Report No 5)*, 2004.

[193] Masterson, Governance Quality and Government Commitment to the NEPAD African Peer Review Mechanism (EISA Research Report No 5), 2004.

[194] Masterson, *Governance Quality and Government Commitment to the NEPAD African Peer Review Mechanism (EISA Research Report No 5)*, 2004.

[195] Masterson, *Governance Quality and Government Commitment to the NEPAD African Peer Review Mechanism (EISA Research Report No 5)*, 2004.

[196] Masterson, *Governance Quality and Government Commitment to the NEPAD African Peer Review Mechanism (EISA Research Report No 5)*, 2004.

[197] Masterson, *Governance Quality and Government Commitment to the NEPAD African Peer Review Mechanism (EISA Research Report No 5)*, 2004.

[198] UNDP, *Angola*, 2012.

[199] APRM, *Country Review Report of the Republic of Ghana*, 2005, p. xi.

has been working towards good governance for quite a few decades.[200] Rapid population growth has been a concern over the last decade as it is taxing on natural resources and it could be a nuisance to the country's democratic future.[201] Economic health on national and grassroots levels has also been a concern to Ghana's leaders.[202] In 1983, Ghana even created its own Economic Recovery Program (ERP).[203] Over the years, Ghana has been an active participant in the OAU, AU, regional initiatives like the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and now the NEPAD and APRM programs.[204]

This country was one of the first to accede to the APRM and NEPAD programs and was one of the first to be reviewed by the APRM when reviews began in 2004.[205] APRM's Review Report lists Ghana's areas of improvement to be in land ownership and management, minor internal and international conflict management, international financing dependence, budgeting, and suggested improvements in legal and regulatory framework.[206]

Conclusion

Keeping in mind the level of institutional cooperation in the global community and its continued support, the enhancement of good governance is well within reach throughout the world, but especially within Africa. Reaching better political, economic, and corporate governance through NEPAD by remaining goal-oriented by all of its thematic areas and the APRM's thematic areas of concern is the key to unlocking success in enhanced governance. In what ways can meeting all of the thematic objectives of NEPAD and APRM enhance governance throughout the continent? Attention to the works of ECA's Regional Mechanism of Support is important. What can ECA provide through this mechanism to improve its works and the effects it has on African governance? What innovative procedures can be reasonably implemented or improved within the UN, ECA, and AU? Where can support be transferred or created within the program in respect to ECA? By the commitment of all countries in Africa to APRM and the dedication to the enhancement of good governance through NEPAD and its key thematic objectives, the African continent holds the promise of a bright future in terms of capacity, development and more democratic governance. In what areas can NEPAD enrich your individual Member State's government? Which areas of NEPAD does your country focus on and what outcomes would particularly benefit it the most in terms of enhancing good governance and influencing its sub-region and the region as a whole?

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[200] Masterson, *Governance Quality and Government Commitment to the NEPAD African Peer Review Mechanism (EISA Research Report No 5)*, 2004.

[201] Masterson, *Governance Quality and Government Commitment to the NEPAD African Peer Review Mechanism (EISA Research Report No 5)*, 2004.

[202] Masterson, *Governance Quality and Government Commitment to the NEPAD African Peer Review Mechanism (EISA Research Report No 5)*, 2004.

[203] APRM, *Country Review Report of the Republic of Ghana*, 2005.

[204] Masterson, *Governance Quality and Government Commitment to the NEPAD African Peer Review Mechanism (EISA Research Report No 5)*, 2004.

[205] Masterson, *Governance Quality and Government Commitment to the NEPAD African Peer Review Mechanism (EISA Research Report No 5)*, 2004.

[206] APRM, *Country Review Report of the Republic of Ghana*, 2005.

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> *Studying this web site will provide a working knowledge of the African Peer Review Mechanism. Available here is the scope, mission, process, and key initiatives for this voluntary enforcement of the New Partnership for Africa's Development. This will give provide an idea of key methods to enhancing Good Governance on the continent.*

African Union. (2001). *The New Partnership for Africa's Development.* Retrieved on July 31, 2012 from http://www.nepad.org/system/files/framework_0.pdf

> *This is the founding document for The New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD). It outlines the purpose, structure, and function for the program. Thorough review of this document provides a comprehensive understanding of the many areas of concern in terms of economics, politics, development, and infrastructure on various societal and regional levels. This framework is one of the most important pieces of research to review in order to have a strong foundational understanding of this topic.*

Masterson, G, Electoral Institute for Sustainable Democracy in Africa. (2004). Governance Quality and Government Commitment to the NEPAD African Peer Review Mechanism (EISA Research Report No 5). Retrieved on August, 29, 2012 from http://www.eisa.org.za/PDF/rr5.pdf

> *The thorough evaluation of African states' governance quality through APRM is enlightening and valuable for marking governance growth since the implementations of APRM. Governmental participation and commitment to the program can be estimated through this piece of research. It also presents the margin that exists as a direct correlation between stagnant and poor governance because of commitment to improvement or lack thereof.*

NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency. (2010). "About." Retrieved on August 26, 2012 from http://www.nepad.org/about

> *This should be the initial starting point for understanding all facets of NEPAD. Here you may find the scope and objectives NEPAD, its History, and mission. You will also find other relevant documentation and beneficial information regarding institutional cooperation, capacity development, and enhancement of Good Governance through the program.*

NEPAD Secretariat. (March 3, 2003). Declaration on Democracy, Political, Economic, and Corporate Governance [AHG/235 (XXXVIII) Annex 1]. Retrieved on July 31, 2012 from http://new.uneca.org/Portals/nepad/Documents/declaration-on-democracy-political-economic-corporate-governance.pdf

> *The inception of this declaration came from the 6th Summit of the NEPAD Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee in Abuja, Nigeria in March of 2003. It provides a comprehensive knowledge of the beginning of NEPAD and the intentions that the Heads of State had for the effectiveness of the program, implementing democratic governance on the African continent, and documents related to and contributing to the original framework. It provides all of the objectives of the program and the major thematic areas of concern as well as the formation of the APRM.*

United Nations Economic Commission for Africa. (2009). *African Governance Report II.* Retrieved on July 31, 2012 from http://new.uneca.org/agr/agr2.aspx

> *This most recent governance report from ECA is a thorough review of the progress made in terms of political, economic, and corporate governance in Africa. It also explains progress in regards to human rights, corruption, financial management, private sector development, and institutional checks and balances. This publication is effective in providing a comprehensive understanding of the progress after the implementation of NEPAD and addresses all of the thematic objectives of the program.*

United Nations Economic Commission for Africa. (2002). *Guidelines for Enhancing Good Economic and Corporate Governance in Africa*. Retrieved on August 5, 2012 from http://www.afrimap.org/english/images/documents/file43205f4ce2018.pdf

> *The Economic Commission for Africa provided this as a guideline in enhancing good governance. It defines each type of governance, provides the frameworks, includes the components of each type of governance, and provides a set of codes and standards for good governance. Just as importantly, this document explains the African Peer Review Mechanism, its purpose, and its implementation. Studying this will provide a comprehensive understanding of NEPAD and successes thus far.*

United Nations Economic Commission for Africa and the Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development. (2012). *The Mutual Review of Development Effectiveness in Africa: Promise and Performance*. Retrieved on July 31, 2012 from www.oecd.org/site/africapartnershipforum/50362685.pdf

