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**REPORT OF THE AU JOINT CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS OF  
AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT,  
FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE,  
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA, 28 APRIL – 2 MAY 2014**

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RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE**

**28 April– 2 May 2014**

**Addis Ababa, ETHIOPIA**

**AU/JMARF&A/MIN/Rpt  
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*Transforming Africa's Agriculture for shared prosperity and improved  
livelihoods: Harnessing Opportunities for Inclusive Growth and  
Sustainable Development*

**REPORT OF THE AU JOINT CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS OF  
AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FISHERIES  
AND AQUACULTURE  
1-2 May 2014, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**

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**I. INTRODUCTION**

1. The AU Joint Conference of Ministers of Agriculture, Rural Development, Fisheries and Aquaculture took place at the African Union Conference Centre in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 28 April - 2 May 2014 as one of a series of events commemorating 2014 as the Year of Agriculture and Food Security in Africa, and a critical part of a process building up to the planned June 2014 AU Summit of the Heads of State and Governments on the theme of the Year, which is expected to adopt a Declaration outlining concrete goals for Africa on agriculture for the next decade. The Year of Agriculture and Food Security in Africa was launched on January 30, 2014 during the 22<sup>nd</sup> Assembly of the Union in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (by Decision (Assembly/AU/Dec.449(XIX) under the theme “*Transforming Africa’s Agriculture for shared prosperity and improved livelihoods: Harnessing Opportunities for Inclusive Growth and Sustainable Development.*”

2. The two day (1-2 May 2014) Conference of Ministers was convened both to review progress on CAADP implementation to date and also to develop goals, actions and targets aimed at achieving the overarching goal of accelerated growth and transformation as well as attaining food and nutrition security and poverty reduction on the continent over the next 10 years. The overall objectives of the meeting was to review progress on investment efforts impacting on production and productivity, access to markets and competitiveness, innovation, resilience, and investment finance, and their implications on the achievement of the overarching goal of attaining food and nutrition security and poverty reduction on the continent.

3. The Ministerial meeting was preceded by a two day meeting of Senior Officials and Experts that took place on 28-29 April 2014 to examine the various documents and prepare report for consideration by the Ministers.

4. A Non-State Actors Stakeholder Forum was convened on 30 April 2014 to facilitate broad based consultations and to make contributions to material feeding into the Ministerial session held on 1 May 2014.

**II. PARTICIPATION**

5. Fifty-three (53) Ministers responsible for Agriculture, Rural Development, Fisheries and Aquaculture representing a total of 47 Member States of the African Union participated in the Joint Conference of Ministers meeting: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Cote d’Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sahrawi Republic, Sao Tome & Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

6. Senior representatives of Regional Economic Communities (RECs) included Common Market of Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), East Africa Community

(EAC), Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), Economic Community of the Western African States (ECOWAS), Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and Southern African Development Community (SADC).

7. Representative from regional organizations, Civil Society Organizations and the private sector included: Sub-Regional Fisheries Commission, Fisheries Committee for West Central Gulf of Guinea, Benguela Current Commission, South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission, Indian Ocean Tuna Commission, Aquaculture Network for Africa, WADAF – Association for Artisanal Fisheries development in West Africa, REPAO- Network of fisheries policies in West Africa, ACEA African Centre of Excellence for Aquaculture, ANAF Aquaculture Network of Africa, Benguela Current Commission, World-wide Fund for Nature, Eco-labelling Mechanism for Africa, Seychelles Apostolat De La Mer, Tunisian Fisheries Development Association, South African United Fishing Front, Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization, Lake Tanganyika Authority, Fish-for-Africa, Infopeche, Ministerial Conference on Fisheries Cooperation among African States Bordering the Atlantic Ocean(COMAFHAT), Funds for the Development of Maritime Fisheries, Commission du Bétail de la Viande et des Ressources Halieutiques, Programme for Regional Coastal Management in West Africa, FISHNET Africa, Commission Régionale des Pêches du Golfe de Guinée, South African Institute for International Affairs, Lilongwe University of agriculture and Natural resources, l'Institut de Sciences Halieutiques de l'Université de Douala, Sierra Leone Institute of Marine Biology and Oceanography, East African Industrial Fishing and Fish Processors Association, Pioneer Fishing Company and NRI-Greenwich University.

