

AFRICA-SOUTH AMERICA SUMMIT

26 - 30 NOVEMBER, 2006



ASA

ABUJA 2006

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**FIRST AFRICA-SOUTH AMERICA SUMMIT
26- 30 NOVEMBER 2006
ABUJA, NIGERIA**

ABUJA PLAN OF ACTION

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The Heads of State and Government of Africa and South America meeting in the First Africa-South America Summit in Abuja, Nigeria, on 30 November 2006 agree as follows:

I. On Peace and Security issues

1. To promote and improve contacts and consultations in regional organizations and the United Nations;
2. To strengthen cooperation for creating and sustaining an environment conducive to peace, stability and development in the two regions.
3. To define and prepare interactive programmes aimed at sensitizing citizens of the two regions and mobilizing them to support this objective.
4. To hold regular consultations on peace and security issues of common interest and concern to both regions in order to tackle the root causes of conflict, prevent occurrence of new conflicts, contribute to the resolution of existing conflicts, and consolidate peace wherever it has been achieved through sustained and coordinated post-conflict reconstruction and development programmes.
5. To design appropriate programmes for addressing problems of landmines and the proliferation of small arms, light weapons and ammunitions, among other activities, on the basis of our respective policy documents and relevant international conventions.
6. To utilize existing structures in the two regions to jointly address international drugs and arms trafficking and money laundering and combat terrorism, as well as to supplement these with new and innovative mechanisms, as required.
7. To support the ratification and implementation of pertinent international and regional conventions.
8. To support peace processes in the two regions and the strengthening of existing mechanisms for conflict management, prevention and resolution.

II. **Democracy, Human Rights and Other Political Issues**

9. To encourage establishment and strengthening of national and international institutions supportive of democracy and democratic institutions and practices in both regions, including through the devising of programs to improve governance and related initiatives aimed at elaboration of appropriate good governance practices;
10. To encourage the ratification and implementation of international and regional Human Rights Conventions, so as to promote and guarantee civil and political, as well as economic, social and cultural rights;
11. To develop best practices in areas such as election management and observation and other issues of interest pertaining to governance and democracy in general;
12. To support the development of the African Peer Review Mechanism.

III. **Agriculture and Agribusiness**

13. To foster the revitalization of agriculture particularly small farmers to boost economic development and attain food and nutritional security through the implementation of the Comprehensive Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) in the context of cooperation, as well as through flexible and appropriate modalities to encourage food production with the view to ensuring food security.
14. To promote technical cooperation in biotechnology and other initiatives for adding value to agricultural products.
15. To support the implementation of regional and international food safety standards, according to those adopted by the competent international organizations.
16. To facilitate access to credit and insurance for small and medium scale farmers.
17. To exchange information on available databanks and statistics on agriculture and agribusiness.
18. To establish and develop initiatives for joint marketing of agricultural products.
19. To cooperate in research to combat diseases that affect agricultural production.

20. To cooperate in the field of livestock production, particularly veterinary medicine.

IV. Water Resources

21. To facilitate funding mechanisms for undertaking projects on water resources management to boost agricultural production and industrial development.

22. To promote the right of citizens to have access to clean and safe water and sanitation in the respective countries.

23. To share experience and best practices on water resource management.

V. Trade and Investment

24. To hold regular consultations with a view to harmonizing positions on international trade issues.

25. To promote and coordinate positions on bilateral and multilateral trade issues.

26. To support and promote mechanisms for increasing inter-regional trade between Africa and South America including preferential trade arrangement among countries of the two regions.

27. To improve the dialogue between the public and private sectors of both regions to facilitate and strengthen South-South Cooperation. This will imply the strengthening of representative institutions of civil society and private sector representative institutions in both regions and their Diaspora, through capacity building and the setting up of common institutions such as the Africa-South America Business Association, and to consider the proposal for the establishment of an Africa-South America Bank and support the establishment of the African Investment Bank.

28. To hold regular trade and investment policy dialogues aimed at identifying possible guidelines for macro-economic, monetary and fiscal policies.

29. To promote joint capacity-building initiatives for negotiators at bilateral and multilateral trade fora.

30. To encourage the participation of business communities in the respective countries in the cooperation context.

31. To develop databases on trade and investment opportunities and requirements in the two regions.

32. To promote and exchange experiences with a view to facilitating trade, taking into account the asymmetries in the national economies and the special needs and constraints that affect small and vulnerable economies, particularly those of developing land-locked countries.

