



**PAPA REPORT TO THE 5TH ORDINARY SESSION OF THE  
AFRICAN UNION LABOUR AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS  
COMMISSION**

**16 – 21 April 2007, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**

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Secretary General**

# 1. BACKGROUND

The Pan African Productivity Association (PAPA) primary objectives is to: provide a forum for promoting and sharing ideas and experiences on strategies, techniques and practices for productivity enhancement; encourage and nurture the development of a productivity culture in African economies; foster co-operation and collaboration between national productivity organizations and other related bodies in Africa and internationally; facilitate the establishment and development of national productivity organizations in Africa and facilitate and promote tripartism in enhancing productivity. Our goal is to establish a dynamic and effective partnership with regional economic and social development organizations in Africa to develop and expand an Africa-wide productivity movement to grow the economy and contribute to an improved quality of lives of Africans. We believe that we can achieve this goal if we work closely within the African Union Labour and Social affairs Commission.

The Board of Directors has worked hard to establish strategic partnerships with organizations within and outside the continent to build and strengthen the institutional capacity of PAPA as well engaged in a membership drive to encourage all the countries in the continent to become members.

## 1.1 PAPA Membership

The active members of PAPA are:

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- Botswana National Productivity Centre - Botswana
- Productivity Centre of Kenya - Kenya
- National Productivity and Competitiveness Council - Mauritius
- National Productivity Centre - Nigeria
- Productivity SA - South Africa
- Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs – Zambia

## 1.2 Core focus

The core priorities of PAPA currently are to:

- advocate for and assist with the establishment of National Productivity Organizations (NPO) in Africa
- act as a forum for disseminating and sharing information on productivity
- provide technical support to new and existing NPOs
- To strengthen the productivity movement regionally as well as continent wide

# 2. PAPA ACTIVITIES

## 2.1 Strategic Partnerships

PAPA has identified the need to work closely with identified regional structures:

- Southern African Development Community (SADC)
- Common Market of Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)
- Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)
- East African Economic Community (EAEC)
- Maghreb (Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia)
- Nepad

## **2.2 Key Achievements 2006/7**

### **2.2.1. Strategic partnership between PAPA & Asian Productivity Organization**

The Productivity SA as PAPA secretariat established the strategic partnership between PAPA and the Asian Productivity Association (APO).

During 2005 the Productivity SA/PAPA presented a partnership proposal to the Asian Productivity Association (APO)'s on areas of possible cooperation to assist in the capacity building of the PAPA member countries.

As a result, the APO sent a delegation on a fact-finding mission to South Africa, Botswana and Kenya to gain insight into the status of the productivity movement in Africa, in particular the institutional capacity and activities of the national productivity organizations (NPOs) in those countries, as well as current the status of PAPA.

PAPA and APO developed a plan of action focusing on projects to develop and strengthen PAPA. The following activities were undertaken during this period:

- ✓ Hosting the PAPA/APO Roundtable Conference on the Promotions of Productivity Movement in Africa and each participating country from Africa developed their productivity movement master-plan, as well as the overall PAPA master-plan for PAPA. The African countries that participated were: Botswana, Kenya, Mauritius, Tanzania, Zambia and Nigeria and Technical resources experts from Asia were from: Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.
- ✓ Productivity Specialists Training Workshop in the Philippines were PAPA members participated.

### **2.2.2. Cooperation between the Japanese Productivity Centre for Socio Economic Development (JPC-SED) and PAPA member countries**

The main focus of this partnership is the provision of technical assistance and capacity building programme of the PAPA members. During this period of reporting the following activities were undertaken:

- ✓ Top Officials Study mission on productivity Promotion to Japan and Thailand funded by JPC-SED
- ✓ Productivity Promotion training in Japan of PAPA member countries

### **2.2.3. The Commonwealth Secretariat and PAPA partnership**

The Commonwealth Secretariat has approved a Capacity Building project aimed at building the capacity of national productivity in the SADC member countries and East African Community a task group has been established to develop an action plan and the Botswana Productivity Centre is leading the process.

#### **2.2.4. Information Sharing on Productivity and technical assistance**

The PAPA Secretariat continues to provide technical assistance and share information on productivity promotion and interventions to existing national productivity organizations and those that want to start the productivity organizations in Africa, to help set up their own productivity institutions or help with various capacity building programmes for their staff.

### **3. PAPA Governance**

- During this period of reporting the PAPA General Assembly took place in South Africa and two successful PAPA Board meetings were held in 2006. The current Board of Directors are:

- Mr Thembo Lebang, Botswana            President
- Dr Sefiya Ajayi , Nigeria            1st Vice-President
- Ms Purity Kamau, Kenya            2nd Vice-President
- Mr Arthur Choobe, Zambia            Board member
- Dr Krishna Coonjan, Mauritius            Board member
- Dr Yvonne Dladla, SA            Secretary General

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### **4. Challenges**

- ✓ Membership drive has not yielded desired outcome as the major of the participating countries are still concentrated in the Southern African region, we aim at ensuring that all African countries are represented.
- ✓ Institutional strengthening and establish a permanent PAPA secretariat with adequate funding to support PAPA programme of action