8. Representative of development and international partners: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), CGIAR, World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), African Development Bank, the European Union Commission, the World Bank, the German Technical Cooperation(GIZ), and the US Agency for International Development (USAID), UNECA, World Food Program (WFP).

9. Representatives from Caribbean and Pacific regional fisheries organizations: Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism and the Secretariat of the Pacific Nauru Agreement.

10. The AU was represented by the Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture of the African Union Commission (AUC-DREA), its technical office, the African Union Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) and the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA).

### III. OFFICIAL OPENING

11. **Welcome Statement – H.E. Mr Erasmus Mwencha, Deputy Chairperson of the AUC** appreciated the large number and diversity of participants at the conference. He reminded participants that 2014 was a year of reflection, stock-taking and visioning on Africa's agriculture and that a series of activities were being organized for this purpose. The deliberations of the meeting are part of a year-long consultation process. He pointed out that notable achievements had been made in improving agricultural productivity and trade and the continent had shown some stability in food security over the last four years. These positive changes can be attributed to incentive-oriented agricultural policy and institutional reforms which the

CAADP process had helped catalyse. Through concerted efforts by CAADP, coordination, harmonisation and alignment of donors to country priorities has substantially increased and a number of countries had allocated additional resources to agriculture.

**12.** H.E. Mwencha reiterated that the integration process is being fast-tracked with the aim of putting in place a Continental Free Trade Area by 2017, based on the realisation that there is a need to boost intra-African trade and turn it into opportunities for growth, employment and development. He cautioned however that there are other challenges that must be addressed, including low productivity, market access, climate change, and financing, among others. To address these challenges and take advantage of emerging opportunities, the Deputy Chairperson highlighted the actions and plans put together by the African Union: a) the AUC Strategic Plan 2014-17 which is being developed together with RECs and Member States; b) Agenda 2063, a 50 year African Agenda for Africa; and c) an African Union-wide Strategic Framework to provide greater coherence in the actions and initiatives of the African Union, its organs and those of key stakeholders and partners to create better synergies and collaboration to enhance the pace of integration.

**13.** He concluded by calling on the Ministers to outline concrete goals, targets and renew commitments for the next decade, especially during the June 2014 debate at the AU Summit on the Theme of the Year, which is expected to result in a declaration on “Africa’s Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation Goals to be achieved by 2025”.

**14.** Speaking on behalf of Producers and Non State Actors **Mr. Djibo Bagna, Chairperson Pan-African Farmers Organisation (PAFO)** noted that although progress had been made with the implementation of CAADP in the last decade, there were a number of areas that needed attention in order to end hunger and address food insecurity on the continent. These include quantity and quality of agriculture investments, provision of adequate investments for small-scale producers, attention to gender inequality especially related to access to and ownership of land, and actions to around impacts of climate change.

**15.** Actions needed include new policies and strategies to provide women’s land rights and community-based child care, make agriculture more attractive to the youth, and increase investments for smallholders to promote agro-ecological farming approaches.

**16.** NSAs advocate for recognition of farmers as private investors and the need for stakeholder engagement processes that place the smallholder farmer at the centre of decision making and implementation of the agricultural transformation agenda.

**17.** **Roberto Ridolfi, Director of Sustainable Development, EuropeAID, speaking on behalf of Development Partners,** made reference to the CAADP Business Meeting in Durban (March 2014) which approved the partnership framework that lays out clear roles and responsibilities for stakeholders and coordination and accountability mechanisms for delivering efficient CAADP support that is aligned to national and regional priorities.

**18. Development** partners call upon the Ministers to advocate for increased and sustained attention to agricultural transformation, including renewed commitment at the highest level of Member States at the AU Summit in Malabo in June 2014.

**19.** Partners recognised that the CAADP Results Framework is critical and has potential to deepen stakeholder engagement in the CAADP agenda, strengthen multi-sectoral coordination, inter-institutional information sharing, cross-ministerial consultation, and planning.

**20.** To strengthen accountability, harmonised national data collection mechanisms to support evidence based planning, implementation tracking and impact identification will be needed. Many development partners are engaged in supporting these efforts. This effort would benefit from a transparent and global mapping of CAADP support flows.

