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Dept. of Foreign Affairs

PRIME MINISTER · PREMIER MINISTRE

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Africa was the focus of the G8 Summit in Kananaskis in June 2002. The challenges confronting Africa are compelling and African leaders have put forward a compelling response — the New Partnership for Africa's Development. NEPAD offers a practical program of action to respond to Africa's need and to build upon Africa's potential. At Kananaskis, G8 leaders adopted the G8 Africa Action Plan in support of NEPAD. At Evian, in June 2003, we will review the progress made in implementing this action plan. This report demonstrates how Canada is delivering on its commitments under the G8 Africa Action Plan.

The New Partnership for Africa's Development and the G8 Africa Action Plan mark a new departure point in the relationship between G8 and African countries. We created a blueprint for a new relationship. Now action must follow. For African countries, this means giving life to the principles and objectives that are contained in NEPAD. For G8 countries, it means bringing into effect our Africa Action Plan, making our development assistance more effective and ensuring that we are open for business with Africa. For the business community, it means reassessing business opportunities in Africa as the new conditions that NEPAD seeks to create take hold. For civil society generally, taking action means working with African partners in support of the continent's renewal.

The G8 partnership with NEPAD is for the long term. I am personally committed to do everything I can to ensure that Africa's need and potential are not ignored, and to work with African partners to ensure that we seize the opportunity that NEPAD provides.

Jean Chitien

O T T A W A 2003