



## Executive Summary

### Background

1. The African Scholars Forum for Envisioning Africa, Focus on NEPAD, was held at the Safari Park Hotel, Nairobi from April 26-29, 2002. The Forum, organized by Heinrich Boll Foundation (HBF), African Academy of Sciences (AAS) and Mazingira Institute, brought together more than one hundred scholars, activists working in civil society and policy institutions, and governmental officials from Africa, Europe, North America and South America.
2. The **major goal** of the Forum was: (1) to provide an opportunity for analyses and exchange among African academia and civil society about the New Partnership for Africa's Development, NEPAD, and (2) to generate proposals which could be used for raising awareness about NEPAD among the general public and for onward transmission to African governments for impact on their interactions with the G8 countries in the NEPAD project.
3. The Forum had its roots in a previous conference organised in September 2001 on Sustainable Development, Governance and Globalisation by the Heinrich Böll Foundation, the African Academy of Sciences and Mazingira Institute in which scholars, academics and civil society drew multidimensional perspectives and analyses to critically assess how governance and globalisation have affected sustainable development in Africa. The Forum's objective was to promote visioning over Africa's crisis of development and programmes of action put forward by the leaders of NEPAD. It was hoped that its deliberations would pitch pessimists against optimists about NEPAD, thereby making an important contribution to the continent's vision as well as to the World Summit for Sustainable Development (WSSD) due to be hosted by South Africa in August/September 2002.
4. Extensive interaction was intended from the methodology of the Forum. A number of approaches were used to ensure that the goals and objectives of the Forum were achieved:

*Keynote address:* An illuminating keynote address was presented at the start of the session to provide the necessary background of past initiatives at the Pan African level thus providing a comprehensive backdrop for scholars in interrogating the NEPAD proposal.

*Reflection Papers:* on the specific topics of Democracy and Governance, Gender, Economic Governance, Peace and Human Rights, Environment, Resource Mobilization, Partnerships, Sectoral Priorities and Implementation of the NEPAD were prepared and presented. There were also papers focusing on: the historical evolution of the NEPAD; and regional integration based on other past African initiatives and visions, particularly those supported at Heads of States levels; and the experience with African States in the implementation of international agreements. These presentations involved a thorough interrogation and analysis of the areas that provided intellectual input on the NEPAD, by some of Africa's most renowned scholars and practitioners.

Discussants' Analysis: Each session had a discussant who was an expert in their own right to provide additional intellectual input based on their knowledge and experiences, and to stimulate thinking and discussion based on the issues identified in the presentations.

Plenary Discussion: During discussions, clarifications were sought, and common ways of dealing with challenges were proposed. Comments and questions to facilitate useful changes in presentation were also made. This was done with a brief question and answer and commentary session.

Implementation Panel: Scholars who had been following the presentations during the Forum and identifying key issues in relation to the implementation of the NEPAD made brief presentations. The **outputs** sought were:

- Critique of the NEPAD: to provide a summary of the findings of the Scholar's Forum, drawing from the papers presented, discussions during the workshop and recommendations;
- Forum Report: to reflect the detailed proceedings of the deliberations during the workshop.
- Policy Briefs: These will be prepared during the post-Forum period to provide critical analyses of the NEPAD and its implementation;
- Recommendations: This will constitute a concise output specifically targeting the NEPAD leadership, the African Union, G-8, European Union and other relevant multilateral partners regarding key issues that may require their consideration.

5. Contextual Issues: The Forum was urged to note the prevalence of the following themes in current African Affairs:

- Calls for a commitment to a citizen centred development process;
- The need for regional integration as reflected in the drive for the establishment of the African Union at a meeting of African Heads of State in Pretoria in July 2002; the protocol establishing the Pan-African Parliament; and the launching of NEPAD;
- Acknowledgement in Africa of profound failures in governance and economic development all across the continent;
- Proclaimed commitment by African leaders to reversing these conditions by inviting massive financial inflows from G8 economies, and conducting peer review to enhance good governance.
- The prevalence of high unemployment, non-existent savings and growth resultant from Structural Adjustment regimes imposed on African states by the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.
- Profound disillusionment in and distrust by the people, of their political leaders as well as hostility towards the Bretton Woods institutions, who are viewed as purveyors of mass poverty, retrenchment and the debt burden.