> *This review explains Africa's economic growth and sustainability, development, and investment. It also highlights political and economic governance, peace and security, and financing. In terms of finance, it provides an understanding of foreign and domestic aspects, assistance, and debt that is useful in understanding Africa's economic climate.*

United Nations General Assembly. (September 30, 2002). *Resolution 57/2*: *United Nations Declaration on the New Partnership for Africa's Development (A/Res/57/2)*. Retrieved on August 29, 2012 from http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=a/res/57/2

> *This GA Resolution officially introduced AU's NEPAD to the United Nations. It ultimately provided the path for UN partnership and participation in NEPAD implementation through the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council. It also provides a point of reference for the ways in which the General Assembly and Economic and Social Council participate in NEPAD's success.*

United Nations Secretary-General, Chairperson for the African Union Commission. (December 2006). *Enhancing UN-AU Cooperation: Framework for the Ten-Year Capacity Building Programme for the African Union (A/61/630) (2006)*. Retrieved on August 29, 2012 from http://www.uneca.org/nepad/Frameworkfor-theTenYearCapacityBuildingProgrammefortheAfricanUnion.pdf

> *This framework document is essential in understanding the institutional cooperation and capacity building and development as applied to NEPAD. This partnership between the United Nations Secretary-General and the Chairperson for the African Union Commission allowed for capacity building through the joined efforts of separately sovereign organizations. Without this institutional cooperation and this mutual agreement between the different organizational leaders, African development and capacity building would not be what it is today and continues to evolve to be.*

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III. Improving Youths' Access to Education and Employment Opportunities

"We must be conscious at all times of the enormous contribution that young people can make to the development of their societies. If we do not recognize and utilize youth assets, the generational cycle of instability, underdevelopment and inequity will continue".[207]

Introduction

Young people are instruments, beneficiaries and often victims of major societal changes.[208] They are the human resource for development and agents for social change and technological innovation. Thus, it is crucial that they are active participants in society and are involved in decision-making processes, because their ideas and visions are essential for the development of the societies in which they live.[209] According to the United Nations (UN) definition, 'youth' refers to those between 15- 24 years of age, and this Background Guide addresses the issues of education and employment opportunities faced by this particular group of people in Africa.[210] According to the Population Division of the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), 60 % of Africa's population is under 25 years of age.[211] Though this group accounts for nearly 40 % of the working population in Africa, they face a number of significant barriers to education and employment opportunities.[212]

In the new global economy, the acquisition of a more than basic education is a necessity for young people.[213] To participate in international labor markets, young Africans need to be provided with the training, skills and knowledge required for the transition from school to work.[214] Primary school enrolment is relatively high, reaching 76% in sub-Saharan Africa and 94% in North Africa.[215] This indicates that the majority of African countries are fulfilling the targets of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) of universal primary education (Goal 2) where the progress in enrolment rates has been achieved through donor support, public investment, and free tuition fees.[216] However, post-primary schooling, quality of education, teacher recruitment, and vocational training is poor in comparison.[217] Participation in tertiary education is low and young people from vulnerable groups such as persons with disabilities, young people living in rural, remote, marginalized communities, those caught up in conflict situations, and young women, have limited opportunities to access higher education and employment due to limited resources and tuition costs.[218] Also, in many instances cultural beliefs still have an impact on female participation in education and the labor market, and many national policies fail to address the issue of gender inequality and continuing disparities.[219]

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[207] United Nations General Assembly – Security Council*, Implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa, 2011, p. 9.*

[208] United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, *World Programme of Action for Youth,* 2010, p. 1.

[209] United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, *World Programme of Action for Youth,* 2010, p. 10.

[210] United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, *World Programme of Action for Youth,* 2010, p. 10.

[211] United Nations General Assembly – Security Council, *Implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa, 2011, p. 9.*

[212] United Nations Economic Commission for Africa – UN Youth, *Fact Sheet: Youth in Africa,* 2010, p. 1.

[213] United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, *African Youth Report: addressing the youth education and employment nexus in the new global economy*, 2011, p. vii.

[214] United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, *African Youth Report: addressing the youth education and employment nexus in the new global economy*, 2011, p. 2.

[215] United Nations General Assembly – Security Council, *Implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa, 2011, p. 9.*

[216] United Nations General Assembly – Security Council, *Implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa, 2011, p. 9.*

[217] United Nations General Assembly – Security Council, *Implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa, 2011, p. 9.*

[218] United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, *African Youth Report: addressing the youth education and employment nexus in the new global economy*, 2011, p. vii.

[219] United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, *African Youth Report: addressing the youth education and employment nexus in the new global economy*, 2011, p. vii.

Root Causes of Youth Unemployment and Lack of Education – the Basis for Action

Youth unemployment in Africa is exacerbated by the challenges of a large youth population considerably higher than in other regions, weak national labor markets, and high levels of poverty.[220] The situation is particularly dramatic in North Africa, which has the world's highest youth unemployment rates with one in four young people out of work.[221] The recent social uprisings in North Africa highlighted the urgent need to provide opportunities for young people to enter and stay in the labor market.[222] Demographic trends in Africa are such that the youth labor force continues to grow where few opportunities for paid work exist, and where working poverty (income below the poverty line - US$1.25 per day) is widespread, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa.[223] In developing economies and especially in Africa, job openings are limited by small formal sectors and youths do not always possess the right set of skills to qualify for the existing jobs.[224] The International Labor Organization (ILO) indicates that approximately 90% of jobs created in Africa are in the informal economy and 152 million young workers, most of them in sub-Saharan Africa, live in poor households with a per capita expenditure below US$1.25 per day.[225] The ILO states that the informal sector is prevalent in developing countries and usually is the main source of livelihoods for many groups of workers who come from disadvantaged backgrounds.[226] The informal sector unlike the formal is not recognized or protected under legal or regulatory frameworks and has no security of property rights.[227] The employment in the informal sector is very unstable with low income, thus, the emergence of the informal economy is constituted as one of the main development challenges.[228]

Designing growth and employment strategies and effectively implementing them requires active participation of all stakeholders such as the government, parliament, labor organizations, and donors.[229] Social dialogue and partnership for youth employment among governments, employers' organizations, trade unions and other organizations can be instrumental in determining appropriate action to be taken at national and regional levels.[230] One of the deep-rooted problems is that in African countries, employment does not feature in the budget preparations and it is rarely linked to the budget targets in national development policies.[231] Coordination across ministries and departments, especially finance and labor ministries, has long been the missing link in terms of employment policy development.[232] As such, the placement of employment as a central focus of macroeconomic policy as well as the budget planning process could make vast positive differences by channeling the resources and efforts of stakeholders.[233]

In regards to education, there has been a significant rise in primary school enrolment in the region but access to quality education is still a major issue, especially in rural areas.[234] Lack of access to education contributes to the

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[220] International Labour Organization, *Africa: no real growth without jobs*, 2012.

[221] International Labour Organization, *Africa: no real growth without jobs*, 2012.

[222] International Labour Organization, *Africa: no real growth without jobs*, 2012.

[223] International Labour Organization, *Global Employment Trends for Youth*, 2012, p. 8.

[224] International Labour Organization, *Global Employment Trends for Youth*, 2012, p. 8.

[225] United Nations General Assembly – Security Council, *Implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,* 2011, p. 10.

[226] International Labour Organization, *The Informal Economy in Africa: Promoting Transition to Formality: Challenges and Strategies,* 2009, p. 1.