**21.** Adoption of a few common continental priorities and targets for agricultural transformation will offer partners a clear sense of orientation, leading to better alignment of development assistance and impact. Strong and committed African Leadership will continue to be needed to make this happen.

**22. Bukar Tidjani, Assistant Director General and Regional Representative for Africa, of FAO spoke on behalf of Technical Partners.** He stated that FAO's agenda at the national level was aligned to country priorities. FAO has established Country Frameworks that articulate priority interventions of Governments. The CAADP Results Framework and the Declaration to End Hunger by 2025 provide important points of reference and operational means to focus FAO efforts at the broader continental level. It is only through partnership that we can achieve the outcomes articulated in this framework.

**23.** There are four aspects underpinning the goal of hunger eradication:

- i) **Food and Nutritional Security:** inclusive growth that creates opportunities and incomes for smallholders and improved nutritional and food security outcomes are key goals and challenges on the continent. A 1% increase in GDP driven by agriculture leads to a massive 6% increase in expenditure growth for the poorest 10 percent of the population.
- ii) **Employment Creation for Youth:** Africa has the largest percentage of the world's population (50%) under the age of 25. Every year 11 million youth enter the job market in Africa. Agriculture and the rural sector can provide opportunities for large percentages of African youth.
- iii) **Wealth Creation and Enhancement of Rural Income:** the growing value of African production and value added from the agriculture and food sector is projected at over \$2 trillion dollars by 2030. We need to accelerate efforts to guarantee that African smallholders and youth have the opportunities, resources and capacity to share in this great opportunity.
- iv) **Agriculture-based Industrial Revolution:** Industrializing the agricultural sector will continue to be the main focus to stimulate economic growth. Public and private sector investments need to go beyond improvements

in on-farm productivity to cover agricultural enterprises related to marketing and trade, agribusiness, and agro-industrial development.

24. FAO and all technical partners reaffirm commitment and support to the Member States, Regional Economic Communities, African Union and NEPAD in our collective effort to improve the welfare and prosperity of all Africans.

25. In the **Official Opening Statement, H.E. Ato Silesh Getahun, State Minister of Agriculture of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia**, stated that the agriculture sector plays a central role in the life and livelihood of most Ethiopians. The agricultural sector has been on Ethiopia's priority economic agenda since the early 1990s. The national agricultural strategy will support intensification targeting both domestic and export markets. Growth in agriculture is often the cornerstone of overall economic growth in Ethiopia and a number of sectors are dependent on agriculture. Producing enough food to nourish the increasing population of the future is among the most urgent and compelling problems facing humankind today and attaining food security through sustainable agriculture development thus becomes the prime focus. Lack of appropriate technologies and investment is the main cause of low agricultural productivity. Therefore, there is a need to focus on science and technology, training, and facilitation of learning from best practices. The Minister concluded by emphasising the need to support smallholders to better manage natural resources and deal with the impact of climate change.

#### IV. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

26. Constitution of the Bureau: It was agreed that the current Bureau of the AU would constitute the Bureau for Joint Conference of Ministers. The Bureau was therefore constituted as follows:

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Chair:                      | Islamic Republic of Mauritania          |
| 1st Vice Chair:             | Republic of Zimbabwe                    |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair: | Democratic Republic of the Congo        |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice Chair: | Federal Republic of Nigeria             |
| Rapporteur:                 | Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia |

#### **Adoption of Agenda and Program of Work**

27. The Ministers adopted the agenda and programme of work as presented.

#### V. INTERACTIVE SESSION I

##### **Briefing on Africa Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want:**

28. Mr Mandela Madonsela, Director, Strategic Planning, Policy, Monitoring, Evaluation and Resource Mobilization Department of AUC, shared an overview of Agenda 2063: A Shared Strategic Framework for Inclusive Growth and Sustainable Development.

29. Mr Madonsela noted that the genesis of Agenda 2063 dates back to the 21st Ordinary Session of the Assembly of African Heads of State and Government at the 50th Anniversary of the founding of the OAU/AU, which adopted a declaration

pledging commitment to make progress in Africa in the next 50 years in the following eight areas: i) African Identity and Renaissance; ii) Struggle against Colonialism and Self Determination; iii) Pursuing the Integration Agenda; iv) Social and Economic Development; v) Peace and Security; vi) Democratic Governance; vii) Determining Africa's Destiny; and viii) Africa's Place in the World.