33. To promote active participation of the respective countries of the two regions involved in the negotiations of the São Paulo Round of the Global System of Trade Preferences among developing countries (GSTP), given the importance of the GSTP as a tool to boost inter-regional trade flows and South-South trade as a whole.

34. To urge countries to implement Annex F of the WTO Ministerial Declaration issued in Hong Kong in December 2005, which provides the guidelines for the concession of “duty-free, quota-free” treatment for all products originating from all LDCs.

35. To also urge countries to implement the provisions of WTO Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration with regard to small and vulnerable economies and the Aid for Trade Initiative to enable them to benefit from trade and globalization.

36. To improve coordination with a view to preparing UNCTAD XII to be held in Ghana in 2008.

37. To intensify efforts towards the strengthening of UNCTAD in its reform process.

38. With reference to paragraphs 24, 25, and 26 above, to hold Joint Conference of African and South American Ministers of Trade, and accept the offer by the Kingdom of Morocco to host the said Conference at a date to be fixed.

VI. Combating hunger and poverty

39. To intensify cooperation towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

40. To facilitate the creation of small and medium size enterprises.

41. To exchange information on successful experiences for combating hunger and poverty, such as the establishment of small and medium-sized enterprises, the application of micro-credit techniques, literacy programmes, primary health care in the short run, and other public policies.

42. To support the implementation of institutions entrusted with food and nutrition issues, with the active participation of governments and civil societies.

43. To implement the initiatives proposed by the Africa-South American parties within this framework, notably the World Solidarity Fund and the Plan of Action against Poverty and Hunger.

VII. Legal Cooperation

44. To develop mechanisms for mutual legal assistance on civil and criminal matters and on programmes dealing with terrorism, money laundering, international illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs, persons as well as small and light weapons and ammunition, among other problems.

45. To develop and utilize existing resource centers for the preparation of legal materials and texts on issues related to regional cooperation.

46. To hold regular consultations between legal experts and advisers on operationalisation and implementation of the cooperation framework.

VIII Infrastructure and Transportation Development

47. To promote the development of sea and air routes between the two regions so as to enhance trade and tourism.

48. To work out effective modalities for application of innovative financing mechanisms that would enhance infrastructure development.

49. To exchange experiences in transport policies, programmes and capacity building measures, particularly for improvement of rural transport and urban mobility.

IX. Energy and solid minerals

50. To exchange information on how to achieve skills and technology transfer in the extractive industries.

51. To explore the possibility of developing a common energy strategy.

52. To share experiences and develop capacity for the exploration of energy resources and efficient energy marketing systems.

53. To cooperate in the development of alternative sources of energy and promote the use of renewable energy sources and hybrid energy technologies.

X. Social and Cultural Cooperation, Tourism, Youth and Sports

54. To develop technical cooperation and capacity building programmes in the areas of cultural management, protection of cultural and natural heritage and the promotion of tourism.

55. To develop databanks and portals to provide information on major social, cultural and sport events and tourism.

56. To facilitate joint sporting events between the two regions as well as programmes for effective human resource development, among which is the establishment of soccer academies and exchange of coaches.

57. To share experiences on the use of cultural activities in social inclusion projects and in combating violence.

58. To deepen the debate on the application of UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions.

59. To develop common programmes for youth participation and empowerment.

60. To valorize original cultural traditions of indigenous peoples and traditional communities.

61. To map out broadcasting strategies particularly televised messages, to encourage information exchange between the two regions, and thereby help to foster their cultural integration.

XI. Cooperation in Multilateral Fora

62. To promote consultations with a view to coordinating our positions in the United Nations system and the World Trade Organization (WTO), especially on the ongoing reforms and negotiations in those institutions.

63. To forge and defend common positions on global issues of interest and concern to both regions with a view to promoting multilateralism in the global system.

64. To hold consultations with a view to having coordinated positions on the conservation and sustainable use of the biodiversity of the Area, which exploitation must benefit mankind as a whole, and in particular developing countries.

