

**REPUBLIC OF SENEGAL**  
Un Peuple – Un But – Une Foi

---

# **NEPAD EXPLAINED**

**By**  
**Vice-Presidency**  
**SENEGAL**

# Genesis

During the year 2001, becoming aware of the tremendous backwardness of Africa, of the disastrous condition of its populations and the inanity of its endless studies and plans never implemented, which have punctuated our history since independence, the Heads of State undertook to prepare plans for Africa's development derived from a totally new spirit.

That is the way; President Thabo MBEKI from South Africa launched the idea of African Revival as being the new life to be put into Africa on the eve of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. At the same pace as the South African President, the President of Nigeria, Olusegun OBASANJO, that of Algeria, Abdelaziz BOUTEFLIKA launched the Millenium African Plan, MAP. On his side, President Abdoulaye WADE from Senegal proposed OMEGA plan.

Egypt was later co-opted – with the 4 latter Heads of State – to set up the **initiators' group** called Implementing Committee.

The Implementing Committee set up experts' group of initiating countries and also of OAU, AEC and ADB.

In the course of several working sessions, the merger of the two plans into one named **Nouvelle Initiative Africaine** (New African Initiative) was achieved.

The New African Initiative was adopted by the Summit of the Heads of State in Lusaka, Zambia held from July 6 to 7, 2001; which in one special resolution appointed President Abdoulaye WADE to join the three Heads of State formerly appointed to negotiate the cancellation of the debt and who have already met the G8 in Japan on June 2000 :OBASANJO, MBEKI and BOUTEFLIKA and on the other hand, to enlarge the Implementing Committee to 15 members by adding 2 Heads of State by region.

The delegation of the 4 Heads of State of the Summit was appointed to present this new African plan to the G8 in Genoa, Italy on July 20 and 21, 2001. President Alpha Omar KONARE was invited to join the delegation, which was thus composed of five members.

During one of its meetings, the Implementing Committee considered necessary to change the name of the plan to make it from then on Nouveau Partenariat pour le Développement de l'Afrique, which English signification was chosen as unique acronym: NEPAD, **N**ew **P**artnership for **A**frica's **D**evelopment.

So that, the present leading organs are:

- The Steering Committee,
- The Implementing Committee.

Five African countries were invited to the G8 Summit in Genoa, Italy to present the new African plan and discuss the relevance of those options.

The G8 showed very much enthusiasm before such an entirely African initiative, which contrasted sharply with former methods since it presented a real vision of the future. It answered by a declaration, which became the Genoa Declaration that adopted exactly the outlines of the priorities as specified by the Nouvelle Initiative Africaine (New African Initiative), NIA, which has become NEPAD.

Since then, many events punctuated NEPAD's way:

- The President of the United States met the Presidents of the three countries, which to him are real democracies: Alpha Omar KONARE, John KUFUOR and Abdoulaye WADE,
- G8 leaders have met African Heads of State to discuss the NEPAD: Prime Minister Tony BLAIR in Chèquers, the President of European Union in Brussels, President CHIRAC when meeting a dozen African Heads of State on February 8, 2002.
- Each G8 country appointed an important person who must secure the permanent contact with African countries. That is the sherpas.
- Many contacts have taken place between those important persons and African countries representatives.
- G8 leaders went each on their side around Africa: German President, British Prime Minister, and Canadian Prime Minister.

- A conference of the African private sector held in Dakar on January 17, 2002 as a prelude to the Conference of the International private sector and of NEPAD countries.

In a near future, the events, which will mark the evolution of the NEPAD, are:

- The **Dakar Conference** held on **April 15, 16 and 17, 2002** on the participation of the private sector to the financing of NEPAD, gathering African Heads of State and international and African private sectors,
- The G8 Summit in Kananaskis, Canada, in next June, during which the implementation of the NEPAD shall evolve definitely, marking a strong consensus reached between G8 countries and the Implementing Committee.

Until those meetings are held, working parties have been set up from the priority sectors of NEPAD, grouped into fields and distributed between the initiating countries as follows:

- Algeria : human development,
- Egypt : access to markets, diversification of products,
- Nigeria : good private economic governance and capital flow,
- Senegal : infrastructures, environment, CIT, energy,
- South Africa : good political governance, peace, security, democracy.

So that, each of them made arrangements in order to make it so that regional projects be finalized, namely for the Dakar Conference in April and the G8 Summit in Kananaskis.

