

**SAS Talking Notes on Leadership and Accountability Roundtable Discussion,  
AU High Level Retreat of Peace Envoys, Sunday 4th Sept 2011, Cairo, Egypt**

1. Greetings

2. Accountability

- To whom and for what?
- The continent has experienced significant improvements on promotion of Good Governance before but with drawbacks. Why?

3. What does Good Governance Entails and mechanisms to build, maintain and perpetuate good governance and accountability;

I. Institutions;

- Why institutions are important as we can't depend on good will of leaders?
- Critical to have institutions guaranteed democratic dispensation.
- Constitutionalism as paramount to leadership for good governance.
- Term limit has become litmus to state of democratic progress and respect to constitution by leaders in the continent. Constitution should never be changed to suit individual interest.
- Constitution to establish and empower institutions for genuine people participation in elections, policy process and decisions for knowledge sharing, ownership, legitimacy.
- Rule of law by the leaders for the people - Partial and Independent Judges and Magistrates.

II. Leadership

- Its intricacies as challenges or opportunities to accountability.
- The continent has been suffering with the drawback a type of leadership.
- Move towards leadership as a totality of things and not just the head of state.
- Essence of Leadership – Integrity, knowledge, vision (intergenerational)
- Intent – Personal Vs Peoples interests.
- Need of supporting Institutions like credible social-political environment for good and effective leadership.
- Leadership is crucial to the country to develop.

### III. Citizenry;

- Having active, informed and responsible citizenry.
- Leaders to lead in creating and maintaining the environment to allow people speak their minds.
- Inspire, Build and Nurture culture milieu to ensure accountability.
- Building and consolidating culture of tolerance for democracy to prosper.
- Civic education for establishing responsible citizenry and for elections only.

### 4. Need to empower

- Women – Their roles and recognition. The continent has registered tremendous improvements women position and welfare. However are still marginalized when come to sharing power and responsibility
- Youth are what Africa is today. Embody continents' values, interests and aspirations - How to organize and engage them.
- Disadvantaged social groups - Equity in distribution of national wealth and power.

### 5. Corruption

- A harbinger for both democracy and economic development.
- Obstacle in ensuring good leaders, good governance and accountability.
- Ingredient for weak and failed states.
- A challenge on how to overcome corruption to ensure delivery, ownership, trust as goods of leadership.

### 6. Experiences to recall;

- Many leaders preach what they don't do.
- There has been a tremendous lacuna between declarations and no actions.

### 7. Conclusion; Regional integration is crucial for learning and exchange of good practices among countries.