[227] International Labour Organization, *The Informal Economy in Africa: Promoting Transition to Formality: Challenges and Strategies,* 2009, p. 1.

[228] International Labour Organization, *The Informal Economy in Africa: Promoting Transition to Formality: Challenges and Strategies,* 2009, p. 1.

[229] United Nations Economic Commission for Africa – AU Commission, *Promoting high-level sustainable growth to reduce unemployment in Africa,* 2010, p. 13.

[230] International Labour Organization, *Global Employment Trends for Youth*, 2012, p. 9.

[231] United Nations Economic Commission for Africa – AU Commission, *Promoting high-level sustainable growth to reduce unemployment in Africa,* 2010, p. 13.

[232] United Nations Economic Commission for Africa – AU Commission, *Promoting high-level sustainable growth to reduce unemployment in Africa,* 2010, p. 13.

[233] United Nations Economic Commission for Africa – AU Commission, *Promoting high-level sustainable growth to reduce unemployment in Africa,* 2010, p. 13.

[234] World Bank, *Africa Development Indicators 2008/09, Youth and Employment in Africa: The Potential, the Problems, the Promise*, 2009, p. 18.

increasing numbers of youths migrating.[235] In Ethiopia for instance, 57% of young people recently migrated from rural to urban areas because of more educational opportunities offered in urban cities.[236] Further issues include low teacher remuneration which results in poor quality education and a weak curriculum; physical impediments consist of the spread of HIV/AIDS and other diseases, and accessibility to educational facilities themselves for those in rural and remote areas or youths with a disability.[237] Armed conflict has also proven to be a significant barrier in sub-Saharan Africa, a site of numerous conflicts where young people have been both victims and perpetrators of violence.[238] In areas of conflict, youths increasingly participate in armed conflicts as active soldiers and many do so because of poverty.[239] The region has thousands of ex-young combatants; 100,000 in Sudan alone.[240] These conflicts prevent youths from obtaining an education beyond the basics and acquiring useful working skills, creating heavy losses in resources and ultimately deepening poverty.[241]

Improving access to education can be achieved through elimination of school fees for primary education, exemplified by the success of these measures in Kenya and Uganda.[242] Providing specific technical skills such as English proficiency, plumbing or mechanics in rural areas are essential for youth employment policies because it provides more opportunities for employment and poverty reduction.[243] Developing 'second chance' education programs for youths that have been unable to complete their education must also become a priority.[244] In Uganda and Malawi for example, social funds are providing training to local youths at community-owned training centers.[245] Furthermore, programs specifically designed to meet the needs of youths in conflict-afflicted countries need to include vocational training initiatives for ex-combatants with disabilities, such as those in Sierra Leone, or recognition of prior skills through certification as practiced in Eritrea.[246]

Global Efforts to Address the Issue of Youth Unemployment

In 1995, on the 10th anniversary of the International Youth Year, the UN General Assembly declared its commitment to young people by adopting an international strategy – the *World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond* (WPAY).[247] The WPAY provides a policy framework and practical guidelines for national action and international support to improve the situation of young people.[248] It contains proposals designed to strengthen conditions and mechanisms to promote livelihoods and well being amongst young people.[249] 15 priority areas were identified for action which include education, employment, hunger and poverty, health, environment, drug abuse,

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[235] World Bank, *Africa Development Indicators 2008/09, Youth and Employment in Africa: The Potential, the Problems, the Promise*, 2009, p. 18.

[236] World Bank, *Africa Development Indicators 2008/09, Youth and Employment in Africa: The Potential, the Problems, the Promise*, 2009, p. 18.

[237] United Nations General Assembly – Security Council, *Implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa*, 2011, p. 9.

[238] Mac-Ikemenjima, D, *Youth development, reintegration, reconciliation and rehabilitation in post-conflict West Africa: A framework for Sierra Leone, Liberia and Cote d'Ivoire*, 2008, p. 146.

[239] World Bank, *Africa Development Indicators 2008/09, Youth and Employment in Africa: The Potential, the Problems, the Promise*, 2009, p.20.

[240] World Bank, *Africa Development Indicators 2008/09, Youth and Employment in Africa: The Potential, the Problems, the Promise*, 2009, p.21.

[241] World Bank, *Africa Development Indicators 2008/09, Youth and Employment in Africa: The Potential, the Problems, the Promise*, 2009, p.21.

[242] World Bank, *Africa Development Indicators 2008/09, Youth and Employment in Africa: The Potential, the Problems, the Promise*, 2009, p. 18.

[243] World Bank, *Africa Development Indicators 2008/09, Youth and Employment in Africa: The Potential, the Problems, the Promise*, 2009, p. 18.

[244] World Bank, *Africa Development Indicators 2008/09, Youth and Employment in Africa: The Potential, the Problems, the Promise*, 2009, pp. 18 – 19.

[245] World Bank, *Africa Development Indicators 2008/09, Youth and Employment in Africa: The Potential, the Problems, the Promise*, 2009, pp. 18 – 19.

[246] World Bank, *Africa Development Indicators 2008/09, Youth and Employment in Africa: The Potential, the Problems, the Promise*, 2009, p.21.

[247] United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, *World Programme of Action for Youth,* 2010, p. i.

[248] United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs – Economic and Social Council, *Youth: Social Policy and Development Division,* 2012.

[249] United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, *World Programme of Action for Youth,* 2010, p. ii.

juvenile delinquency, leisure-time activities, girls and young women, full and effective participation of youth in the life of society and in decision-making, globalization, information and communication technology, HIV/AIDS, armed conflict and intergenerational issues.[250] The WPAY stresses that the implementation of the program is the responsibility of governments and the international community alike, along with the support of non-governmental organizations and private sector.[251] Governments are urged to assess the situation of youths and formulate a cross-sector, national youth program of action in terms of specific time-bound objectives to evaluate the progress achieved and obstacles encountered.[252]

Moreover, the WPAY formed a basis for the emergence of the UN Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development, which serves as the main mechanism of cooperation on youth development within the UN system.[253] In 2010, this Network developed the UN framework approach for the *International Year of Youth: Dialogue and Mutual Understanding* in order to guide collective efforts during the year.[254] The key areas of the Inter-Agency Network's work are: increasing commitment and investment in youth, increasing youth participation and partnership and increasing inter-cultural understanding amongst youths.[255] Another example of an inter-agency cooperation mechanism regarding youth issues is the Youth Employment Network (YEN).[256] YEN is a partnership between the UN, ILO and the World Bank, whose goal is to prioritize youth employment on the development agenda and exchange knowledge on effective policies.[257] The Network also created the Youth-to-Youth Fund, which supports youth-led employment generation projects and provides financial and technical support for policy-makers and practitioners to help them conduct evaluations of youth employment programs.[258] In 2000, the Inter-Agency Network founded a program on education in emergencies to improve inter-agency communication and collaboration in the provision of education opportunities in emerging and post-conflict contexts.[259] Additionally, the *African Youth Charter*, adopted in 2006 at the 7th Session of the Assembly of the African Union held in Gambia, became the first legal framework of action for the African youth.[260] The Charter is a legally binding document which requests the governments to develop policies and programs for young people and their development as well as provides a platform for Africa's youth to assert their rights.[261]

The ILO has also contributed immensely in addressing the issue of youth unemployment, especially in the developing world. ILO worked with the MasterCard Foundation to create a partnership to help young people find the path to decent work.[262] The *Work4Youth* partnership aims to increase the global awareness of specific challenges

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[250] United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs – Economic and Social Council, *Youth: Social Policy and Development Division,* 2012.

