

2002 Kananaskis Interim Compliance Report Africa - Good Governance

Commitment

Expanding capacity-building programs related to political governance in Africa focusing on the NEPAD priority areas of: improving administrative and civil services, strengthening parliamentary oversight, promoting participatory decision-making, and judicial reform.

Background

One of the core values underpinning both NEPAD and the Africa Action Plan is that of good governance and its fundamental role in promoting the alleviation of both poverty and conflict. Much of the impetus behind the AAP evolved from the commitment made by African leaders and states to adhere to principles of democracy and good government, and from the G8 states' corresponding resolve to help strengthen African nations in these areas. The G8 nations continue to stress that NEPAD must maintain its commitment to good governance in order to maintain its integrity--how they intend to assist in this goal has not yet fully been demonstrated.

Assessment:

Score	Lack of Compliance -1	Work in Progress 0	Full Compliance +1
Country			
<i>Canada</i>			+1
<i>France</i>		0	
<i>Germany</i>		0	
<i>Italy</i>		N/A	
<i>Japan</i>		0	
<i>Russia</i>		N/A	
<i>United Kingdom</i>			+1
<i>United States</i>			+1
Overall			+0.50

Individual Country Compliance Breakdown:

1. Canada: +1

Within its development assistance allocation to Africa, Canada has identified the strengthening of African institutions and governance as one of its three priorities, in addition to fostering of economic growth and investing in the people and future of Africa.³

To this end, Canada committed \$28-million over three years to improve the competency and efficiency of the public sector of African states, primarily through the Africa Capacity Building Foundation and the Canadian Centre for Management Development. A further \$9-million over three years will be directed towards strengthening African parliamentary government, namely through the African Parliamentary Union, while \$6-million over the same period of time will be spent on forging local and community governance.⁴

In October 2002, it was announced that Canada will contribute \$2.39 million to promote good governance, along with security and development, in Francophone African countries; a commitment made specifically as a way of supporting the AAP.⁵ \$1.09 million over three years will go to Transparency International, an NGO devoted to fighting corruption, allowing it to expand into fourteen Sub-Saharan Francophone countries.⁶ \$850 000 of this amount had been committed in 1999, in the 'first phase' of the funding program.⁷

2. France: 0

Although France has committed to implementing the AAP in its entirety, there has not been a significant focus on good governance. France has, however, emphasized the importance of these principles in its overall development assistance priorities. The Inter-Ministerial Committee on International Cooperation and Development (CICID) has, for example, identified infrastructure building as a key area of its commitment to Africa and NEPAD. It includes the establishment of political institutions, in line with the needs of the populations and the necessary institutional reforms. Moreover, the policies of Coopération internationale et du Développement, an agency of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, include the goal of increased democratization and reinforcement of the state

³ Canadian International Development Agency, "Canada Fund for Africa," <<http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/canadafundforafrica>>.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Canadian International Development Agency, "News Release: Canada Supports Good Governance and Security in Francophone Countries in Africa," 17 October 2002, <www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/cida_ind.nsf/852562900065549d85256228006b10c0/a38fd51244c2650d85256c55005ef759?OpenDocument>.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Ibid.

apparatus, decentralization and partnership with civil society.⁸ Nevertheless, it remains a work in progress as France has not allocated specific funds nor committed to a concrete implementation plan.

3. Germany: 0

While Germany remains committed to the implementation of the AAP, it has made no specific statements on how it intends to adhere to its commitments regarding governance in the months leading up to Evian-le-Bain. In a speech given at the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly of the United Nations to Consider How to Support the New Partnership for Africa's Development in September, in New York, Germany's APR, Ushchi Eid emphasizes that NEPAD must maintain a strict policy and platform, and articulates the German government's concerns over good governance based on events in Zimbabwe, and her disappointment that other African nations failed to react more decisively to these events.⁹ She further suggests that this casts doubt on the resolve of African nations to adhere to the commitments on good governance and reform set out by NEPAD. Despite statements by its APR, this remains a work in progress as Germany has not yet committed specific funds or introduced an implementation plan.

4. Italy: N/A

There is no information available to suggest that Italy has complied with this commitment.

5. Japan: 0

Although Japan has not outlined any new measures for good governance in Africa since Kananaskis, its previous aid programs have explicitly focused on good governance-building programs with an emphasis on constitutional and judicial reform, civic information and participation and parliamentary reform¹⁰ (all key tenants of the commitment in question). However, much of Japan's Africa-related assistance in the past has been through the TICAD system (Tokyo International Conference on African Development), and TICAD III is scheduled for September 2003.¹¹ It is therefore feasible that in the months closer to Evian and TICAD, Japan will introduce its plan for Africa that includes good governance components.

⁸ Department for International Development and Foreign and Commonwealth Office, United Kingdom "G8 Africa Action Plan: Towards the 2003 Summit," November 2002, <www.dfid.gov.uk>.

⁹ Uschi Eid Personal Website, "Presseerklärung des BMZ: Eid beim Afrika-Gipfel der Vereinten Nationen," 16 September 2002, <www.uschi-eid.de>.

¹⁰ Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan, "Project/Program Summary," <www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad2/list98/govern/3_1_6.html>.

¹¹ Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan, "The Philosophy of Japan's Policy Toward Africa," <<http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/economy/summit/2002/africa-e.pdf>>.

6. Russia: N/A

There is no information available to suggest that Russia has complied with this commitment.

7. United States: +1

Within its overall development assistance priorities, the US stresses that aid should be directed to countries that have demonstrated sound fiscal responsibility, good governance and democratic practices. Recently, Bush recently announced that he intends to try to extend the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) scheduled to expire in 2008, which cites good governance and democracy as one of its key policy priorities.¹² However, considering that AGOA is not due to expire till several years from now, the immediate impact of this and its significance for American compliance are unclear.

USAID, the United States Agency for International Development, has announced that it will increase funding by 53% for democracy and conflict prevention programs in Africa during the 2003 fiscal year, and that it will focus on fighting corruption and post-conflict democratic reconstruction.¹³ USAID's Anti-Corruption Initiative was designed in 2002 and is meant to be implemented in 2003, and it will support multiple actors at the regional, country and local levels in achieving better government oversight, public disclosure of assets and the promotion of ethical codes of conduct for governments.¹⁴

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January 2003

¹² Government of the United States of America, "Fact Sheet: US--Sub-Saharan African Trade and Economic Cooperation Forum," 15 January 2003, <www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2003/01/20030115.html>.

¹³ United States Agency for International Development, "Africa: Building Democracy in Africa," <www.usaid.gov/democracy/afr/africa.html>.

¹⁴ United States Agency for International Development, "Africa Regional: Program Data Sheet 698-013," <www.usaid.gov/country/afr/afr_reg/698-013.html>.