

REGIONAL MEDIA DIALOGUE ON NEPAD

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THE AFRICAN PEER REVIEW MECHANISM -AN OVERVIEW

Sudir Chuckun
APRM Secretariat
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PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- **Principles of the APRM**
- **APRM Organisation and Processes**
- **APRM Areas of Focus**
- **Latest Developments**
- **Conclusion**

PRINCIPLES OF THE APRM

- The APRM is a voluntary instrument acceded to by Member States of the African Union as an African self-monitoring mechanism.
- The primary purpose of the APRM is to foster good governance by the adoption of policies, standards and practices leading to political stability, high economic growth, sustainable development and accelerated sub-regional and continental integration through sharing of experiences and reinforcement of successful and best practice.
- Core Guiding Principles: Every review exercise carried out under the authority of the Mechanism must be technically competent, credible and free of political manipulation.

APRM ORGANISATION AND PROCESSES

- **Organisational Components:**
 - APR Forum
 - APR Panel
 - APR Secretariat
 - APR Strategic Partner Institutions[ADB, UNECA, UNDP];
 - Specific Country National Structures[Focal Points, National Commissions]

- **Stages of the APR Process:**
 - Stage 1: Self-Assessment Process
 - Stage 2: Country Review Mission [CRM]
 - Stage 3: Preparation of Country Review Report [CRR]
 - Stage 4: Consideration of CRR and Peer Review
 - Stage 5: Release of the CRR and Implementation of NPOA

APRM AREAS OF FOCUS

1. DEMOCRACY AND POLITICAL GOVERNANCE

- Prevent and reduce intra- and inter-country conflicts.
- Constitutional democracy, including periodic political competition and opportunity for choice, the rule of law, a Bill of Rights etc.
- Promotion and protection of economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights
- Uphold the separation of powers
- Ensure accountable, efficient and effective public office holders and civil servants
- Fighting corruption
- Promotion and protection of the rights of women
- Promotion and protection of the rights of the child and young persons
- Promotion and protection of the rights of vulnerable groups, including displaced persons and refugees.

APRM AREAS OF FOCUS [cont.]

2. ECONOMIC GOVERNANCE (5 OBJECTIVES)

- **Promote macroeconomic policies that support sustainable development**
- **Implement transparent, predictable and credible government economic policies**
- **Promote sound public finance management**
- **Fight corruption and money laundering**
- **Accelerate regional integration**

APRM AREAS OF FOCUS [cont]

3. CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

- Provide an enabling environment and effective regulatory framework for economic activities
- Promote the adoption of codes of good ethics in achieving the objectives of the organisation
- Ensure that corporations treat their stakeholders in a fair manner etc

4. SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Promote self-reliance in development and build capacity for self-sustaining development;
- Strengthen policies, delivery mechanisms and outputs in key social development areas etc.

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

- 28 countries have signed the MOU on APRM
- 9 Peer Reviews : Ghana, Rwanda, Kenya, Algeria, Benin, South Africa, Uganda, Nigeria, Burkina Faso conducted
- Sharing of Experiences: Cross-cutting issues
 - **Managing Diversities and Xenophobia**
 - **Elections in Africa**
 - **Resource Management: Land**
 - **Corruption**
- 4 CRMs Mali, Mozambique, Lesotho and Ethiopia during the 1st half of 2009
- 2 CRMs to Mauritius and Zambia in 2nd half of 2009

CONCLUSION

- Common understanding on vision/mission and Objectives of the APRM
- High-level political ownership, leadership and responsibility
- Institutionalisation and country ownership and participation, especially of private sector, civil society and all other stakeholders
- Sustainable funding mechanism primarily by Africans and in partnership with development partners

- Slow pace of setting up of country structures
- Implementation of the NPOA