

**Remarks delivered by H.E. Mr. Paul Heinbecker
Ambassador and Permanent Representative
of Canada to the United Nations at the
International Peace Academy Seminar on
NEPAD: African Initiative, New Partnership
New York, July 16, 2002.**

- Africa was the focal point of the Kananaskis Summit, as Prime Minister Chrétien said it would be.

- Two factors underlay the decision by G8 Leaders to concentrate on Africa:
 - Africa's need is unique, e.g. as the only continent where poverty is on the rise, and where average life-span lags the region with the next-shortest life-span by over a decade;

 - In the *New Partnership for Africa's Development* (NEPAD), African Leaders offered a realistic and comprehensive strategy to address that crisis.

 - They undertook both to involve themselves in its implementation and to hold each other accountable to that end.

- The G8 will remain engaged on Africa (although no item bar the economy figures permanently on the G8 agenda):

- The Summit hosted by President Chirac in France on 1-3 June 2003 is likely to have significant African content.

- The G8 Africa Action Plan adopted by G8 Leaders at Kananaskis on June 27th is the G8's response to the NEPAD:
 - It reflects consultation -- but not negotiation, NEPAD having not been negotiated with the G8 -- with African partners throughout the year leading up to Kananaskis, including:
 - (i) consultations by G8 Leaders, e.g. by PM Chrétien during his visit to Africa and by other G8 Leaders during their travels, in hosting meetings in their own countries, and/or on the margins of CHOGM, Monterrey and other international meeting;

 - (ii) five sets of discussions between G8 Personal Representatives for Africa and either the five members of the NEPAD Steering Committee and/or the Personal Representatives of the 15 Members of the NEPAD Implementation Committee of Heads of State and Government – i.e. the NEPAD leadership agreed by African Heads of State at Abuja in October; and

 - (iii) ongoing consultations between G8 representatives and key African institutions

such

as the ECA.

- The four leaders of the NEPAD Implementation Committee (Nigeria/Obasanjo, Chairman; Algeria/Bouteflika and Senegal/Wade, Vice-Chairmen; and South Africa/Mbeki, Convenor) and the UN Secretary-General participated in Kananaskis through most of the second day.
 - First non-G8 Leaders ever to have participated directly in a G8 Summit.
- The G8 Africa Action Plan represents a first step in a new partnership with Africa.
- G8 Leaders have accepted the invitation to partnership extended by African Leaders through the NEPAD initiative.
- The Africa Action Plan complements existing G8 commitments and initiatives, including:
 - i) on debt relief (HIPC),
 - ii) on broader commitments, such as to the Millennium Development Goals and

- iii) on country-led development processes based on Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers.

- The Action Plan contains two parts:
 - first, a narrative section outlining, in conjunction with the NEPAD, the parameters of the new partnership, including:
 - (i) a reaffirmation of a continent-wide partnership based on human dignity and need, and
 - (ii) enhanced partnership by each G8 partner with selected African countries demonstrably committed to implementing the NEPAD in all its aspects, including governance and economic management;

 - second, specific commitments in those crucial areas in which the G8 is able to add particular value at this time: peace and security; governance; education; health; economic growth; agriculture and water;

 - The intention is that both the Action Plan and the new partnership will evolve and expand over time.

- The G8 Africa Action Plan imposes no new conditionality.

- It gives emphasis to the principles and arrangements (e.g. peer-review) that are contained in the NEPAD itself, put there by African Leaders for Africa's benefit.

- The Africa Action Plan constitutes a framework for mutually-reinforcing action by the G8 partners.
 - After all, the G8 possess no Secretariat or mechanism for joint action on the ground.

- At Kananaskis, G8 Leaders put forward the financial resources needed to give effect to the commitments contained in the Action Plan – specifically, they agreed to direct to Africa half or more of the new ODA commitments they announced at Monterrey, *if* African countries implement the Action Plan:
 - this stands to add US\$6 billion in ODA for Africa each year as of 2006 (or US\$60 billion over ten years).

 - This is in addition to existing ODA (the G8 accounts for almost three-quarters of ODA to Africa);

 - It is also in addition to the much greater private-sector financial resources that

both the Action Plan and the NEPAD seek to encourage.

- [In Canada's case, the PM established a \$500 million Canada Fund for Africa in the December 2001 budget.
 - At Kananaskis, he said that at least half of the 8% annual increase in ODA announced at Monterrey would go to Africa.
 - That amounts, altogether, to some \$6 billion in new and existing ODA for Africa over the next five years].
- G8 Leaders also put in place arrangements to ensure effective implementation of the Action Plan and the commitments contained therein.
 - The mandates of their Personal Representatives for Africa (the first-ever parallel Sherpa process in the G8) were extended for an additional (and final) year;
 - Leaders undertook to review progress at the next Summit on the basis of a final report from the Personal Representatives.
 - [Canada is putting in place a government-wide implementation process].

- At Kananaskis, the Prime Minister announced an ambitious package of national initiatives in support of the Africa Action Plan, including:
 - opening our market to imports from LDCs tariff- and quota-free, with only the most minor of exceptions (i.e. supply-managed goods); and,
 - establishing an African Investment Fund with \$100 million in federal funding.

- It is Important to remember, though, that the Africa Action Plan is a political response to NEPAD as a political initiative.

- NEPAD is not a pledging document.

- Neither it nor the G8 Africa Action Plan should be defined primarily in terms of political resources.
 - Both parties to this new partnership must be reasonable in their expectations: African partners, regarding resources; and G8 partners, regarding the speed at which the very deep economic and political reforms that NEPAD seeks to accomplish can be achieved.

- The African Leaders who were present at Kananaskis welcomed the Action Plan as a strong basis for the new partnership.

- If NEPAD is implemented, we believe that resources will flow.

- The very purpose of the NEPAD is to put in place the conditions necessary to ensure that Africa receives a greater share of financial resources, public and – more importantly, in terms of amount – private.

- The G8 Africa Action Plan is, of course, binding on G8 countries only, but we invite cooperation by other donors.
 - Representatives of major non-G8 donors to Africa were invited to participate in the evolving G8-NEPAD dialogue;

 - G8 Leaders committed themselves to continuing the G8-NEPAD dialogue.

 - I believe that non-G8 donors will be invited to remain engaged.

