



African Development Bank Framework¹

1. The Country Strategy Paper (CSP) normally prepared every three years for each AfDB Group regional member country and updated yearly, represents the framework of assistance by the Bank Group¹ for promoting poverty reduction and sustainable economic growth in its regional member countries, small and large. The document is prepared using participatory approach to ensure ownership of development strategy by member countries and the participation of the various stakeholders in strategic development decision and debate. The allocation of AfDB Group resources in support of member countries development agenda is based on country performance, which is assessed annually.
2. For the African island countries, the Mahe declaration and program of action, which emanated from the African Island Countries Ministerial Meeting held in Seychelles in July 1998, represent a major step by the AfDB Group to articulate a special initiative for sustainable development of, and poverty reduction in, these countries given their special vulnerability as small island states. The Mahe Program of action for the African Small Islands Developing Countries is being operationalized within the context of the country strategy paper for each country. The Mahe program of action puts a great deal of emphasis on regional co-operation among the small islands countries and the need for their effective integration into the African continental and global economy.
3. In furtherance of its regional integration promotion mandate, the AfDB Group is in the process of putting in place a regional integration policy to facilitate economic co-operation and regional integration including the financing of multinational projects and programs.

¹ This text is extracted from *Small States: Meeting Challenges in the Global Economy*, Report of the Commonwealth Secretariat/World Bank Joint Task Force on Small States, Washington DC and London, April 2000.