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Statement by

Mr. Khaled BENHAMADI
First Secretary

To

the plenary session of the General Assembly on

The New Partnership for Africa’s Development: Progress in implementation and international support

[Agenda item 63 (a)]

17 octobre 2014
Mr. President,

Allow me at the outset to thank you for convening this important meeting and by the same token, welcome Dr Ibrahim Assane MAYAKI, CEO of the Nepad Planning and Coordinating Agency.

Algeria welcomes the report of the Secretary General on Nepad and the insights it provides. We also wish to thank the Office of the Special Advisor on Africa for their valuable work in enhancing international support for Africa’s development thanks its advocacy and analytical work.

My delegation associates itself with the statement made by the distinguished Permanent Representative of Malawi on behalf of the African Group.

Mr. President

Launched in Abuja in 2001 to spearhead the African Renaissance, the idea of NEPAD is born out of the political imperative for Africans to rely primarily on themselves, to lift the continent out of poverty, and to bring to an end the marginalization of Africa from the globalization process.

For that purpose, NEPAD has placed the questions of Peace, Security, Democracy, Good governance, Human Rights, Women’s empowerment and sound economic management at the heart of sustainable development.

While recognizing the political, economic and social difficulties that have beset Africa’s development for decades, NEPAD is also the expression of Africa’s will to establish a new partnership anchored in the principles of African leadership and, above all, ownership.

Mr. President,

As the international community is about to embark on the elaboration of the Post-2015 Development Agenda, it is crucial that Africa be given special attention in the process. For its part, the African Union has successfully adopted, over a year ago, the Common African Position (CAP) on the Post-2015 Development Agenda.
In addition to reaffirming the Rio Principles, in particular that of “common but differentiated responsibilities”, the CAP also reiterates the principles of the right to development and equity, mutual accountability and responsibility. The CAP will also ensure a policy space for nationally tailored policies and programmers of Africa, including appropriate support for the implementation of NEPAD.

Moreover, by adopting peace and security as its fifth pillar, in order to achieve sustainable and inclusive development that truly leaves no-one behind, the CAP also gives special attention to peoples living in states experiencing or recovering from high levels of violence.

**Mr. President,**

After a decade of implementation, NEPAD, as a program of the African Union, produced a number of encouraging results.

The promotion of infrastructure development, as a driving force for Africa’s integration and development, led to the adoption, in 2010, of the Program of Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA) by the AU’s Heads of States.

With respect to the implementation of the project championed by Algeria to complete the Trans-Sahara Highway and gas pipeline, which would link Algeria and Nigeria, we are pleased to note that the securing of $40 million to finance the “Missing link of the trans-Saharan highway” project, covering more than 4,500 km, will allow the project to be completed by 2016.

We further note with satisfaction, the optic fiber component of the project, linking Algeria, Niger and Nigeria has witnessed substantial progress, with 60% of the project being completed.

Significant progress has also been made within the Comprehensive Africa Development Program (CAADP). The latter aims at achieving a 6% growth rate of the agricultural sector through the allocation of 10% of national budgets. Today, 45 countries have committed themselves to CAADP of which 39 have already adopted a national agriculture investment plan.
Mr. President,

Although progress has been made in the past year in accelerating growth and social development, persistent challenges, including limited progress towards the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals, linger on.

As such, sustained international support will be crucial if Africa is to meet internationally agreed development goals including and through a global partnership for development.

To this end, we call on the development partners to pursue efforts to deliver on their commitments to Africa, including those relating to ODA, which has witnessed a decline of 5.6% in 2013.

All stakeholders need to make a strong push in favor of Africa’s development, the only region that is unlikely to attain the MDGs by 2015. In this context, we welcome the Secretary General’s report on the review of the implementation of the commitments made towards Africa’s development, as this is likely to step up efforts towards their full realization.

Mr. President,

We know too well that the world’s prosperity cannot be achieved without that of Africa. Africa’s efforts to eradicate poverty and hunger, create jobs and ensure sustainable development must be complemented by sustained support from the developing partners.

As the international community pursues its work in defining the new agenda, ensuring that its efforts fully reflect African needs and priorities, will go a long way to strengthening the continent’s progress while consolidating its recent development gains.

I thank you