[251] United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, *World Programme of Action for Youth,* 2010, p. 62.

[252] United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, *World Programme of Action for Youth,* 2010, p. 63.

[253] United Nations General Assembly – Economic and Social Council, *Report of the Secretary General. Implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth: United Nations system coordination and collaboration related to youth, (A/66/61–E/2011/3),* 2012, p. 2.

[254] United Nations General Assembly – Economic and Social Council, *Report of the Secretary General. Implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth: United Nations system coordination and collaboration related to youth, (A/66/61–E/2011/3),* 2012, p. 2.

[255] United Nations General Assembly – Economic and Social Council, *Report of the Secretary General. Implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth: United Nations system coordination and collaboration related to youth, (A/66/61–E/2011/3),* 2012, p. 2.

[256] United Nations General Assembly – Economic and Social Council, *Report of the Secretary General. Implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth: United Nations system coordination and collaboration related to youth, (A/66/61–E/2011/3),* 2012, p. 5.

[257] United Nations General Assembly – Economic and Social Council, *Report of the Secretary General. Implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth: United Nations system coordination and collaboration related to youth, (A/66/61–E/2011/3),* 2012, p. 5.

[258] United Nations General Assembly – Economic and Social Council, *Report of the Secretary General. Implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth: United Nations system coordination and collaboration related to youth, (A/66/61–E/2011/3),* 2012, p. 5.

[259] United Nations General Assembly – Economic and Social Council, *Report of the Secretary General. Implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth: United Nations system coordination and collaboration related to youth, (A/66/61–E/2011/3),* 2012, p. 7.

[260] United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, *African Youth Charter*, 2006, p.1.

[261] United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, *African Youth Report: addressing the youth education and employment nexus in the new global economy*, 2011, p. 19.

[262] International Labour Organization, *Global Employment Trends for Youth*, 2012, p. 27.

faced by young people entering labor markets.[263] The partnership supports the collection and dissemination of information on youth labor markets and aims to support youth employment policy and its development on national and global levels.[264] Through the *Work4Youth* project, the ILO has joined with various government institutions to implement school-to-work transition surveys in 28 countries across five regions.[265] The information gathered from the surveys will provide information regarding the difficulties faced by young people during their transition to decent work in developing countries.[266]

Regional and Sub-regional Initiatives to Promote Youth Employment and Access to Education

In 2010, an education and youth sub-cluster was launched under the social and human development cluster of the Regional Coordination Mechanism.[267] It is convened by the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and supported by the Economic Commission for Africa.[268] The sub-cluster aims to provide a platform for coordination of the UN support to the AU and its New Partnership for Africa's Development Programme (NEPAD) in the areas of education and youth development.[269] The education and youth sub-cluster has contributed to the establishment of the African Youth Volunteer Corps program that aims to enhance youth development through exchange of knowledge and experience among African youth.[270] It offers employment opportunities and initiates a culture of public service in African youth.[271] In addition, Microsoft has been a leading private sector partner in the e-Schools initiative along with the NEPAD's e-Africa Commission, African governments, and various UN agencies.[272] The e-Schools are provided with computer labs, Internet connectivity and digital Smart Boards in rural schools and other educational institutions with limited resources.[273] This program has been implemented in over 23 schools in Kenya, Lesotho, Mauritius, Cameroon, Senegal, Mozambique, and Rwanda and has reached over 1000 teachers and 20,000 students.[274]

In particular, the *Programme for the Promotion of Children and Youth* (PCY) in Uganda is designed to promote youth in the areas of social work, entrepreneurship, self-employment activities, and local skills development.[275] PCY works on two levels –policy advice on macro level and community-based interventions.[276] The latter promotes non-formal peer education such as life skills, HIV/AIDS prevention, career guidance, and orientation.[277] The program participants received incomes that were 26% higher than those of other community members and the PCY

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[263] International Labour Organization, *Global Employment Trends for Youth*, 2012, p.27.

[264] International Labour Organization, *Global Employment Trends for Youth*, 2012, p.27.

[265] International Labour Organization, *Global Employment Trends for Youth*, 2012, p.27.

[266] International Labour Organization, *Global Employment Trends for Youth*, 2012, p.27.

[267] United Nations General Assembly – Economic and Social Council, *Report of the Secretary General. Implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth: United Nations system coordination and collaboration related to youth, (A/66/61–E/2011/3),* 2012, p. 8.

[268] United Nations General Assembly – Economic and Social Council, *Report of the Secretary General. Implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth: United Nations system coordination and collaboration related to youth, (A/66/61–E/2011/3),* 2012, p. 8.

[269] United Nations General Assembly – Economic and Social Council, *Report of the Secretary General. Implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth: United Nations system coordination and collaboration related to youth, (A/66/61–E/2011/3),* 2012, p. 8.

[270] United Nations General Assembly – Economic and Social Council, *Report of the Secretary General. Implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth: United Nations system coordination and collaboration related to youth, (A/66/61–E/2011/3),* 2012, p. 8.

[271] United Nations General Assembly – Economic and Social Council, *Report of the Secretary General. Implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth: United Nations system coordination and collaboration related to youth, (A/66/61–E/2011/3),* 2012, p. 8.

[272] Microsoft Africa, *Realizing Africa's Potential through People and Technology,* 2009, p. 9.

[273] Microsoft Africa, *Realizing Africa's Potential through People and Technology,* 2009, p. 10-11.

[274] Microsoft Africa, *Realizing Africa's Potential through People and Technology,* 2009, p. 9.

[275] Rother, F, *Interventions to Support Young Workers in Sub-Saharan Africa: A regional report for the Youth Employment Inventory*, 2006, p. 22.

[276] Rother, F, *Interventions to Support Young Workers in Sub-Saharan Africa: A regional report for the Youth Employment Inventory*, 2006, p. 22.

[277] Rother, F, *Interventions to Support Young Workers in Sub-Saharan Africa: A regional report for the Youth Employment Inventory*, 2006, p. 22.

interventions made an impact on the institutions and their capacity extension regarding youth policy in general.[278] Additionally, Uganda's universal post-primary education and training program launched in 2007 provides primary school leavers with opportunities to enroll in secondary and vocational training institutions with no tuition fees.[279] This program is targeted at disadvantaged students who do not have the opportunity to enroll or are forced to drop out of school due to high tuition fees.[280]

In Mali, the *National Youth Employment Agency* has provided over 3000 youths with internships in local businesses to facilitate their transition from school to work.[281] The Agency is also implementing a national program that includes a project on youth labor market integration.[282] A youth employment tax of 2% on the pay roll has been implemented to support the National Youth Employment Fund, which allowed creating opportunities for traineeship, internships and vocational training for school leavers.[283] Similar government funded project exists in South Africa which attempts to create employment opportunities, develop marketable skills and entrepreneurship capacities among marginalized youth.[284]

Conclusion

Young people need to live in a politically, economically, and socially enabling environment in order to thrive in Africa.[285] In this respect, governments' collaboration with various ministries, civil society, private sector, and international organizations becomes crucial in promoting the livelihoods of African youth, and ECA serves as an instrumental platform for such collaboration.[286] Policies related to education and skills need to be linked with other policies related with income growth and job creation.[287] Also, regional trade, development pacts, assessment of good practices form neighboring states could help provide basis for improving and strengthening tertiary education and facilitating school-to-work transition.[288] Why have African countries performed poorly in achieving job growth? What are the roles and responsibilities of state and non-state actors to ensure that employment strategies are given priority and are effectively implemented? How can private sector play a more effective role in long-term employment-focused growth in Africa? What are young people themselves doing to address the issues of unemployment and quality education? In what capacity can ECA support or enforce youth employment policies and ensure the sustainable job growth and youth's development?