### **Major Challenges of the NEPAD: the Context**

6. As Africa enters the twenty-first century, her people are faced with the basic problems of survival that they expected to have overcome after almost half a century of political independence. This is despite the goals set at independence in virtually all African countries, declaring war against poverty, ignorance and disease: the onset of diseases such as HIV/AIDS, which have invaded Africa with a vengeance against the backdrop of increased violent conflicts, has further aggravated Africa's precarious situation.

7. Africa has had several proposals and processes relating to regional integration and seeking to realise development in the continent, including the Lagos Plan of Action for the Economic Development of Africa (1980-2000) and the Final Act of Lagos (1980); Africa's Priority

Programme for Economic Recovery (APPER) 1986-1990 which was later converted into the United Nations Programme of Action for Africa's Economic Recovery and Development (UN-PAAERD) (1986); the African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programme for Socio-Economic Recovery and Transformation (AAF-SAP) (1989); The African Charter for Popular Participation for Development (1990); and the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s (UN-NADAF, 1991). Provisions of these proposals as well as experiences with the processes of developing them, and attempts to implement them, should inform similar initiatives and development efforts in general.

8. The New Partnership for African Development (NEPAD), Africa's strategy for achieving sustainable development in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, was adopted by African leaders at the July 2001 Lusaka Summit. It provides an African initiated and driven framework for interaction with the rest of the world with the long-term vision of eradicating poverty and promoting the role of women in all activities. The responses to the proposal have been varied and the discussions, avid and rich, reflecting varying viewpoints with some calling for a total rejection of the NEPAD, unless it is completely overhauled after intensive debate by all African people.

Those holding this perspective have advanced the argument that the NEPAD represents 'tying the African canoe to the ship of the North's ship in the waters of globalisation', thus propagating the neo-liberal economic agenda (and consequently of neo-colonialism) of the North, which is being re-introduced in Africa as globalisation. The other perspective offered was that African leaders merit a chance to reverse the numerous crises in the continent which they are proposing to as outlined in NEPAD document, and that their acknowledgement of the need for a renaissance in Africa, and of the concepts of democracy, accountability, transparency and peer review should account for more than the pessimistic criticism and call for dismissal of the document, being called for by some scholars.

9. NEPAD's initiative in reinstating the focus of regional integration and in searching for new models of development in Africa's policy discourse are welcome. Adopting the principles of self-reliance, self-sustenance to a citizen-centred development process would greatly strengthen this discourse and process.
10. Although NEPAD was to be "prepared through participatory processes involving the people", the lack of serious and thorough consultation with African citizens, as well as particular stakeholders such as academia, civil society and women's organisations during the process of developing the NEPAD is alarming. This is particularly pertinent given the view that NEPAD is being viewed as the initiative to propel Africa into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. To facilitate dialogue between the different stakeholders an effective communication and information mechanism is necessary.
11. The emphasis put on foreign direct investment into Africa's economies at the rate of US\$64 billion per annum was found by some scholars to be deeply flawed and unrealisable due to a number of factors including: Africa's unwarranted image as a high risk region for investors; competition from the United States as a destination for capital flows; and the tendency for investors to locate where there is high domestic savings. Focus should be put on attracting back the large amount of funds, which have been siphoned out of Africa through capital flight.
12. The distrust and absence of confidence that the people of Africa have in their leaders should not be taken lightly. African leaders who have proclaimed their commitment to propelling Africa into the 21<sup>st</sup> century, while acknowledging past profound failures in economic development and democratic governance, need to nurture the confidence of Africans and to mobilise their support for new development paradigms and models. This would be enhanced through the reorientation of African bureaucracies to integrate citizens to participate actively in the running of governments and development initiatives.

