



NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency  
Agence de Planification et de Coordination du NEPAD

## Thematic Area: African Peer Review Mechanism



As part of the APRM there are periodic reviews of the participating countries to assess progress being made towards achieving the mutually agreed goals. It is important to note that there is no conditionality attached to the peer review mechanism.

### How does the APRM work?

Structurally the peer review mechanism is constituted as such:

- The Committee of Participating Heads of State and Government (APR Forum) is the highest decision making authority in the APRM;
- The Panel of Eminent Persons (APR Panel) oversees the review process to ensure integrity, considers reports and makes recommendations to the APR Forum;
- The APRM Secretariat provides secretarial, technical, coordinating and administrative support for the APRM; and
- The Country Review Mission Team (CRM Team) visits member states to review progress and produce an APRM Report on the country.



The APRM process looks at four focus areas:

### Democracy and good political governance

This area looks at ensuring that member state constitutions reflect the democratic ethos, provide accountable governance and that political representation is promoted, allowing all citizens to participate in the political process in a free and fair political environment.

### Economic governance and management

Good economic governance including transparency in financial management is an essential pre-requisite for promoting economic growth and reducing poverty.

### Corporate governance

This area focuses on promoting ethical principles, values and practices that are in line with broader social and economic goals to benefit all citizens. It works to promote a sound framework for good corporate governance.



NEPAD believes that it is critical that African development and regional co-operation programmes take place in the context of good economic and political governance. The African Peer Review Mechanism is a mutually agreed programme, voluntarily adopted by the member states of the African Union, to promote and re-enforce high standards of governance. The peer review mechanism is a self-monitoring mechanism. APRM's mandate is to ensure that the policies and practices of participating countries conform to the agreed values in the following four focus areas:

- Democracy and Good Political Governance.
- Economic Governance & Management.
- Corporate Governance.
- Socio-economic Development.

### Socio-economic Development

Poverty can only be effectively tackled through the promotion of democracy, good governance, peace and security as well as the development of human and physical resources.

### What progress has been made so far?

As of the 29 January 2011, APRM counted 30 member states: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso,

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Cameroon, Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome & Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda and Zambia.

Between January 2006 and May 2011, 14 member countries has been peer reviewed: Ghana, Rwanda, Kenya, South Africa, Algeria, Benin, Uganda, Nigeria, Burkina Faso, Mali, Mozambique, Lesotho, Mauritius and Ethiopia. At least 3 more countries are scheduled to be reviewed in 2011.

The APRM has considerably improved its assessment tools which will be implemented after their approval by the next Forum of Heads of State and Government scheduled in late June or early July 2011.

They comprise:

- A new and more comprehensive questionnaire with more quantitative and qualitative indicators.
- A new research protocol.
- A new framework for monitoring and evaluation.
- A methodology for second reviews.

#### Who is leading the programme?

The programme is lead by Assefa Shifa,

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