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[278] Rother, F, *Interventions to Support Young Workers in Sub-Saharan Africa: A regional report for the Youth Employment Inventory*, 2006, p. 22.

[279] Winkler, D. And Sondergaard, L, *The Efficiency of Public Education in Uganda,* 2008, p. 15-16.

[280] Winkler, D. And Sondergaard, L, *The Efficiency of Public Education in Uganda,* 2008, p. 15-16.

[281] Youth Employment Network for West Africa, *Good Practices from West Africa: Building a case for business collaboration on youth employment,* 2008, p. 9.

[282] International Labour Organization, *The Youth Employment Crisis: Time for Action*, Report of the Director-General, International Labour Conference, 101st Session, 2012, p. 73.

[283] International Labour Organization, *The Youth Employment Crisis: Time for Action*, Report of the Director-General, International Labour Conference, 101st Session, 2012, p. 73.

[284] International Labour Organization, *The Youth Employment Crisis: Time for Action*, Report of the Director-General, International Labour Conference, 101st Session, 2012, p. 73.

[285] United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, *African Youth Report: addressing the youth education and employment nexus in the new global economy*, 2011, p. viii.

[286] United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, *African Youth Report: addressing the youth education and employment nexus in the new global economy*, 2011, p. 5.

[287] World Bank, *Africa Development Indicators 2008/09, Youth and Employment in Africa: The Potential, the Problem, the Promise*, 2009, p. 19.

[288] World Bank, *Accelerating Catch up: Tertiary Education for Growth in Sub-Saharan Africa*, 2009, p. xxiv.

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United Nations Economic Commission for Africa – African Union Commission. (2010). *Promoting high-level sustainable growth to reduce unemployment in Africa.* Retrieved September 1, 2012, from: http://www.un.org/regionalcommissions/MDGs/eca_unemployment.pdf

> *This issue paper prepared by the African Union Commission and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa provides an effective approach to strengthen economic growth employment and poverty reduction nexus in Africa. The paper assesses the impact of the global economic crisis as an external factor on the growth dynamics in Africa and analyses the importance of sustainable growth for development in Africa. It recommends a comprehensive development planning approach for achieving job growth and reducing poverty based on country-specific growth strategies. The paper emphasizes the importance of regional integration, institutional cooperation and implications for African leaders. This is an excellent resource for understanding current gaps in national policies and how they ought to be amended.*

United Nations Economic Commission for Africa. (2005). *Youth, Education, Skills and Employment.* Retrieved August 1, 2012 from http://www.uneca.org/eca_programmes/policy_analysis/publications/youth_educ_skills_emp.pdf

> *This report on Africa produced by the UN Economic Commission for Africa introduces various factors that resulted in high numbers of youth unemployment on the continent. The paper provides long-term policy recommendations related with formal education sector and short-term training and active labor market policies which aim to enhance employment prospects for school leavers in Africa. The report presents a comprehensive framework which analyses the situation of youth unemployment identifies the major gaps and proposes recommendations of how the situation could be improved in the future.*

United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs. (2010). *World Programme of Action for Youth.* Retrieved August 22, 2012 from http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unyin/documents/wpay2010.pdf

> *This document provides an insight to the specifics of the World Programme of Action for Youth (WPAY) one of the most important international documents dealing with various socio-economic and other issues faced by young people. It outlines the policy framework and guidelines for national action by indicating 15 priority areas where the action is mostly needed in order to tackle the problems. The report also entails a historical background of the attempts taken by the UN in developing a unified action plan to address the situation of youth. However, most importantly the document focuses on the implementation aspect and means to improve the livelihoods of young people, especially through national and regional initiatives supported by international help form the UN and its entities.*

United Nations General Assembly – Economic and Social Council. (2010, November 22*). Report of the Secretary-General. Implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth: United Nations system coordination and collaboration related to youth. (A/66/61–E/2011/3).* Retrieved August 4, 2012 form http://www.un.org/en/ga/third/66/documentslist.shtml

> *The report entails comprehensive information about attempts to promote collaboration between UN entities on youth at the global, regional and country levels. It also outlines further steps to strengthen cooperation, knowledge sharing between relevant UN agencies in promoting youth development. This report is based on the input received from the United Nations Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development. It gives numerous examples of inter-agency activities at the regional and national levels and stresses the range of initiatives that have been taken or are ongoing to address various aspects of youth development (i.e. employment, access to education during emergencies etc.). This report is a useful source to gain insight into the initiatives taken at the UN and its agencies towards promoting youth development, and assess the effectiveness of such inter-agency activities taken at global regional and national levels.*

United Nations General Assembly – Security Council. (2011, August 1). *Report of the Secretary General: Implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict*

and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa (A/66/214–S/2011/476). Retrieved August 4, 2012 from http://www.un.org/africa/osaa/reports/2011_Causes_Conflict_en.pdf

> *The report of the Secretary-General assesses the major developments in Africa in the last year and examines the implementation of policy proposals identified by the United Nations. This report provides a detailed and in-depth analysis of two major issues in Africa, namely youth education and employment and conflict and natural resources. It also provides recommendations and suggestions of how national policies should be altered in order to be more responsive to the issues at hand. This source gives a good review of the most pressing issues in the continent, and how the UN has attempted to address them and mobilize global action to respond to the challenges faced by people of Africa.*

International Labor Organization. (2012). *Global Employment Trends for Youth 2012*. Retrieved August 6, 2012 from http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---dcomm/documents/publication/wcms_180976.pdf

> *This report is designed to assist policy-makers and practitioners in shaping policies that promote decent work for youth. This report tackles the issue of youth unemployment and lack of opportunities to produce employment opportunities for young people on a global scale. It provides an overview of global initiatives and policies, and identifies the existing gaps which need to be addressed by policy-makers and practitioners. In addition, the report draws comparisons between developed and developing economies, reveals statistics of how the number of unemployment has grown, and what were the indicators for such increase. It also highlights the importance of strengthening access to education and vocational training in the developing world as young people (graduates) often do not possess the skills needed in the labor market. Ultimately this report is a good source for analyzing what the national policies should address and how the decent work or youth should be promoted.*

International Labor Organization. (2012). *Africa: no real growth without jobs*. Retrieved August 6, 2012 from http://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/press-and-media-centre/news/WCMS_180516/lang--en/index.htm

> *The news item prepared by the ILO after the World Economic Forum on Africa presents the current economic situation of the continent. It is an excellent source for gaining knowledge on major issues related with youth unemployment and how the economy ought to be boosted in order to tackle the current challenges. This news piece highlights that pro-employment macroeconomic policies, public works schemes, investments in youth are key to ensuring future job growth for the Africa's youth.*

United Nations Economic Commission for Africa. (2011). *African Youth Report: addressing the youth education and employment nexus in the new global economy*. Retrieved August 2, 2012 from http://new.uneca.org/ayr/ayr_2011.aspx