## **I. Vision and Goals**

13. The prime vision of the NEPAD, as expressed numerous during the Forum (and echoing that of the conference *Sustainable Development, Governance and Globalisation: An African Forum Towards the Earth Summit and Beyond, held in September 2001*), is to attain and sustain regional integration in Africa, embracing positive African concepts and promoting self-reliance and self-sustenance.
14. The stated vision in the NEPAD of eradicating poverty and propelling Africa into the 21<sup>st</sup> century and solidly onto the path of sustainable development is critical.

## **II. Values**

15. Genuine commitment to involving the citizens of Africa actively in decisions and programmes targeted at their destiny, reflecting a citizen-centred development process is an imperative. This will address the challenge of political 'blindness' or exclusion.
16. Respect for life over profit, and over the 'triumphalism' of science and technological advances, and the assurance of providing access to basic and essential services to all citizens, should be given priority.
17. Commitment to integrating gender in all aspects of development and to reversing elements in culture and development programmes and projects that are inherently oppressive to women, and therefore disrespectful of their human rights is called for.
18. A pledge to base development efforts and initiatives, including the NEPAD on African based values, for instance those espoused in UBUNTU: which involves an African system of peace and rekindling of the human spirit, should be made, and upheld.
19. Attention should be given to developing new concepts about what is African in relation to the meaning of life, democracy and governance, peace and security, and integrating these in all development efforts.
20. Dedication of African leaders and all African people to search for and achieve new models of democracy and governance, rooted in African reality: this may involve re-visiting concepts such as social democracy and new democracy, which encompass the elements of social solidarity and social equity.
21. The integration of respect for human rights and democracy by African leaders to their peer review process in NEPAD, and in all aspects of development initiatives, particularly concerning governance.
22. Adoption of a clear social bargain between African states/leaders and African citizens contained in new social contracts between the state and citizens.

### **III. Major Programme and Sectoral Priority Concerns of the NEPAD**

#### **Background and historical context**

23. The call to rescue Africa from its current quagmire however, has been basically cosmetic, as past efforts by Africans to take charge of their own destiny such as the Lagos Plan of Action for the Economic Development of Africa (LPA) (1980-2000) and the African Alternative Framework to the Structural Adjustment Programme for Socio-Economic Recovery and Transformation (AAF-SAP) (1989) have suffered from the opposition, undermining and connivance of the donor community. Moreover, the failure of African leaders in taking up these indigenous proposals aggravated the rejection and efforts, some of which had been developed with the assistance of the United Nations agencies.
24. The enthusiasm with which the NEPAD proposal is receiving from the North has been viewed with suspicion, particularly in connection to the call within the document 'for more aid and freer trade'. It was suggested that the architects of the NEPAD need to pitch the proposal on the basis of the principles of self-reliance, self-sustenance the democratisation of the development process, and fair and just distribution of the fruits of development, which had been identified in the LPA.
25. These conditions inherited from the past by African countries, make the route to sustainable solutions to the challenges facing the continent treacherous. Most African states for instance value their sovereignty, which presumes that most states are equal, whereas in reality they are not, a factor that should be given consideration in the NEPAD. This is a factor that needs to be taken into account in crafting the terms of the partnership, as it has the potential of undermining the NEPAD if not handled sensitively and with great expertise.

#### **Democracy and governance**

26. A common theme running through all presentations was that the lack of consultation with stakeholders such as academia, civil society, and women's groups and by extension, African citizens pointed to a serious problem. In the words of one scholar: "...if the NEPAD process is not democratic: how will another development be possible in Africa"? This process therefore puts to question the foundation on which the partnership is premised through its lack of consultation.
27. African scholars have a great contribution to make in generating new concepts, meanings and terms based on the reality of their experiences in development: concepts such as Social Democracy and New Democracy should be examined in the African context. African values according to some scholars are sorely lacking in current concepts of democracy and governance, yet democracy is the product of social context. The political and governance initiative in the NEPAD document was found to be over-generalised, given that no development is possible without resolving the vision of the political and democratic.
28. The architects of NEPAD appear to have transplanted the assumption of the concept of good governance of the World Bank, thus the document is lacking a comprehensive understanding of the structure of African society. This led to some of the scholars branding the NEPAD 'a total endorsement of the neo-liberal agenda', and the claim to make good governance an issue, a way of creating an enabling environment for the implementation of SAPS and private sector development.
29. The subordination of politics to economic dictates was found to be regrettable, as the way in which politics is practised affects economic development for the most part. From the gender perspective, the NEPAD document is lacking in the recovery of the vast and dynamic

contribution of African women in liberation movements and in development as a whole. Equally disconcerting is the lack of awareness by most African women of Globalisation and its potential impact on the demands for the empowerment of women in Africa. This is critical given the tendency to neglect the needs of women in most important events.