**30.** He noted that the assembly directed that the AUC, with support from AfDB, UNECA and NEPAD, provide leadership in translating the agenda into achieving the AU Vision of "an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa, driven by its own citizens and representing a dynamic force in the world". The approach for operationalizing this includes consultations with key stakeholders, a technical process focusing on a situational analysis and scenario planning, and popularization through various means (website, publications). Mr Madonsela also talked briefly about progress made thus far, including preparation of background documents, and consultations within AUC and with stakeholders. Highlighting the issues for consideration going forward, Mr Madonsela noted the following three key expectations:

- i) Seek inputs from participants on defining the Africa We Want by 2063;
- ii) Fully engage participants in developing the First 10-year Plan of Agenda 2063;
- iii) Spread the word and help support Agenda 2063.

#### **Keynote Address: The Agriculture Future We Want**

**31.** Prospects and Outlook on Transforming Africa's Agriculture for Accelerated Growth, Shared Prosperity and Sustainable Development in the context of African Union Agenda 2063: the Africa We Want, by H.E. Tumusiime Rhoda Peace (Mrs) AUC Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture.

**32.** The Commissioner observed that the conference comes at a time when the continent is concluding the celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the OAU/AU under the theme "Pan-Africanism and African Renaissance" and noted that it represents the first political follow-up milestone to the formal launch by the AU Heads of State and Government, on 30 January 2014, of 2014 as the Year of Agriculture and Food Security in Africa and commemoration of the 10th anniversary of CAADP. It is also a critical step towards the next Ordinary Summit in June 2014, which will provide direction and adopt a Declaration of renewed commitments towards concrete goals and targets in advancing Africa's agriculture and food security agenda for the next decade.

**33.** She noted that the Agriculture Future We Want in Africa is an integral part of the bigger Agenda 2063 Vision of the Africa We Want: "an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa, driven by its own citizens and representing a dynamic force in the global arena". She also noted that this is reflected in the theme of the Year of Agriculture and Food Security "Transforming Africa's Agriculture for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods through Harnessing Opportunities for Inclusive Growth and Sustainable Development". The Commissioner highlighted five strategic foundations of the agriculture future we want:

- i) Increased production and productivity, driven by a solid Science Agenda;



- ii) Increased value addition and access to functioning markets and trade in a competitive agricultural sector which captures the growing market opportunities and increases the share of intra-African trade to at least 50% of the continent's total agrifood trade by 2025, within a continental free trade area (CFTA) supported by an effective external tariff scheme that strengthens regional preference in agri-food by 2019;
- iii) Food and nutrition security for all African citizens by 2025;
- iv) Resilience to climate change and other risks affecting African agriculture through strong integration of climate change adaptation in agricultural investment plans ;
- v) Public-private engagement and investment financing based on Africa's own resources and resourcefulness underpinned by continued action by member states to deliver on the commitments made in the Maputo 2003 declaration. A critical action in this regard has to be honouring our commitments to increase investments in agriculture. To date, only 13 countries have reached or surpassed the 10% public Maputo commitment.

**34.** The Commissioner concluded by underscoring the importance of on-going self-evaluation, learning and adaptive implementation and noted that the CAADP Results Framework is being developed as an instrument for tracking, monitoring and reporting progress as well as facilitating mutual learning and accountability for actions and results.

**35.** Panel Discussion: Defining and embracing success: the goals and targets that we can achieve by 2025 and key drivers of change and transformation: what they are and how they work.

**36.** Following the Keynote Address, a panel discussed the Goal of Ending Hunger by 2025.

Panelists included: Hon. Joseph Sam Sesay (Sierra Leone); Hon. Greyford Monde (Zambia); Prof Micheni Ntiba(Kenya); Hon. E. Sizi Subah (Liberia); Hon. Ato Wondirad (Ethiopia); Hon. Yves Pascal Saga Ilboudo (Burkina Faso); Dr. Siphon Moyo (ONE Foundation); Roberto Ridolfi (EU/DPTT); and Bukar Tidjani (FAO).

**37.** The moderator asked the panel to address the question: "Is the goal of ending hunger by 2025 realistic? What needs to be in place for Africa to end hunger by 2025?"