> *This report provides an excellent overview of the socio-economic issues faced by Africa's youth in today's world. It draws a primary focus on the issues of education and lack of employment opportunities, emphasizes gaps in the African formal economy, and addresses other aspects such as information communication technologies and green jobs as means to harness employment opportunities for the young women and men of Africa. In addition, this report also provides numerous case studies from all parts of the continent which highlight some good practices and examples of how the issue of education and employment was tackled by government policies and with the help of international organizations. Moreover, the report also presents hypotheses, more or less in the form of expectations, of what the situation of the African youth will look like in 2040. This source is a good starting point to gain an understanding of the causes, current situation and how the future should look for the African youth regarding the issue of access to education and employment opportunities. It gives good directions for policy-makers, development experts and stakeholders as to how shape their policies and which direction to take in order to tackle the issue at hand.*

Youth Employment Network for West Africa. (2008). *Good Practices from West Africa: Building a case for business collaboration on youth employment*. Retrieved August 8, 2012 from http://www.ilo.org/public/english/employment/yen/downloads/psi/the_business_case_for_ye.pdf

The Youth Employment Network (YEN) is a partnership among the UN entities, the International Labor Organization (ILO) and the World Bank which brings together policy-maker, young people and other stake holders to share their experiences, skills and knowledge of how to address youth unemployment in policies and global action plans. This article entails a review of good practices of YEN's Private Sector Initiative (PSI) which aims to strengthen the role of business in Africa and youth engagement in entrepreneurship projects. The article draws attention to 8 case studies in West Africa and suggests how various projects related with youth's vocational training, promoting young entrepreneurs can contribute towards promoting more job opportunities for youth and facilitating school-to-work transition. This report illustrates the importance of collective action to build partnership between public and private institutions and recognize their critical role in creating more jobs for young people in Africa.

World Bank. (2009). *Africa Development Indicators 2008/09. Youth and Employment in Africa: The Potential, the Problem, the Promise*. Retrieved September 2, 2012 from
http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTSTATINAFR/Resources/ADI-200809-essay-EN.pdf
This report presents facts of youth and labor markets in Africa. It reviews past employment interventions in the region and highlights the need for integrated approach to tackle youth unemployment issues. This report entails a comprehensive overview of the situation and provides a comprehensive analysis of potential partnership for development in Africa, review of MDGs, and other economic-social issues faced by African youth especially those living in rural and remote areas.

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Rules of Procedure
Economic Commission for Africa

Introduction
1. These rules shall be the only rules which apply to the Economic Commission for Africa (hereinafter referred to as "the Commission") and shall be considered adopted by the Commission prior to its first meeting.
2. For purposes of these rules, the Director, the Assistant Director(s), the Under-Secretaries-General, and the Assistant Secretaries-General, are designates and agents of the Secretary-General and Director-General, and are collectively referred to as the "Secretariat."
3. Interpretation of the rules shall be reserved exclusively to the Director-General or her or his designate. Such interpretation shall be in accordance with the philosophy and principles of the National Model United Nations and in furtherance of the educational mission of that organization.
4. For the purposes of these rules, "President" shall refer to the chairperson or acting chairperson of the Commission.
5. The Commission shall report its substantive decisions to the Economic and Social Council Plenary Session.

I. SESSIONS

Rule 1 - *Dates of convening and adjournment*
The Commission shall meet every year in regular session, commencing and closing on the dates designated by the Secretary-General.

Rule 2 - *Place of sessions*
The Commission shall meet at a location designated by the Secretary-General.

II. AGENDA

Rule 3 - *Provisional agenda*
The provisional agenda shall be drawn up by the Director-General and communicated to the Members of the Commission at least sixty days before the opening of the session.

Rule 4 - *Adoption of the agenda*
The agenda provided by the Director-General shall be considered adopted as of the beginning of the session. The order of the agenda items shall be determined by a majority vote of those present and voting.

The vote described in this rule is a procedural vote and, as such, observers are permitted to cast a vote. For purposes of this rule, those present and voting means those Member States and observers, in attendance at the meeting during which this motion comes to a vote. Should the Commission not reach a decision by conclusion of the first night's meeting, the agenda will be automatically set in the order in which it was first communicated.

Rule 5 - *Revision of the agenda*
During a session, the Commission may revise the agenda by adding, deleting, deferring or amending items. Only important and urgent items shall be added to the agenda during a session. Debate on the inclusion of an item in the agenda shall be limited to three speakers in favor of, and three against, the inclusion. Additional items of an important and urgent character, proposed for inclusion in the agenda less than thirty days before the opening of a session, may be placed on the agenda if the Commission so decides by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting. No additional item may, unless the Commission decides otherwise by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting, be considered until a commission has reported on the question concerned.

For purposes of this rule, the determination of an item of an important and urgent character is subject to the discretion of the Director-General, or his or her designate, and any such determination is final. If an item is determined to be of such a character, then it requires a two-thirds vote of the Commission to be placed on the agenda. The votes described in this rule are substantive votes, and, as such, observers are not permitted to cast a vote. For purposes of this rule, ―the members present and voting ― means members (not including observers) in

attendance at the session during which this motion comes to vote.

Rule 6 - Explanatory memorandum
Any item proposed for inclusion in the agenda shall be accompanied by an explanatory memorandum and, if possible, by basic documents.

III. SECRETARIAT

Rule 7 - Duties of the Secretary-General

1. The Secretary-General or her/his designate shall act in this capacity in all meetings of the Commission.

2. The Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Director-General, shall provide and direct the staff required by the Commission and be responsible for all the arrangements that may be necessary for its meetings.

Rule 8 - Duties of the Secretariat
The Secretariat shall receive, print, and distribute documents, reports, and resolutions of the Commission, and shall distribute documents of the Commission to the Members, and generally perform all other work which the Commission may require.

Rule 9 - Statements by the Secretariat
The Secretary-General, or her/his representative, may make oral as well as written statements to the Commission concerning any question under consideration.

Rule 10 - Selection of the President
The Secretary-General or her/his designate shall appoint, from applications received by the Secretariat, a President who shall hold office and, *inter alia*, chair the Commission for the duration of the session, unless otherwise decided by the Secretary-General.

Rule 11 - Replacement of the President
If the President is unable to perform her/his functions, a new President shall be appointed for the unexpired term at the discretion of the Secretary-General.

IV. LANGUAGE

Rule 12 - Official and working language
English shall be the official and working language of the Commission.

Rule 13 - Interpretation (oral) or translation (written)
Any representative wishing to address any body or submit a document in a language other than English shall provide interpretation or translation into English.

This rule does not affect the total speaking time allotted to those representatives wishing to address the body in a language other than English. As such, both the speech and the interpretation must be within the set time limit.

V. CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

Rule 14 – Quorum
The President may declare a meeting open and permit debate to proceed when representatives of at least one third of the members of the Commission are present. The presence of representatives of a majority of the members of the Commission shall be required for any decision to be taken.

For purposes of this rule, members of the Commission means the total number of members (not including observers) in attendance at the first night's meeting.

Rule 15 - General powers of the President
In addition to exercising the powers conferred upon him or her elsewhere by these rules, the President shall declare the opening and closing of each meeting of the Commission, direct the discussions, ensure observance of these rules, accord the right to speak, put questions to the vote and announce decisions. The President, subject to these rules, shall have complete control of the proceedings of the Commission and over the maintenance of order at its meetings. He or she shall rule on points of order. He or she may propose to the Commission the closure of the list of speakers, a limitation on the time to be allowed to speakers and on the number of times the representative of each member may speak on an item, the adjournment or closure of the debate, and the suspension or adjournment of a meeting.