### **Economic governance and Financing of the NEPAD**

30. Scholars at the Forum were of the view that neo-liberalism, and classical economics is the framework that informs the NEPAD, though there has been an attempt (rather faint), at capturing the African reality. An examination of the other models besides that of classical economics would have assisted those behind the NEPAD proposal to develop an alternative development framework, which is citizen centred.
31. The question of the practicability of market competitiveness in the current context for Africa was raised, as the open market system appears to have given trans-national corporations leeway in the global arena.
32. Further, the issue of how Africa can attract investment and trade opportunities from Asia and China is important, as well as the encouragement of intra-African trade.
33. Scholars were urged not to engage too much in conspiracy theory, but to give direction on the relationship that Africa should have with the North.
34. African countries face a problem in not being able to protect their economies, as the trend has been to give more economic power to the business community and less and less to bodies such as the United Nations. "The South is hence trapped in a system where they are subject to a liberal framework and about 40 per cent of African countries are servants of others outside Africa", one scholar emphasized. In the face of economic instability, most African countries cannot adhere to any type of framework because of the pressures of survival.
35. It was argued that poverty is one consequence of the capitalist framework, and there was an engaging debate on whether redistribution of wealth, rather than the sole focus being on economic growth is a feasible strategy.
36. Africa has been viewed as being a risky region and Aid per capita coming into Africa has declined from US \$33 in 1990 to US \$19 in 1998. The sharp decline of national savings in the United States of America makes the country a competitor in attracting capital inflows.
37. Contrary to the theory of "diminishing returns" to capital invested in developed economies, the phenomenon of "economies of scale", low risk and high political stability continues to draw capital into these economies.
38. Africa has suffered from capital flight to the tune of US \$193 billion (figures of 1996\*), and Nigerians have held assets outside the country worth "2.8 times its external debt". Repatriating these resources can substantially add to the financing and reduce reliance on foreign financing". The logistical issue is more complicated as this may call for amnesty and there are those who view this as justifying theft of Africa's resources.

### **Peace and human rights**

39. NEPAD was found to be rooted in the western ideation of realism, which espouses, *inter alia* the technological and scientific fixes to problems, patriarchy and the domination of nature. While it is apt that the pre-requisite of peace and security is recognised in the NEPAD, the question of the meaning of peace should not be forgotten.

40. Fundamental problems identified were; that power is in the hands of a few; and the militarization of the state, which is important in the endeavour to understand conflicts as a way of resolving them. Africans were called upon to formulate original frameworks and concepts of peace, apart from those advocated by international agencies, and rooted in the inclusion of women at all levels of decision-making on peace building, and other areas of development.
41. Besides this, Africa cannot find long-lasting solutions for peace, in the absence of deliberations' regarding reparations, as it is clear that heinous crimes have been committed against Africans over centuries. One of the functions of scholarship is to develop ways of unleashing creativity in strategies with regard to peace, anchored on African philosophy.
42. New models of peace, justice and human rights in Africa are required, starting from the domestic and rising to the international level: these new models should embrace African conceptions on; *inter alia*, social equity and justice.
43. In addition, most African states have not incorporated international agreements to which they are signatories into national laws: and some of them have been conspicuously non-compliant to these treaties for a variety of reasons, a factor that domesticating these treaties would assist in. The latter point is particularly pertinent in relation to international agreements on women, which do not appear to be relevant on the national front for most countries in Africa that sign them.
44. However, the NEPAD proposal should be regarded as a special opportunity to contribute to by academia and civil society, as there are new elements including a Secretariat, a Peer Review mechanism, and a Code of Conduct, which were not there in past treaties and agreements. It was reported that the NEPAD would eventually become a programme of the OAU or the African Union when it is launched.