NEPAD derives from a totally new spirit, based on fundamental options and super priorities that have to be kept in mind, so as not to wander towards other considerations.

# Specificities of NEPAD

## ITS OBJECT

The ultimate objective of NEPAD is to make up for the lost time separating Africa from developed countries. This notion of gap to be filled is the very core of the NEPAD. Therefore, it is not only about financing projects all over the place.

In fact, Africa considers that it has been marginalized by historic evolution so that today it gets less than 1% of world investment and represents 1.7% of international trade.

At the economic and social development level, Africa is today the most backward and poorest continent.

Its impoverishment is due to the cumulative effects of 300 years of slavery, 100 years of colonization and since independence the economic domination resulting in the exploitation of its resources and of its populations' work by permanently decreasing prices according to history.

In fact, this marginalization of Africa exists even in the mind of our partners from the developed world who, when they talk about world economy concept consider only developed countries – the African continent being at the periphery more and more shifted to the exterior. Whereas, for African leaders, Africa is well in the globalization because the development of world economy, United States and Europe is historically due to the exploitation of the raw materials of our continent and to the work of its populations through its exports products.

Africa claims from developed countries massive investments which mechanisms have to be defined, without it be necessarily loans or assistance – the “infernal binomial” from which no under developed country never escaped from to join the group of developed countries.

Besides, the paradox is that the huge money transfers made by developed countries to developing countries have led to other results than those expected, since the world Community just launched a decade for the struggle against poverty. That is an admission of failure, which proves – if need be –

that a good international development policy cannot be implemented with generous ideas.

## **ITS STRATEGY**

NEPAD is structured into a double strategy, on one side the **region as basic operation space** and the recourse to massive private investments, as did other continents.

### **1. The central option of the region**

NEPAD has chosen the option of Africa's development from regions and not longer from States. About this matter, let us remind that Africa is divided into five regions:

- Northern Africa,
- Western Africa,
- Central Africa,
- Eastern Africa and the Indian Ocean
- Southern Africa.

Then, without questioning the sovereignty of the States by any other way than their engagement to African Union, NEPAD considers that Africa can make it only by the promotion of the regional space, which offers a bigger market to our industries and higher possibilities to foreign investments.

Of course, development from regions will be coordinated at the summit for coherence purpose.

We will point, moreover, that projects – at the spatial level – will include several types. For example, in terms of roads or facilities in general, there will be intra-regional projects (inside a region), trans-regional projects (spanning two countries), and continental projects.

### **2. Private sector**

For the first time in its history, Africa has decided to call for the private sector, which it considers, should be at the center of growth. Without resigning from its historical role of populations' protector, through an

efficient and progressive economic and social policy – for NEPAD – this sector is the only one likely to provide Africa with huge funds it needs.

Of course, there is first **the African private sector**, Africans from the continent and from the Diaspora and also the important possibilities due to the collection of public and private savings

Nonetheless, funds remain a sine qua non aspect of growth and of Africa's development, which must be organized to get its rules respected by investors.

In that sense, NEPAD advocates the development of the African private sector, which can be either autonomous, or associated with foreign private sector in "joint ventures".

## **SUPER-PRIORITIES**

NEPAD estimates that it is true that everything is a priority in Africa, there are however super priorities, some kinds of bases without which no development is possible. That is why NEPAD proposes a partnership with rich countries for the preparation together and execution of an emergency plan of super priorities.

In the beginning, NEPAD had just 8 super priorities because it seemed that good governance, as political and private form was a sine qua non condition for development that is why an explanation, which had led to ten priority sectors, was given:

1. **Political good governance:** democracy being visible through free and honest elections as well as the respect of human, women's and children's rights, transparency in the management of public property, the eradication of corruption.
2. **The economic governance and private capital flow** by an independent and honest justice in the conflicts involving foreign investors, the honest and transparent management of private companies, etc.
3. **Infrastructures:** roads, railways, ports and airports, transportation that are cost elements, which impact heavily on the competitiveness of

African products likely to be sold abroad. Moreover, facilities can develop and create economic activities.

4. **Education:** it appeared today that human resources are the most important factor of growth because being the factor, which impacts directly on production: creativity, inventiveness, productivity.

Countries without natural resources like Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, Singapore have proved that a country could develop by investing massively in training and education.

5. **Health :** is also one of the major challenges for Africa because of the high mortality rate due to endemic diseases such as malaria, tuberculosis and AIDS.