Included in these enumerated powers is the President's power to assign speaking times for all speeches incidental to motions and amendment. Further, the President is to use her/his discretion, upon the advice and at the consent of the Secretariat, to determine whether to entertain a particular motion based on the philosophy and principles of the NMUN. Such discretion should be used on a limited basis and only under circumstances where it is necessary to advance the educational mission of the Conference and is limited to entertaining motions.

Rule 16 – Authority of the Commission
The President, in the exercise of her or his functions, remains under the authority of the Commission.

Rule 17 – Voting rights on procedural matters
Unless otherwise stated, all votes pertaining to the conduct of business shall require a majority of the members present and voting in order to pass.

For purposes of this rule, the members present and voting mean those members (including observers) in attendance at the meeting during which this rule is applied. Note that observers may vote on all procedural votes; they may, however, not vote on substantive matters (see Chapter VI). There is no possibility to abstain on procedural votes.

Rule 18 - Points of order
During the discussion of any matter, a representative may rise to a point of order, and the point of order shall be immediately decided by the President in accordance with the rules of procedure. A representative may appeal against the ruling of the President. The appeal shall be immediately put to the vote, and the President's ruling shall stand unless overruled by a majority of the members present and voting. A representative rising to a point of order may not speak on the substance of the matter under discussion.

Such points of order should not under any circumstances interrupt the speech of a fellow representative. They should be used exclusively to correct an error in procedure. Any questions on order arising during a speech made by a representative should be raised at the conclusion of the speech, or can be addressed by the President, sua sponte, during the speech. For purposes of this rule, the members present and voting mean those members (including observers) in attendance at the meeting during which this motion comes to vote.

Rule 19 - Speeches

No representative may address the Commission without having previously obtained the permission of the President. The President shall call upon speakers in the order in which they signify their desire to speak. The President may call a speaker to order if his remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.

In line with the philosophy and principles of the NMUN, in furtherance of its educational mission, and for the purpose of facilitating debate, the Secretariat will set a time limit for all speeches which may be amended by the President at his/her discretion. Consequently, motions to alter the speaker's time will not be entertained by the President.

Rule 20 - Closing of list of speakers
Members may only be on the list of speakers once but may be added again after having spoken. During the course of a debate, the President may announce the list of speakers and, with the consent of the Commission, declare the list closed. When there are no more speakers, the President shall declare the debate closed. Such closure shall have the same effect as closure by decision of the Commission.

The decision to announce the list of speakers is within the discretion of the President and should not be the subject of a motion by the Commission. A motion to close the speakers list is within the purview of the Commission and the President should not act on her/his own motion.

Rule 21 - Right of reply

If a remark impugns the integrity of a representative's State, the President may permit that representative to exercise her/his right of reply following the conclusion of the controversial speech, and shall determine an appropriate time limit for the reply. No ruling on this question shall be subject to appeal.

For purposes of this rule, a remark that impugns the integrity of a representative's State is one directed at the governing authority of that State and/or one that puts into question that State's sovereignty or a portion thereof. All interventions in the exercise of the right of reply shall be addressed in writing to the Secretariat and shall not be raised as a point of order or motion. The reply shall be read to the Commission by the representative only upon approval of the Secretariat, and in no case after voting has concluded on all matters relating to the agenda topic, during the discussion of which, the right arose.

Rule 22 - Suspension of the meeting

During the discussion of any matter, a representative may move the suspension of the meeting, specifying a time for reconvening. Such motions shall not be debated but shall be put to a vote immediately, requiring the support of a majority of the members present and voting to pass.

Rule 23 - Adjournment of the meeting

During the discussion of any matter, a representative may move to the adjournment of the meeting. Such motions shall not be debated but shall be put to the vote immediately, requiring the support of a majority of the members present and voting to pass. After adjournment, the Commission shall reconvene at its next regularly scheduled meeting time.

As this motion, if successful, would end the meeting until the Commission's next regularly scheduled session the following year, and in accordance with the philosophy and principles of the NMUN and in furtherance of its educational mission, the President will not entertain such a motion until the end of the last meeting of the Commission.

Rule 24 - Adjournment of debate

During the discussion of any matter, a representative may move the adjournment of the debate on the item under discussion. Two representatives may speak in favor of, and two against, the motion, after which the motion shall be immediately put to the vote. The President may limit the time to be allowed to speakers under this rule.

Rule 25 - Closure of debate

A representative may at any time move the closure of debate on the item under discussion, whether or not any other representative has signified her/his wish to speak. Permission to speak on the motion shall be accorded only to two representatives opposing the closure, after which the motion shall be put to the vote immediately. Closure of debate shall require a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting. If the Commission favors the closure of debate, the Commission shall immediately move to vote on all proposals introduced under that agenda item.

Rule 26 - Order of motions

Subject to rule 18, the motions indicated below shall have precedence in the following order over all proposals or other motions before the meeting:

      a) To suspend the meeting;
      b) To adjourn the meeting;
      c) To adjourn the debate on the item under discussion;
      d) To close the debate on the item under discussion.

Rule 27 - Proposals and amendments

Proposals and amendments shall normally be submitted in writing to the Secretariat. Any proposal or amendment that relates to the substance of any matter under discussion shall require the signature of twenty percent of the

members of the Commission [sponsors]. The Secretariat may, at its discretion, approve the proposal or amendment for circulation among the delegations. As a general rule, no proposal shall be put to the vote at any meeting of the Commission unless copies of it have been circulated to all delegations. The President may, however, permit the discussion and consideration of amendments or of motions as to procedure, even though such amendments and motions have not been circulated. If the sponsors agree to the adoption of a proposed amendment, the proposal shall be modified accordingly and no vote shall be taken on the proposed amendment. A document modified in this manner shall be considered as the proposal pending before the Commission for all purposes, including subsequent amendments.

For purposes of this rule, all proposals shall be in the form of working papers prior to their approval by the Secretariat. Working papers will not be copied, or in any other way distributed, to the Commission by the Secretariat. The distribution of such working papers is solely the responsibility of the sponsors of the working papers. Along these lines, and in furtherance of the philosophy and principles of the NMUN and for the purpose of advancing its educational mission, representatives should not directly refer to the substance of a working paper that has not yet been accepted as a draft resolution during formal speeches. After approval of a working paper, the proposal becomes a draft resolution and will be copied by the Secretariat for distribution to the Commission. These draft resolutions are the collective property of the Commission and, as such, the names of the original sponsors will be removed. The copying and distribution of amendments is at the discretion of the Secretariat, but the substance of all such amendments will be made available to all representatives in some form.

Rule 28 - Withdrawal of motions
A motion may be withdrawn by its proposer at any time before voting has commenced, provided that the motion has not been amended. A motion thus withdrawn may be reintroduced by any member.

Rule 29 - Reconsideration of a topic
When a topic has been adjourned, it may not be reconsidered at the same session unless the Commission, by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting, so decides. Reconsideration can only be moved by a representative who voted on the prevailing side of the original motion to adjourn. Permission to speak on a motion to reconsider shall be accorded only to two speakers opposing the motion, after which it shall be put to the vote immediately.