### **Sectoral policies**

45. Whereas six programme areas are proposed- infrastructure, human resource development, agriculture, environment, culture, and science and technology- the Forum examined two of the proposed areas in an in-depth manner. These notably were agriculture, which is the main source of income in most of sub-Saharan Africa, and the environment- one of the stated primary resources in Africa that is expected to attract investors.
46. Poverty was isolated as a pervasive challenge in Africa and while the colonial legacy has contributed to this, institutional failure partly due to lack of investment in African social capital and networks is also a cause. Agriculture, (which was analysed using the policy framework) it was recommended, should form the engine of growth for the NEPAD: this hinges on the utilisation of various strategies in the short and long term. These include: strengthening local level governance, promoting smallholder institutions and providing coping mechanisms and social safety nets during crisis in the short term.
47. The ecological framework was used in the analysis of the environment, specifically assessing the relationship between commodity outflow (cause) and financial returns (effect). It was observed that neo-liberalism provides the conceptual basis of the programmes suggested in the NEPAD, and that natural resource based economics informs the environment programme.
48. The framework of focusing on trans-national corporations to enhance competition, inject capital, and update technology and management practice was contested as some scholars have found that it has marginalised most of the least developed countries (LDCs). Globalisation further increases existing inequality at the global level, as the trend of oversupply of primary

commodities and low technology manufactures is likely to continue. African centred mediating strategies were recommended at the country and regional levels.

49. Although it has been argued that integrating Africa into the world economy may have undesirable environmental effects, this is not a justification for inward-looking development. What should be taken into account are international and national frameworks and policies with a view to promoting a new economic and political order at the global level.

### **Resource mobilisation**

50. It was revealed that the strategies proposed in the NEPAD document focus on mobilising foreign capital flows and market access, which are based on neo-liberal and dependency paradigms. The deliberations centred on how a strategy that has failed in the past decades, that is, capital flows will “magically” turn Africa around, an issue not addressed in the proposal.
51. The term resources, according to one scholar, has been used interchangeably to mean both the vast and rich physical endowment that Africa has, and finances. Africa paradoxically is both resource rich and resource poor (as it suffers a resource gap): in the words of the media: “Why is Africa poor? Because Africa is rich”.
52. The way in which impediments to economic development such as unfavourable terms of trade will be tackled has not been elaborated on in the NEPAD proposal. Foreign capital flows as in the past, will not achieve much as it has contributed to the dependency cycle by promoting more borrowing. This has resulted in high indebtedness for most African countries, and the question of whether the continent can absorb more debts, and the conditionalities often attached to this borrowing is worth serious consideration. This is based on the experience with SAPS, which adversely affected the most vulnerable groups such as women and children, thereby compromising on their rights to basic needs.
53. Further, the target of US \$64 billion was found to be rather minimal for the whole of Africa. On the domestic front, much wastage of resources occurs in the form of capital flight and the weak fiscal systems of resource collection: blocking these internal leakages would greatly reinforce the process of resource mobilisation in Africa. There was an absence of analysis in the NEPAD on how the rich cultural resources of Africa, which have been acknowledged in the document will be utilised. Concern regarding the potential of achieving the proposed 7 per cent growth using the current framework, according to past experience, was resoundingly expressed.

### **Partnership**

54. It was reported that the intention behind the NEPAD proposal is to have partnerships, first with the African citizenry and amongst Africans as a priority, and then with the world. The document was described as a vision of African Heads of States, and thus politically driven: other stakeholders were challenged to work on broadening and adding on to the existing framework.
55. For the proposal to be successful, it would be important to focus on a compelling shared vision and sense of purpose, based on a common understanding and common definitions of the problems and strategies to be implemented. This sharing demands widespread consultation with different stakeholders like civil society and Parliamentarians on the NEPAD and in formulating an alternative development for Africa. The process of developing and implementing the NEPAD requires a multidisciplinary approach beyond traditional economics. This will assist in

countering vices such as corruption and undemocratic governance, which have greatly impeded the development of African countries.