Thus, the battle for health becomes also a super priority for Africa.

6. **ICT:** The New Communication and Information Technologies have the advantage to be accessible to all the people, in the sense that they only require intelligence. Fortunately, this is equally shared between human communities. They represent a permanent contact factor for exchanges of goods and services at the same pace for all, the speed of light.

Economically speaking, CITs provide huge income-generating services.

African people should have access to these new technologies at a very early age and this should be extended to all the activities : agriculture, industry, transportation, services and exchanges.

7. **Agriculture :** Africa is lagging behind as regards agriculture. This tremendous backwardness results in its food dependency. This is hardly acceptable for such a vast continent endowed with land and water.

At a time when western consumers turn away from the agricultural products made in their countries because of pesticides, bio-agriculture offers to Africa a unique opportunity to produce and export goods to earn the necessary currencies for the financing of its development.

For that purpose, Africa needs the technology and know-how of developed countries, and expects that from the G8.

Agriculture will largely contribute to the increase of Africa's share in international trade if G8 countries remove the non tariff barriers to allow access to their market and create the conditions of a real international competitiveness.

8. **Energy** : It is commonly known that energy is one dimension of development. Yet, most African countries are not oil producers and only have hydraulic energy badly spread in the territory. To such an extent that most of the countries suffer from the fluctuations of oil prices and governments are obliged to increase the prices of oil when the price of crude oil goes up. This situation affects immediately the living conditions of workers and more generally of masses.

That is why energy is one of the super priorities in the agenda of NEPAD which is calling the international community to think over it. Some African gas producing countries have already contemplated the idea of directing gas pipelines towards countries without gas.

But the main problem still remains. Indeed, energy is a major input in the costs of production and as such has a direct impact on the competitiveness of our companies.

9. **Access to the markets of developed countries** : The will to develop and diversify agriculture can only be effective if developed countries open their borders to us as mentioned above.

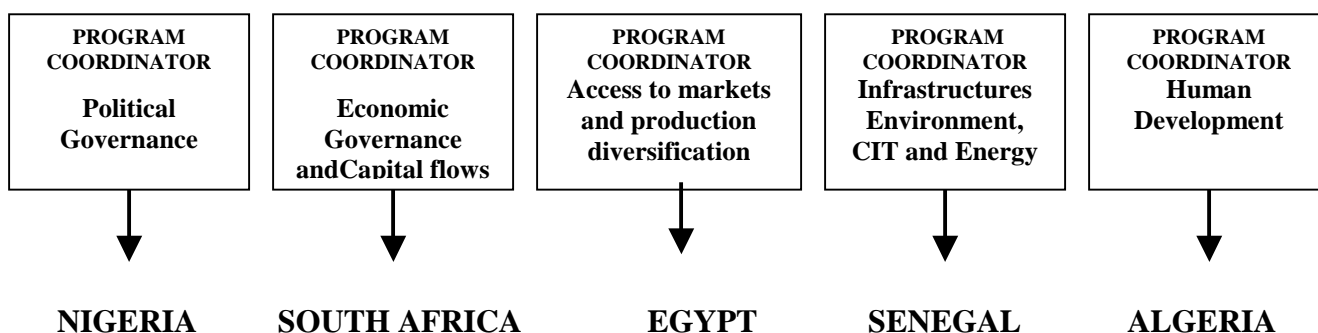
10. **Environment** : It is clearly established that a deterioration of the environment affects the condition of the populations, especially in big urban areas. Beside the most commonly known aspects, desertification and drought are serious threats to the very life of sub-Saharan people.

In addition to that, we have the fast degradation of African coasts favoring sea advance.

Besides, there are real threats of transfer of toxic wastes or contaminated flours to Africa. All these are hazards for human beings as well as the livestock.

### ***Elaboration of projects***

To elaborate regional projects in the many super priorities, their supervision by Heads of State has been decided as follows :



Meetings at Ministry level have taken place in different regions to elaborate projects with the assistance of African Development Bank.

Thus, NEPAD has an important portfolio of projects meant for the private and public sectors at the same time.

## **The major stages of NEPAD**

The implementation of NEPAD goes through two major stages :

- Several Heads of State of the G8 have already discussed with African Heads of State : President George W. BUSH, Prime Minister Tony BLAIR, M. Vershoft, when Belgium was presiding over the European Union, President Jacques CHIRAC.

