African Group Talking Points on « Africa »
By the delegation of Senegal to the IPM/CSD17

1- The cluster of “Africa”, which is under consideration, is of primary importance for the African Group.

2- Its choice is not fortuitous, as it comes from the acknowledgement that the African continent is lacking behind, when it comes to the achievement of the international agreed development goals (IADGs), in particular the MDGs.

3- The remarks by Sudan on behalf of the G77 as well as the policy options paper submitted in that regard largely cover what our Group expect from CSD 17 as decisions and measures to be adopted;

4- Such remarks have the merit to be clear and precise enough, for us to feel the need to repeat them. Therefore the Group fully endorses them.

5- As it has been highlighted in the presentations of the distinguished panelists, the problems of Africa’s development are well known.

6- Despite important positive efforts deployed by African countries to tackle the poverty, to enhance access to clean water and to modern sanitation systems, to regain economic growth, to improve governance and promote stability; in short efforts to fulfill all the requirements for an effective sustainable development, multiple constraints remain and necessitate bold measures to address them.
7- To avoid being repetitive we believe of the statement made by the Representative of Senegal, Chairman of the African Group at the opening of this IPM, and which would be perfectly suitable to the current discussion, we will then confine ourselves on few elements with regard to the bold measures needed.

8- Implementing the above will require a Real Global Partnership for Development which will allow Africa a successful bet on development and will integrate, on the part of the international community, among others, the following imperatives:

- Adoption of urgent measures in order to find a lasting solution to the food security, in particular in promoting more investments and diversification of the Agriculture in Africa;

- Greater investments in productive sectors, including agriculture, to contribute to the economic growth and help reduce migration;

- Sustainable preservation of the environment and of the natural resources; combating drought and desertification;

- Real transfer of appropriate technologies and knowledge at affordable costs.

- Promotion of a fair and equitable international Trade, and a free market access.

- Urgent fulfillment of all Aid commitments.

- Settlement of the Debt problem for all African countries, by eradicating the multilateral and bilateral Debt of Africa.

9- The above measures are indispensable for a prosperous Africa.

10- Many Thanks.