



TICAD III

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About the Global Coalition for Africa

The Global Coalition for Africa (GCA) is a North-South forum that brings together leaders from Africa and their principal external partners to examine Africa's most critical social and economic development issues. It seeks to promote consensus on policies and programmes of action and monitor the results. The GCA is based on the premise that Africa can grow only if there is effort from within, but that it also needs sustained and well-coordinated outside support and strong collaboration with its external partners. With sweeping changes around the world, the GCA strives to keep Africa on the global agenda and to mobilize the necessary international support to match Africa's commitments to economic and political change.

Policy guidance for the GCA is provided by its Co-Chairpersons, who also determine the GCA's work programme on an annual basis. The GCA Co-Chairpersons are President Festus Mogae of Botswana, Prime Minister Meles Zenawi of Ethiopia, Former President Alpha Oumar Konaré of Mali, Speaker Frene Ginwala of the South African National Assembly, former Secretary of State Clare Short of the United Kingdom, Minister Susan Whelan of Canada, and Minister Hilde F. Johnson of Norway. Former President Sir Ketumile Masire of Botswana, former Minister Jan Pronk of the Netherlands, and former World Bank President Robert McNamara are Co-Chairpersons Emeritus. The Secretariat, based in Washington, DC, is headed by Mr. Hage Geingob.

The GCA's ultimate governing body is a plenary of all its members—involving African governments and their bilateral, multilateral, and non-governmental partners—which met for the third time in Gaborone, Botswana, in October 2001.

Between plenary meetings the GCA's work is guided by a Policy Forum comprising representatives of African and Northern countries, together with representatives of international and regional organizations. Parliamentarians, civil society and private sector representatives also participate in GCA meetings.

The GCA's agenda is focused on the following broad themes:

- Peace and security, including conflict management and security sector reform.
- Governance and transition to democracy, including anti-corruption, democratic accountability and peaceful political succession.
- Sustainable growth and integration into the global economy, including regional integration, the private sector, and agriculture.