



MEDIA ADVISORY

NEPAD Colloquium and Congress

INVITATION TO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MEDIA

Theme: “Africa’s Decade of Change: Accelerating NEPAD implementation through Domestic Financing”

- When:** 28th Wednesday, March 2012
- Where:** New African Union Conference Center (AUCC), Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
- Who:** Organized by African Union Commission (AUC) in collaboration with the NEPAD Agency and partner institutions including United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA) and the German Society for International Cooperation (GIZ)
- Why:** The Colloquium will provide a platform for candid exchange on NEPAD as the African-owned development strategy adopted in 2001 to drive the Continent’s political and socio-economic transformation. Thus, invited African Statesmen, Scholars, Nobel Laureates, Thought Leaders as lead discussants and development practitioners will focus on:
- Examining the continued relevance and future of NEPAD as the African Union strategic framework for socio-economic development in the 21st Century.
 - Assessing the contributions that NEPAD has made to Africa’s transformation since its adoption in 2001;
 - Exploring various strategic options of enhancing the implementation of the NEPAD vision
 - Strengthening NEPAD and its Agency through increased advocacy, ownership and partnership amongst African peoples.
- Objectives:** The core objectives of the Colloquium are;
- To engage African stakeholders and partners towards enhancing ownership and the implementation of NEPAD as a flagship programme of the African Union at all levels;
 - Raising awareness on NEPAD agenda and coalition building among a cross-section of Africans stakeholders;

- To serve as a open-ended platform for high-level discourse among prominent African Scholars and Thought Leaders on the forward looking approaches on implementation of Africa's development initiatives, notably the NEPAD Programme;
- To directly aggregate the viewpoints of African stakeholders on the strategic approaches and resources required to scale up the delivery for NEPAD through adequate sharing of knowledge, lessons learned and experiences;
- To popularize the work of NEPAD and related governance structures and institutions including the newly established NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency.

Participants:

- African Union Members States,
- African Ambassadors based in Addis Ababa (PRC)
- Diplomatic Corps in Addis Ababa;
- NEPAD Initiating Leaders,
- African scholars, Nobel Laureates and Thought leaders,
- AU Commission and AU Organs/Specialized bodies (PAP, African Court etc), RECs,
- Members of African National and Regional Parliaments;
- NEPAD Steering Committee members,
- African Development Bank,
- APRM Panel of Eminent Persons & CEO,
- NEPAD National Offices and Associations, ex-NEPAD CEOs;
- Others include Inter-governmental bodies (including Mano River Union, UEMOA, CEMAC, Gulf of Guinea Commission); UN Agencies and Organizations, CSOs, Private Sector Organizations, Members of the Diplomatic Corps; Women's and Youth Organizations, Africans in the Diaspora; Academia and Media as well as African private associations and official representatives of development and Southern partner countries and institutions.

Background:

2011 was NEPAD's 10th Anniversary since its foundation. Over the past ten years, major developments have taken place to advance the NEPAD agenda including the recent integration of NEPAD into the African Union (AU) structures and processes. As part of its celebrations, NEPAD agency has planned a number of activities and events to reach out to different stakeholder groups. The Congress and Colloquium is part of the NEPAD 10th anniversary celebrations.

Journalists are invited to cover the NEPAD Colloquium and Congress from on the 28th Wednesday, March 2012.

For Further Information consult the following websites: www.nepad.org & www.au.int . Interview requests should be addressed to **Mr. Gilles Eric Foadey**, OIC Communications NEPAD Agency, [Tel.:+27 83 555 9696](tel:+27835559696); E-mail: erickf@nepad.org

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