

Africa Partnership Forum

Key facts

- ◆ The Africa Partnership Forum (APF) was established in 2003 following the Evian G8 Summit as a way of broadening the existing dialogue between the G8 and the NEPAD countries;
- ◆ Its objective is to catalyse and support action on both sides of the partnership in support of Africa's development;
- ◆ The members are personal representatives of the Heads of State or government of the members of NEPAD, other African institutions and Africa's major multilateral and bilateral development partners;
- ◆ The APF meets twice a year – the spring meeting, hosted by the G8 presidency, focuses on policy concerns and priorities for Africa's development, and the autumn meeting, held in Africa, focuses on monitoring progress;
- ◆ It is co-chaired on an alternating basis by two African and two (G8 and non-G8/OECD) development partner countries;
- ◆ Recent meetings since 2009 have focused on a range of issues including climate change, the impact of the crisis, economic growth, investment and job creation, specific sectoral priorities including health and food security, and monitoring the delivery of commitments;
- ◆ The theme of the last (17th) APF meeting in November 2011 was "Promoting economic growth" and sessions focussed on the regulatory framework for the private sector; responsible and value-added investment; infrastructure and climate change in advance of the 4th High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in Busan and the 17th Conference of the Parties (COP17) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) held in Durban.

Background and mission

The Africa Partnership Forum (APF) was established following the Evian G8 Summit in 2003 as a way of broadening the existing dialogue between the G8 and the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) to include other African institutions and Africa's major bilateral and multilateral development partners.

The objective of the Forum is to catalyze and support action on both sides of the partnership in support of Africa's development. Its role is:

(i) to make recommendations to leaders on decisions which need to be taken in key regional and global processes, including the G8 and G20, the AU and the UN, in support of Africa's development. The themes of the Forum should be strongly aligned to the main themes of these regional and global processes;

(ii) to monitor the delivery of commitments by both sides of the partnership.

Members

The APF is comprised of Personal Representatives of:

- ◆ Heads of State or Government of the members of NEPAD;
- ◆ The Chairperson of the African Union Commission;
- ◆ Heads of the eight African Union recognized regional economic communities;
- ◆ Head of the African Development Bank;
- ◆ Heads of State or Government of Africa's principal development partners;
- ◆ The President of the European Commission;
- ◆ Heads of selected international institutions (e.g. the United Nations and its United Nations Development Programme and Economic Commission for Africa, the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, the World Trade Organization, and the OECD).

Africa's principal development partners have been defined as those with official development assistance programmes to Africa exceeding US\$100 million a year. This list has been recently reviewed by co-chairs in light of the latest available statistics, and invitations to join the APF have been extended to a number of additional countries. A further group of countries are also being invited to attend the next APF meeting.

Nature and format of meetings

The APF meets twice a year, with the first meeting focusing primarily on the main political issues to be discussed in key regional and global processes, and the second focusing primarily on the monitoring and evaluation of commitments. The conclusions of each meeting are recorded in Joint Statements, see www.africapartnershipforum.org

There are four co-chairs: two from Africa, and two from development partners. The current development partner co-chairs are United States (as G8 presidency), and Belgium (as chair of the non-G8 constituency).

RECENT APF MEETINGS			FOCUS AREAS
12 th APF Special Session	Rome, Italy Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	May 2009 September 2009	Impact of the economic crisis, drug trafficking, climate change Climate change (Special Session held in run-up to UNFCCC Conference in Copenhagen)
13 th APF	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	January 2010	Climate change, food security, the crisis and development finance, impact of the crisis on health
14 th APF	Toronto, Canada	April 2010	Health, food security, regional partnerships
15 th APF	Lilongwe, Malawi	October 2010	Outcome of recent international meetings, climate change, delivery of commitments
16 th APF	Paris, France	April 2011	Economic growth, investment and job creation
17 th APF	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	November 2011	Private Investment, Infrastructure and prospects for COP17

African members

NEPAD	NEPAD	AU/NPCA/RECs	PARTNER INSTITUTIONS
Algeria	Madagascar	African Union Presidency	AFDB
Benin	Malawi	AU Commission	UNECA
Cameroon	Mali	NPCA	
Democratic Republic of Congo	Namibia	COMESA	
Congo Republic	Nigeria	CEN-SAD	
Egypt	Rwanda	ECCAS	
Ethiopia	Senegal	ECOWAS	
Gabon	South Africa	IGAD	
Lesotho	Sudan	SADC	
Libya	Tunisia	AMU	
		EAC	

Development partner members

G8	NON-G8	INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS	OBSERVERS
Canada	Austria	ICA	Australia
EU	Belgium	IMF	Greece
France	Denmark	OECD	Korea
Germany	Finland	UNDP	Luxembourg
Italy	Ireland	UN - OSAA	Mexico
Japan	Netherlands	World Bank	Poland
Russia	Norway	WTO	Turkey
United Kingdom	Portugal		
United States	Spain		
	Sweden		
	Switzerland		