56. Development plans must always seek to improve the live chances of people particularly those of vulnerable groups such as women and children: this should be taken into account in the NEPAD proposal.
57. Also, the issue of Partnerships at the Pan-African level is not new, and the architects of NEPAD should have attempted to borrow from the experiences of leaders and scholars such as Presidents Nkrumah and Nyerere who travelled down this road in earlier African economic history. For most scholars, the starting point of Partnerships with the African people is missing as well as the intellectual skilful guidance in the proposed and necessary regional integration of Africa.

### **Gender analysis of the NEPAD**

58. The analysis, based on the CEDAW, and the Africa and Beijing Platforms for Action, illustrated that there were gaps in the planning stages of the NEPAD, as there has been no use of the women's rights and gender principles. The women's empowerment framework was used in this analysis and the five levels of empowerment presented at the Forum, from the welfare level to that where women have control over their lives and destinies were examined in the NEPAD.
59. Gender issues while acknowledged fleetingly, have not been well identified and it is clear that the planners of the NEPAD did not study other processes, which would be beneficial, such as the Beijing Platform for Action and the recommendations from the Dakar process. Comprehensive integration of gender issues would have resulted in the collective recognition that there are unjust, unfair systems, which had lead to differentiation in systems of most societies, and the formulation of strategies to effectively address these injustices.
60. This would involve tackling the causes of gender injustices such as patriarchal control and discrimination that has seen the formation of a gap between men and women in African societies. In the NEPAD, the attempt is merely to ameliorate the situation and circumstances of women, not to effectively deal with the underlying causes of their marginalised position, in order to develop viable and long-lasting strategies.
61. The use of the women's rights and gender principles was found to be lacking in the document. The tendency to exclude women at the decision-making level has been repeated in the NEPAD, where women are missing from peer-review and Implementation Committee levels of the process. Affirmative action, it was suggested should be integrated into the NEPAD process, and international agreements on women's rights and gender issues domesticated.

### **Assessment of the implementation strategy of the NEPAD**

62. In the discussions, it was established that the issue of a development vision for Africa has not been adequately addressed in the document, within the context of how it can be linked to current initiatives on development. Comprehensive examination of the kinds of frameworks required for Africa to fit into the global market and the underlying relationships is also necessary.
63. The basic framework of the NEPAD needs to be analysed also, against the realities of governance of most African states, and past initiatives. It is important to scrutinise the linkages between the process of the NEPAD at the national, sub-regional and Pan-African levels, and for this to be reflected in the document.

64. Related to this is the issue of how the NEPAD fits in with National policy-making and decision-making organs such as Parliaments in the different African countries. Empowering civil society and intellectuals to enable them to put forward another development and alternative visions would greatly enrich this process.
65. Successful implementation of the NEPAD involves attending to several factors, one of the most important being: the real popular ownership by vital stakeholders, notably women and civil society. The questions of the kinds of states that African citizens are aspiring to, and how they would like to participate in the process of the NEPAD are crucial to the process of implementation.
66. Other critical factors significant to implementation are: good governance which promotes democracy; re-conceptualising the partnership away from its paternalistic format; and having a realistic assignment of value to foreign divestment.

### **Positioning and Strategies**

67. The Forum concluded that: Africa was too donor-dependent and needs to be more inward-looking in its resource mobilization strategies such as developing, seeking compensation for reparations to Africa and closing resource leaks through capital flight. This could equal to, or exceed, the sought after funds.
68. The rich cultural heritage of Africa, recognised in the proposal should be utilised as a building block in the search for an alternative development paradigm.
69. It was concluded that a clear social bargain between African States and their civil societies is essential, as this is the only viable proposal of democracy. Again, this will involve the promotion of new social democratic governance as a vital institutional resource and environment for supporting citizen-centred development in Africa, as well integrating citizens' access to basic needs into programmes for the realisation of good governance and human rights.
70. Rethinking of the topics of the NEPAD is necessary. For instance, the economic framework of the NEPAD needs to be re-visited, as it does not reflect Africa's political reality. Likewise, African conceptions of peace, justice and human rights should be developed and re-negotiation of the NEPAD should be sought with the secretariat. The process of re-thinking should include re-formulating the trickle down modernization approach of the programmes, as this will result in Africa's integration in the global market without development.
71. A proposal made was that there is need to evolve economic strategies for assisting Africa to benefit from globalisation by ensuring access to high prices for her agricultural products in the markets of developed economies and enhancing Africa's competitiveness in Africa's internal markets in the face of liberalisation of her markets.
72. Establishing mechanisms within NEPAD for consultation with women leaders and group at all levels of policymaking, engagement in the design of budgets and enforcement of accountability to all citizens in each African country, should be considered a priority.
73. Promotion of intra-African trade, retrieval of funds already externalised through capital flight, and replication of China's attraction of investment capital from ethnic Chinese in Hong Kong, USA, and the Pacific zone and elsewhere by wooing capital from the African Diaspora, can be instrumental in addressing the challenge of Africa positioning itself in the global trade arena.