**38.** All ministers were convinced that if there is political will, ending hunger by 2025 is achievable. During ensuing discussion, panellists identified the factors that define political will:i) adequate budget allocation combined with appropriate policies and plans to ensure efficient and effective use of the allocations; ii) Inter-sectoral coordination, given interconnectedness of agriculture to other sectors; iii) partnership alignment and coordination; iv) access to land, credit and other inputs; v) programs to

bring youth and women into agriculture; vi) technical innovations that are relevant and accessible to smallholder producers; vii) knowledge sharing; viii) dealing with corruption at border posts; ix) a critical mass of trained human resources.

**39.** Panel members provided examples of how the fulfilment of some of the above conditions had led made it possible for progress to be made in different aspects of agricultural transformation in their respective countries.

## **VI. INTERACTIVE SESSION II**

### **1. Keynote Address - Making it Happen: Realizing Agricultural Transformation for Accelerated Growth, Shared Prosperity and Sustainable Development, by H.E. Dr Ibrahim Assane Mayaki - CEO of NEPAD Agency**

**40.** Dr. Mayaki highlighted four key lessons from the implementation of CAADP: 1) as a result of CAADP, agriculture is now accorded a high political priority; 2) a multi-sectoral approach to agriculture and rural transformation within the context of national development strategies is needed, particularly to address conflicting policies in other sectors such as land, economic and fiscal policies; 3) continued dependence on donor financing, against a backdrop of increasing local public revenues and declining donor funding, undermines local ownership and responsibility; and 4) markets-and-trade challenges to local agro-industry.

**41.** He outlined the following central priority actions required over the next decade:

- i) Implement policies that create enabling environments for increased financing and funding of investments programmes, especially for smallholder producers, women and youth, and small-medium entrepreneurs.
- ii) Support positive discrimination and affirmative action to empower practitioners on the agricultural value chain, including enhanced access to financing, technologies and input-output markets that are informed by clear evidence.
- iii) Mobilize domestic public and private resources as primary sources of investment financing for agriculture and rural development.
- iv) Sustain national level success through sound regional integration and private sector strategies, and national level policies and actions that create greater opportunities for regions.
- v) Stimulate regional markets and trade to at least double agricultural-based intra-Africa trade in the second CAADP decade.
- vi) Link agriculture to broad-based rural development goals and strategies to achieve and sustain desired levels of success of agriculture and agriculture-led development. The political commitment to CAADP, supported by concrete actions that enhance policy coherence of related rural development and economic transformation sectors, is essential.

- vii) Enhance capacity at local, national and regional levels to use the CAADP Results Framework as an instrument for tracking, monitoring and reporting progress as well as facilitating mutual learning and accountability for actions and results.

**2. Panel Discussion: The actions that we must continue deepening to sustain momentum (those actions delivering promising results) and the things that we should do differently to ensure successful transformational change**

**42.** A panel discussion followed the Keynote Address. Panellists included: Hon. Dr. E. Taiga (Cameroon); Hon. Agnes Kalibata (Rwanda); Hon. Dr. John Mutorwa (Namibia); Hon. Clement Kofi Humado (Ghana); Hon. Joseph Made (Zimbabwe); Hon. Kayitesi Odette (Burundi); Dr. Daniel Gad (Agro investor - Private Sector); Dr. Dennis Weller, (Partner, USAID); Mr. David Adama (Action Aid).

**43.** The moderator asked the panellist to provide examples of the practical actions they are implementing in their countries with regard to CAADP. Issues that emerged from the discussions on country CAADP implementation included:

- i) CAADP is viewed as a stakeholder engagement framework and a tool to outline priority country plans in the agriculture sector.
- ii) The need for member states to put in domestic resources and be transparent, and accountable on the use of the funds.
- iii) Ensure that agriculture is reflected as a top priority in the AfDB Country Strategy Papers.
- iv) Agriculture is multi-sectoral; hence a specific recommendation was made for improved continental coordination mechanisms involving AMCOST, AMCEN and AMCOW.
- v) Emphasis should be on investment in infrastructure such as irrigation projects, market access, mechanization, energy, and industry to support inputs and government subsidies to smallholders.
- vi) Although some countries signed the CAADP compact within the last four years, they were already implementing programmes in line with CAADP.
- vii) Platforms for mutual learning to share experience in CAADP implementation are important.
- viii) Increased opportunities needed for youth engagement in a wide range of value chains (crops, livestock, fisheries).
- ix) Support smallholder to transition from subsistence to commercial orientation.

