



CLUB DU SAHEL

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Ministerial Lobby Group

DRAFT NOTE FOR THE BAMAKO SUMMIT

Dakar, 28-29 October 2000

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OVERVIEW

1. Draft Declaration of the Heads of State

We, Heads of State meeting in Bamako for the thirteenth Summit of Heads of State and of Government:

- *reaffirm our unshakeable commitment to international co-operation based on the interests of the people, mutual respect and solidarity;*
- *approve the initiative taken to set up a Ministerial Lobby Group, the GMAP, as a forum for discussing, formulating proposals and lobbying on issues connected with economic development and co-operation in and among the countries of the Sahel and the West African coast;*
- *unreservedly support the idea of genuine West African leadership in development co-operation with the North, and ownership of policies and programmes by the populations intended to benefit from public policy;*
- *recognise that to give such ownership the best possible chance of success, the institutional and human capacities of the West African countries must be strengthened at all levels: public and private, local and national;*
- *ask the GMAP to help open up the debate on economic development and co-operation to all sections of society, by means of an appropriate forum; and through this forum, to define a West African position;*
- *ask the GMAP, with the support of our development partners, to launch a vast initiative on regional development, taking an integrated, regional approach to the development of our countries and our communities, viewed as a single zone. This development initiative will have to produce a regional strategy and a programme of actions in the vital fields of infrastructure, human resources, production and environment;*
- *ask our partners to support such a regional development initiative by working for successful reform in the fields of regional integration, co-operation practices and food security.*

2. What the GMAP Intends to Do

The GMAP, in accordance with the Declaration of Heads of State, intends:

1. to devise an integrated development strategy and a regional programme of investment and action based on wide-reaching consultations with the region's development stakeholders. Strategy and programme will be based on sectoral analyses carried out with the support of the Club du Sahel and CILSS. These studies should take two to three years to complete, and should result in the GMAP making a definite proposal to the Heads of State;
2. to facilitate experimental reforms of co-operation practices, at both national and regional levels. These experiments will be run by teams of donors and beneficiaries volunteering to take part. Countries already involved in the aid reform process (Mali, Burkina Faso, Senegal, Ghana and Gambia) are the first targets for such experiments;
3. with the help of CILSS, to propose a regional food security strategy;
4. to propose a methodology, and possible avenues, for rationalising the region's inter-governmental organisations.

3. How the GMAP Intends to Organise

GMAP will be examining and discussing its missions and its method of work and financing, so as to identify options that match its ambitions. Whatever the method decided on, it will foster the GMAP's financial and administrative independence (secretariat) within a simple, flexible organisational framework. The problems of co-opting and appointing the Chairs will also be addressed.

4. Conclusions Expected from the Special Meeting in Bamako

- Commitment by the donors, to support the regional development initiative and, as a priority, support investments designed to further regional integration; donor commitment to extend their strategic frameworks for poverty reduction and economic development to the region as a whole.
- Commitment by recipient countries and donors, to support the GMAP in its programme of activities;
- Commitment by the GMAP, to work for the creation of a West African forum open to all sections of society;
- Commitment by those donors and recipient countries that volunteer for this task, to run practical experiments in co-operation reform in clearly identified sectors (untying aid, rationalising conditionalities, capacity building, competitive bid process, etc.)

5. Annotated Agenda for Bamako

At the technical meeting to be held on the afternoon of 23 November and the morning of 24 November, the GMAP and the co-operation agencies will examine and discuss the above four undertakings. The afternoon

of 24 November will be reserved for the "political" session chaired by President Konaré, which should be attended by the development co-operation Ministers and the co-operation agency directors.

The GMAP could nominate a Minister to take responsibility for each commitment:

- **Commitment 1:** Commitment by the donors, to support the regional development initiative and, as a priority, support investments designed to further regional integration; donor commitment to extend their strategic frameworks for poverty reduction and economic development to the region as a whole.

Development partners and GMAP will have to discuss the details of this task, given that this issue has already been addressed by the Club Strategy and Policy Group and met with that group's approval. A half-hour's discussion should be sufficient.

- **Commitment 2:** Commitment by recipient countries and donors, to support the GMAP in its programme of activities.

The GMAP should come to the meeting with sector-by-sector proposals. From the Sahel 21 papers, the GMAP's sectoral proposals for African integration (workshop at the 2-3 October meeting in Paris) and the Yverdon manifesto, it will be easy to identify sectors for which the partners can at least agree they have no objections to the GMAP moving ahead towards practical proposals. This discussion might take 1 1/2 hours to 2 hours.

- **Commitment 3:** Commitment by the GMAP, to work for the creation of a West African forum open to all sections of society.

Discussion will mainly concern the make-up of the forum and how equivalent fora in the North operate. A work schedule can be proposed for setting up the forum. This discussion could last an hour.

- **Commitment 4:** Commitment by those donors and recipient countries that volunteer for this task, to run practical experiments in co-operation reform in clearly identified sectors (untying aid, rationalising conditionalities, capacity building, trade deals etc.).

The discussions will have to hinge on the GMAP's proposals. The GMAP, having previously identified the West African countries willing to take part in this exercise, will table their proposals. Countries of the North that wish to participate will then be able to choose which experiments they want to take part in. This discussion could take 1 1/2 to 2 hours.