- The meeting with the African and international private sectors which allows African Heads of State to interact with investors to explain the reasons why they must invest in Africa.

This is the object of the Summit of African Heads of State and Government (April 15, 16 and 17 April 2002).

- The meeting with the G8 in June 2002, in Kananaskis, to launch the final round of talks which would lead to a joint program.

Between times, since the G8 summit of Genoa of the year 2000, the sherpas or representatives of rich countries have been meeting African experts.

## **The structures of NEPAD**

### **1. THE IMPLEMENTING COMMITTEE**

Presently, the Implementing Committee is made up of 15 Heads of State, with 5 Initiators and 10 representatives of the regions that is to say two per region. It is structured as follows :

#### **BOARD**

President	:	H.E. Mr Olusegun OBASANJO
Vice-President	:	H.E. Mr Abdelaziz BOUTEFLIKA
Vice-President	:	H.E. Mr Abdoulaye WADE
Members	:	H.E. Mr Thabo MBEKI H.E. Mr Mohamed Hosni MOUBARAK

#### **Representatives of regions**

The Board is completed by two representatives per region.

#### **Meetings**

The Implementing Committee shall meet at least three times a year and upon notification by the Chairman.

## **2. THE STEERING COMMITTEE**

It is made up as follows :

- Personal representatives of the 5 Heads of State and Initiators ,
- Representatives of African economic and financial institutions,
- Representatives of other Heads of State of the Implementing committee shall attend these meetings.

Its role is to prepare the terms of reference of the programs and projects and supervise the secretariat.

## **3. THE SECRETARIAT**

The secretariat is in charge of the administration of the running of NEPAD as well as the coordination with the different structures.

To carry out its mission, the secretariat may request the assistance of African or foreign experts. The Head-office is located in Pretoria, South Africa.

## **The Financing of NEPAD**

NEPAD is a new vision, a new partnership plan between Africa and the leaders of the richest countries.

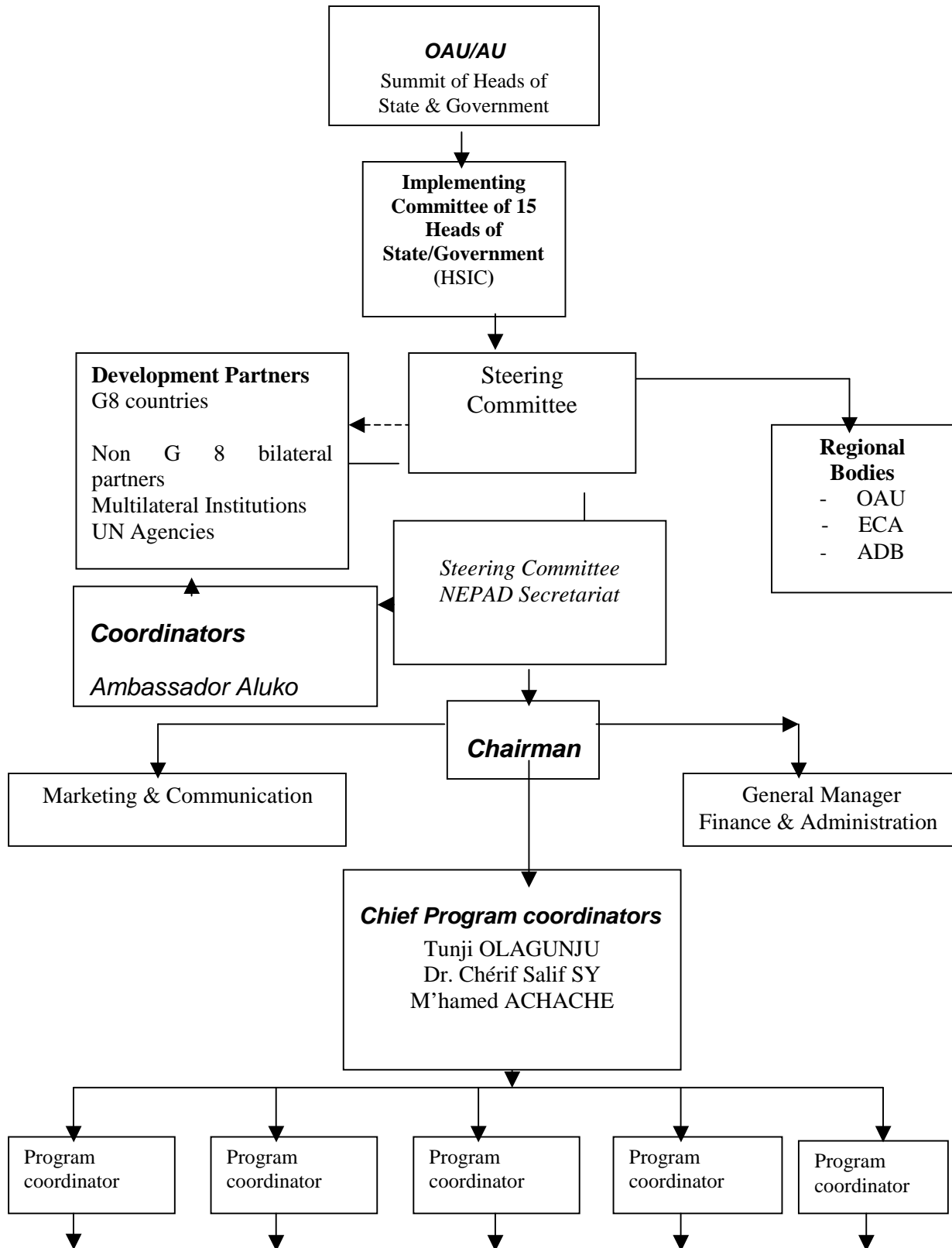
NEPAD does not bring about a *tabula rasa* of what is existing, of traditional cooperation. It aims at finding massive additional resources to finance the deficient sectors by bridging the gaps separating African countries from developed ones. In this respect, NEPAD specifically targets concrete objectives which only require financing.