VI. VOTING

Rule 30 - Voting rights
Each member of the Commission shall have one vote.

This rule applies to substantive voting on amendments, draft resolutions, and portions of draft resolutions divided out by motion. As such, all references to member(s) do not include observers, who are not permitted to cast votes on substantive matters.

Rule 31 - Request for a vote
A proposal or motion before the Commission for decision shall be voted upon if any member so requests. Where no member requests a vote, the Commission may adopt proposals or motions without a vote.

For purposes of this rule, proposal means any draft resolution, an amendment thereto, or a portion of a draft resolution divided out by motion. Just prior to a vote on a particular proposal or motion, the President may ask if there are any objections to passing the proposal or motion by acclamation, or a member may move to accept the proposal or motion by acclamation. If there are no objections to the proposal or motion, then it is adopted without a vote.

Rule 32 - Majority required
1. Unless specified otherwise in these rules, decisions of the Commission shall be made by a majority of the members present and voting.
2. For the purpose of tabulation, the phrase "members present and voting" means members casting an affirmative or negative vote. Members which abstain from voting are considered as not voting.

All members declaring their representative States as "present and voting" during the attendance roll call for the

meeting during which the substantive voting occurs, must cast an affirmative or negative vote, and cannot abstain on substantive votes.

Rule 33 - Method of voting
1. The Commission shall normally vote by a show of placards, except that a representative may request a roll call, which shall be taken in the English alphabetical order of the names of the members, beginning with the member whose name is randomly selected by the President. The name of each member shall be called in any roll call, and one of its representatives shall reply "yes," "no," "abstention," or "pass."

Only those members who designate themselves as present or present and voting during the attendance roll call, or in some other manner communicate their attendance to the President and/or Secretariat, are permitted to vote and, as such, no others will be called during a roll-call vote. Any representatives replying pass must, on the second time through, respond with either a yes or no vote. A pass cannot be followed by a second pass for the same proposal or amendment, nor can it be followed by an abstention on that same proposal or amendment.

2. When the Commission votes by mechanical means, a non-recorded vote shall replace a vote by show of placards and a recorded vote shall replace a roll-call vote. A representative may request a recorded vote. In the case of a recorded vote, the Commission shall dispense with the procedure of calling out the names of the members.

3. The vote of each member participating in a roll call or a recorded vote shall be inserted in the record.

Rule 34 - Explanations of vote
Representatives may make brief statements consisting solely of explanation of their votes after the voting has been completed. The representatives of a member sponsoring a proposal or motion shall not speak in explanation of vote thereon, except if it has been amended, and the member has voted against the proposal or motion.

All explanations of vote must be submitted to the President in writing before debate on the topic is closed, except where the representative is of a member sponsoring the proposal, as described in the second clause, in which case the explanation of vote must be submitted to the President in writing immediately after voting on the topic ends.

Rule 35 - Conduct during voting
After the President has announced the commencement of voting, no representatives shall interrupt the voting except on a point of order in connection with the actual process of voting.

For purposes of this rule, there shall be no communication amongst delegates, and if any delegate leaves the Commission room during voting procedure, they will not be allowed back into the room until the Commission has convened voting procedure.

Rule 36 - Division of proposals and amendments
Immediately before a proposal or amendment comes to a vote, a representative may move that parts of a proposal or of an amendment should be voted on separately. If there are calls for multiple divisions, those shall be voted upon in an order to be set by the President where the most radical division will be voted upon first. If objection is made to the motion for division, the request for division shall be voted upon, requiring the support of a majority of those present and voting to pass. Permission to speak on the motion for division shall be given only to two speakers in favor and two speakers against. If the motion for division is carried, those parts of the proposal or of the amendment which are approved shall then be put to a vote. If all operative parts of the proposal or of the amendment have been rejected, the proposal or the amendment shall be considered to have been rejected as a whole.

For purposes of this rule, most radical division means the division that will remove the greatest substance from the draft resolution, but not necessarily the one that will remove the most words or clauses. The determination of which division is most radical is subject to the discretion of the Secretariat, and any such determination is final.

Rule 37 - Amendments
An amendment is a proposal that does no more than add to, delete from, or revise part of another proposal.

An amendment can add, amend, or delete operative clauses, but cannot in any manner add, amend, delete, or otherwise affect preambulatory clauses.

Rule 38 - Voting on amendments
When an amendment is moved to a proposal, the amendment shall be voted on first. When two or more amendments are moved to a proposal, the amendment furthest removed in substance from the original proposal shall be voted on first and then the amendment next furthest removed there from, and so on until all the amendments have been put to the vote. Where, however, the adoption of one amendment necessarily implies the rejection of another amendment, the latter shall not be put to the vote. If one or more amendments are adopted, the amended proposal shall then be voted on.

For purposes of this rule, furthest removed in substance means the amendment that will have the most significant impact on the draft resolution. The determination of which amendment is furthest removed in substance is subject to the discretion of the Secretariat, and any such determination is final.

Rule 39 - Order of voting on proposals
If two or more proposals, other than amendments, relate to the same question, they shall, unless the Commission decides otherwise, be voted on in the order in which they were submitted.

Rule 40 - The President shall not vote
The President shall not vote but may designate another member of her/his delegation to vote in her/his place.

VII. CREDENTIALS

Rule 41 - Credentials
The credentials of representatives and the names of members of a delegation shall be submitted to the Secretary-General prior to the opening of a session.

Rule 42 - Authority of the General Assembly
The Commission shall be bound by the actions of the General Assembly in all credentials matters and shall take no action regarding the credentials of any member.

VII. PARTICIPATION OF NON-MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION

Rule 43 - Participation of non-Member States
The Commission shall invite any Member of the United Nations that is not a member of the Commission and any other State, to participate in its deliberations on any matter of particular concern to that State.
A sub-commission or sessional body of the Commission shall invite any State that is not one of its own members to participate in its deliberations on any matter of particular concern to that State. A State thus invited shall not have the right to vote, but may submit proposals which may be put to the vote on request of any member of the body concerned.

If the Commission considers that the presence of a Member invited according to this rule is no longer necessary, it may withdraw the invitation. Delegates invited to the Commission according to this rule should also keep in mind their role and obligations in the commission that they were originally assigned to. For educational purposes of the NMUN Conference, the Secretariat may thus ask a delegate to return to his or her commission when his or her presence in the Commission is no longer required.

Rule 45 - Participation of national liberation movements
The Commission may invite any national liberation movement recognized by the General Assembly to participate, without the right to vote, in its deliberations on any matter of particular concern to that movement.

Rule 46 - Participation of and consultation with specialized agencies
In accordance with the agreements concluded between the United Nations and the specialized agencies, the specialized agencies shall be entitled: a) To be represented at meetings of the Commission and its subsidiary organs; b) To participate, without the right to vote, through their representatives, in deliberations with respect to items of

concern to them and to submit proposals regarding such items, which may be put to the vote at the request of any member of the Commission or of the subsidiary organ concerned.

Rule 47 - Participation of non-governmental organization and intergovernmental organizations
Representatives of non-governmental organizations/intergovernmental organizations accorded consultative observer status by the Economic and Social Council and other non-governmental organizations/intergovernmental organizations designated on an ad hoc or a continuing basis by the Commission on the recommendation of the Bureau, may participate, with the procedural right to vote, but not the substantive right to vote, in the deliberations of the Commission on questions within the scope of the activities of the organizations.