

CIVIL SOCIETY RECOMMENDATIONS TO TICAD IV LUSAKA REGIONAL PREPARATION MEETING 30th-31st October 2007

Preamble:

Civil society commends all TICAD initiatives aimed at enhancing Africa growth and development.

Civil society has an active role to play in shaping and enriching the TICAD processes, including participatory planning and monitoring and evaluation of the TICAD outcomes. However, to date, the involvement of civil society has not been institutionalized. In addition, TICAD has not been fully discussed in the public domain and hence remains a closed government to government dialogue.

The active participation of the civil society organizations in the development process is essential if the benefits of Africa's positive economic growth are to be felt and owned by all citizens.

Promoting inclusiveness and participation of all citizens enhances good governance and commitment to consolidation of peace and democratization.

To enhance the TICAD process, we, as civil society, present the following recommendations;

Recommendations:

TICAD Processes

1. Institutionalize civil society participation in the TICAD.
 - a. The current structures and proposed processes need to include civil society.
2. TICAD processes should facilitate participatory planning that incorporates all stakeholders, particularly marginalized groups including women, youth and people with disabilities.
 - a. The planning should develop clear, measurable, time bound deliverable that can be monitored and evaluated by all stakeholders.
3. Noting the essence of ownership at all levels, TICAD should put in place mechanisms that guarantee and promote public awareness and participation.

Economic Growth, Investment and Trade

1. Strengthen regional economic communities to enhance development of trade within Africa
2. African governments should devise trade policies that support and protect local producers and exporters
3. To promote pro-poor investment there is need for commitment to :
 - Participatory policy design and implementation
 - Investment should have a good component on human resource development and retention
4. Governments should ensure that investment is guided and driven by a commitment to:
 - Internal value addition and clear forward and backward linkages.
 - Job creation within Africa.
5. Instituting a framework within which small producers and marginalized people such as women and people with disabilities are genuinely supported to access capital and create wealth.

Human Security

1. Harmonize and integrate policies and interventions on critical health issues including, infectious diseases and child and maternal health.
2. Ensure provision of quality universal education, especially for girls and orphaned and Vulnerable Children, by investing in relevant human resource and technical development programs as well as by indigenizing and transforming the education sector.
3. Support the growth and development of African institutions which promote peace and democratization.
4. Mainstream needs of people with disabilities in infrastructure investment and development.

Climate Change and Environment

To combat climate change there is need to:

1. Urgently support the development and ratification of a comprehensive global response to climate change.
2. Support reforestation initiatives, appropriate water harvesting techniques, alternative sources of livelihoods and energy.
3. Recognize, harness and utilize Indigenous Knowledge Systems in combating causes of climate change.
4. Develop policies and laws that are pro-poor and promote equitable and fair ownership of land as a key resource.