74. Allowing free movement of food production across African markets and borders as well as allocating at least 1 per cent of GDP on agricultural research and extension services would improve the situation on agriculture and by extension economies in Africa, vastly. This would also entail ensuring adequate earnings for food producers and re-orienting African governments to appreciate the value of farmers receiving a large proportion of national incomes.
75. Other emerging strategies were training women in extension services, developing skills of the poor, advocacy and awareness raising, and emphasis on high-value food production, and intensive promotion and implementation of intra-African trade.
76. Popularising the NEPAD project widely, while a process “of widespread consultation should be sought to get feedback on the NEPAD document from Africa and its Diaspora”, to elicit much needed support for the proposal through effective and efficient networking.
77. The establishment of capacity for renegotiating old and unequal treaties, including ACP and WTO conventions; and the African Growth and Opportunity Act, based on new concepts and paradigms developed by African scholars within NEPAD’s requirements for good governance can be useful in Africa’s effort at re-positioning itself.

### **Recommendations**

78. One of the ways of addressing the challenges facing the NEPAD, would be to incorporate into the NEPAD, international agreements (including those on human rights) into legal systems of individual African states; ensuring knowledge and sense of ownership of them by the citizens, and development of enforcement mechanisms.
79. Another submission with respect to this was the popularisation by NEPAD of reparations for slavery, colonialism and neo-colonialism, and genocide against and within Africa and the establishment of an International Bank for Reconstruction and Reparations.
80. The development of a concept of peace and justice which are anchored on women’s liberation and participation in governance as well as the prevention of the use of biotechnology for promoting conflict, is a strategy worth pursuing.
81. It was recommended that a task force of scholars should be established to undertake research and make proposals on sectoral priorities such as infrastructure and basic necessities, as well as other programme areas. Further, a group of scholars should be commissioned to develop an alternative framework for Africa’s development and progress that is citizen-centred, and rooted in concepts such as the New Democracy that takes into account issues of social justice and equity. This group of scholars would be charged with the task of overhauling the NEPAD as it is, and developing a viable, alternative framework.

### **Heinrich Böll Foundation**

We are a political foundation affiliated to the Green Party, working in the spirit of intellectual openness. The Foundation's primary objective is to support political education both within Germany and abroad.

We promote democratic involvement, social and political activism and cross-cultural understanding. The Foundation also provides support for art and culture, science and research, and development cooperation. Our activities are guided by the fundamental values of ecology, democracy, solidarity and non-violence.

### **African Academy of Sciences**

We promote and foster the growth of scientific community in Africa and its utilization of science-driven development; sensitize the interaction of the scientific, political and industrial leadership in Africa's development; and create a science-culture in Africa necessary for modernization and sustainable development.

Our activities include the mobilization and strengthening of the African Scientific community; publication and dissemination of scientific materials; research development and public policy; and capacity building in science and technology.

### **Mazingira Institute**

Mazingira is Kiswahili for Environment. It is a non-profit organization founded in 1978 in Kenya. Our voice is for the realization of human dignity of all rather than the few and for sustaining ecological integrity. We integrate diverse ways to inquire and to act and of knowledge creation and application. Our work extends learning, cooperation, ethical solidarity and advocacy.

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