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Permanent Observer Mission of the AFRICAN UNION to the United Nations



Mission Permanente d'Observation de l'UNION AFRICAINE auprès des Nations Unies

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305 E47th Street, 5th Fl, New York, NY 10017, Tel. (212) 319-5490, Fax (212) 319-7135/319-6509

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STATEMENT

BY

H. E. MR. TENS C. KAPOMA

AMBASSADOR/
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC OF
ZAMBIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

AND

CHAIR OF THE AFRICAN GROUP FOR THE MONTH OF MAY ON THE INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS OF THE PLENARY TO CONSIDER THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ENTITLED «MANDATING AND DELIVERING: ANALYSIS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO FACILITATE THE REVIEW OF MANDATES », DOCUMENT A/60/733 AND A/60/733 Corr.1

New York, 8 May 2006

Mr. Chairman

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the African Group in this discussion on the report of the Secretary-Genera entitled "Mandating and delivering: analysis and recommendations to facilitate the review of mandates" (documents A/60/733 and A/60/733. Corr.1). The Group has taken note of the recommendations contained in the report and will work closely with other delegations to pursue the legitimate interests of developing countries.

Mr. Chairman

This statement addresses Part C of the Secretary-General's report, which focuses on the development of Africa. It is pertinent to recall that the partnership between Africa and the United Nations stretches over many years. It has been a partnership based on collaboration at both national and regional levels. In both these areas, the United Nations system has proved to be a useful partner by providing support, which has enabled the continent to make some progress in a number of areas. It is this collaboration that the African continent wants to see strengthened in the context of the mandates review, through the framework and priorities provided by the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) at the regional level, and the resident coordinator system/United Nations country team at national level.

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Africa has identified the major areas requiring urgent international support, within the NEPAD framework. These areas of need have been recognized in the United Nations Conferences and Summits in the economic and social fields, particularly the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the 2005 World Summit Outcome.

Mr. Chairman

From the African Group perspective, it is quite evident that the activities in support of development being carried out by the UN system in Africa have not yielded the desired results. This is attributable to a number of factors, particularly the mismatch between commitments made, and delivery on, the means of implementation. More needs to be done to ensure that international assistance is scaled up and provided in an integrated, coordinated and comprehensive manner, to avoid duplication and overlaps.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, the African Group wishes to align itself with the statement delivered by South Africa on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

I thank you.