XII. Science and Technology

65. To develop and implement joint initiatives for enhancing the capacities of the countries of the two regions in. science and technology.
66. To develop and promote joint capacity building programmes, especially the creation of scientific and technological data banks.
67. To encourage the adoption of appropriate legal and policy frameworks for the development of ICTs, including small and medium ICT companies.
68. To develop appropriate supporting infrastructure for ICTs.
69. To implement the commitments and the Agenda of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) held in Tunis in November 2005.
70. To establish mechanisms to protect traditional knowledge by appropriate regimes.
71. Encourage the countries of the two regions to contribute to the Digital Solidarity Fund including implementation of the Geneva Call.
72. Develop Internet access to make it more accessible to all segments of the population, particularly students, youth, civil servants, teachers and schools.
73. Develop digital analysis in the two regions, especially in tele-medicine, to reach the rural populations.

XIII. Health

74. To utilize existing structures for facilitating accessibility to anti-retroviral drugs against HIV/AIDS and to preventive and curative drugs for communicable diseases in general, such as tuberculosis.
75. To cooperate in joint research in prevention, including vaccines, care and treatment of cross-border or neglected diseases, especially HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and other epidemics, as well as the implementation of Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement on Public Health
76. To cooperate on joint programmes for health personnel.
77. To support implementation of research initiatives on vector control and anti-malarial drugs such as the Network of Researchers on Malaria from Portuguese speaking countries developed with the cooperation of the Amazonic Network of Surveillance of Anti-Malarial Drugs Resistance.

XIV. Education

78. To develop cooperation in elementary, secondary and higher education.
79. To encourage the development of networks of educational institutions.
80. To encourage student, researcher and teacher exchange.
81. To establish educational Internet portals and virtual libraries.
82. To encourage the learning of each other's languages.
83. To develop educational activities in the area of public health and human rights.
84. To exchange best practices in combating illiteracy, improving women's conditions and promoting social inclusion.
85. To encourage the creation of inter-regional University Institutions.
86. To foster existing programmes of scholarship and develop new ones as appropriate.

XV. Environment

87. To forge and develop common positions on environmental issues, whenever possible, and environmental initiatives aimed at implementation of relevant International Conventions.
88. To encourage the ratification and implementation of relevant International Conventions on the environment and sustainable development, such as the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, the United Nations Convention on Climate Change and its Kyoto Protocol and the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity.
89. To promote sustainable use of marine resources.

XVI. Gender Issues

90. To develop a strategy for mainstreaming gender concerns into the framework for cooperation.
91. To utilize sex-disaggregated data in analyses, as appropriate.

92. To promote participation of women in political activities and in the process of decision making in government, and ensure that they are adequately represented.

93. To support the full participation of women in the economic development of our countries, with programmes that foster small enterprises with special focus on women, youth and the family.

94. To strengthen the design of education and health policies that contribute to equitable access of women to education and their full integration into the economic, social and cultural life of their countries

XVII. Institutional Development

95. To undertake initiatives aimed at strengthening existing intergovernmental and research institutions that are envisaged to play a key role in furthering cooperation between the two regions and where necessary create new ones to facilitate implementation of the cooperation framework.

96. To support and facilitate cooperation between the African Union Commission and the Community of South American Nations as well as other regional and sub-regional organizations as drivers of the cooperation framework.

97. To cooperate to share experiences on processes of institutional development in both regions.

98. To develop appropriate centers of excellence from among such institutions.

XVIII. Information Exchange and Sharing Best Practices

99. To develop frameworks for information exchange and sharing of best practices in all thematic areas.

100. To develop a complementary strategy for collaboration on communication issues to foster and promote mutual understanding and friendship among the two regions.

101. To develop relevant information databases and promote cooperation in areas of audio visual production and exchange, radio and television broadcasting and digital library projects.

102. To disseminate information on the outcomes of the Africa-South America Summit, including the Declaration and the Plan of Action.

XIX. Follow-up Mechanism

103. **We agree** to adopt the following mechanisms to give impetus to and monitor the implementation of the Plan of Action:

- a) The Summit of Heads of State and Government shall hold every two (2) years;
- b) Meeting of Ministers (in-between Summits) shall hold, as may be necessary but at least once a year, to ensure implementation of decisions;
- c) Bi-regional meetings of senior officials shall take place at least once a year, or as may be necessary, to prepare updates on implementation;
- d) Africa-South America Follow-up Committee made up of the Current and Incoming Co-Chairs from the two regions assisted by the African Union Commission and the Secretariat of the Community of South American Nations, to coordinate the follow-up mechanism.