The analyses which have been made for decades are considered today as outdated. Africa requests concrete actions. The memorandum which is currently in process for the G8 summit of Kananaskis in Canada, in June 2002, will submit the proposals of Africa.

However, we can say that the program is conceived to be financed in many ways including the private sector, the international public sector, the partnership between private sector and public sector as well as the Special Drawing Rights, SDR.

Whatever the case, Africa must mobilize its populations, businessmen, men women, young people, workers, farmers, craftsmen, fishermen to seize NEPAD and implement it.

**NEW PARTNERSHIP FOR AFRICA'S DEVELOPMENT (NEPAD)  
Organization Chart**



## SUPERVISION OF NEPAD IMPLEMENTATION



## **ADDRESSES OF NEPAD**

### **NEPAD SECRETARY**

P.O Box 1234  
Midrand – Halfway House 1685  
South Africa  
Tel. : + 27 11 313 3672  
Fax : + 27 11 313 3684  
Mobile : + 27 82459 32022  
Website : <http://www.nepad.org>  
E-mail : [wisemann@dbsa.org](mailto:wisemann@dbsa.org)

### **POLITICAL GOVERNANCE**

**H.E. Olusegun OBASANJO**  
President of the Federal Republic of  
**Nigeria**  
PO Box  
Tel. : + 234 92 34 49 80 /81 82  
Fax : + 234 93 14 347/2343 523 1450

### **ECONOMIC GOVERNANCE AND CAPITAL FLOWS**

**H.E. Thabo MBEKI**  
President of the Republic of South  
**Africa**  
PO Box  
Tel. : + 27 12 236 581  
Fax : + 27 12 323 8246/ 461 4987

### **INFRASTRUCTURES, ENVIRONMENT, ICT, ENERGY**

**H.E Abdoulaye WADE**  
President of the Republic of Senegal  
PO Box  
Tel. : + 221 823 97 19  
Fax : + 221 823 17 02  
Website : <http://nepadsn.org>  
Email : [abdoulaye.wade@nepadsn.org](mailto:abdoulaye.wade@nepadsn.org)

### **HUMAN DÉVELOPPEMENT**

**H.E Abdelaziz BOUTEFLIKA**  
President of the Republic of Algeria  
PO Box  
Tel. : + 213 21 26 91 515  
Fax : + 213 21 609 618 / 686 463  
Website  
Email :

**Follow-up of the Summit of Heads of State and Government of Dakar  
15, 16 and 17 April 2002 on the partnership with the Private sector  
for the financing of NEPAD**

---

**Central Site : <http://www.nepad.org>  
Conference site : <http://www.nepadsn.org>  
Conference followup site : <http://www.nepadsn.org/followup.html>**

Note: The follow up web site publishes a list of regional or continental african projects.  
The projects may be sorted out by region or by sector.