- x) Create a conducive environment to allow private sector to function and flourish.
- xi) Post-harvest losses are a major challenge to food security, which may require public-private partnerships.
- xii) Legal and policy actions are required to protect small holder enterprises.
- xiii) Bio-fuel and its competition with agriculture was raised but was not discussed further.
- xiv) Climate change must be incorporated in agricultural planning.
- xv) Opportunities for South-South relationships in agricultural trade should be explored.
- xvi) The role of RECs is important in leveraging economies of scale and developing regional inter-sectoral strategies for agriculture.
- xvii) Promote food diversification to improve nutrition.

## **VII. CONSIDERATION OF SENIOR OFFICIALS REPORT – AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

**44.** On 2 May 2014, the report of Agriculture and Rural Development Senior Officials & Experts Meeting held from 28-29 April 2014 was presented by Mr Dejene Abesha.

### **1. Agricultural transformation for accelerating growth through enhancing production and productivity**

- i) At least double the current level of annual growth in Agricultural Total Factor Productivity (ATFP).
- ii) Endorse the Science Agenda for Agriculture in Africa (S3A) to increase the level of ATFP annual growth through technology generation, dissemination and adoption, and skilled human resources.
- iii) Endorse the guiding principles on large scale land based investments (LSLBI) in Africa, prepared by the joint AUC-AfDB-ECA land Policy Initiative.
- iv) Support production and utilisation of cost-effective and quality agricultural inputs (for crops, livestock, fisheries and aquaculture) that are affordable and accessible to all stakeholders.
- v) Invest in effective water management and irrigation infrastructure to facilitate a stable and predictable water supply system, as well as affordable, reliable renewable energy for agricultural production.

- vi) Put in place measures and mechanisms for ensuring equal access to opportunities, including land, productive assets, knowledge information and skills, for women, the youth, pastoral groups and other socially disadvantaged groups.

**2. Harnessing markets and trade opportunities for transformation and shared prosperity**

- i) Accelerate intra and inter-regional trade between Member States of the African Union aimed at bolstering demand for African agricultural products, including simplifying and formalising the current trade practices.
- ii) Fast-track establishment of Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA) and adopt a continental Common External Tariff (CET) scheme to promote intra-African value-addition and trade in food and agriculture, without compromising quality and standards.
- iii) Reform policies and institutions to facilitate investment in markets and trade infrastructure and promote inclusive regional value chain development, focussing on strategically selected agricultural commodities.
- iv) Enhance the coordination mechanism to promote African common position on agriculture-related international trade negotiations and partnership agreements.
- v) Strengthen the capacities of smallholder producers in the areas of entrepreneurships, leadership and organisation development, negotiations and entry to markets including contracting.
- vi) Invest in infrastructure for market and value-chain development at national, regional and continental levels, including, local manufacturing transport, energy, ICT, post-harvest processing and distribution.
- vii) Support and facilitate preferential entry and participation for women and youth in gainful and attractive agri-business opportunities.
- viii) Promote the establishment of platforms for multi-actor interactions

**3. Food and Nutrition Security: towards ending hunger and malnutrition in Africa**

- i) Commit to ending hunger by 2025.
- ii) Take concrete measures that ensure good governance and necessary legal frameworks to prioritise food and nutrition security agenda towards meeting the 2025 ending hunger goal.

- iii) Develop and operationalize social protection packages and agro-entrepreneurship programs that target rural smallholders, especially women and youth.
  - iv) Develop and apply context-specific and realistic indicators for tracking nutrition security, considering the complexity of the food and nutrition security issue.
  - v) Integrate animal welfare issues as an important part of agriculture development and transformation and as a key strategy towards realizing the food and nutrition security goals.
  - vi) Consider the development of an African position on Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) and capacity for Africa to take advantage of the opportunities.
  - vii) Strengthen strategic food and cash reserves to respond to food shortages occasioned by periodic prolonged droughts or other disasters/emergencies.
  - viii) Strengthen early warning systems to facilitate advanced and proactive responses to disasters and emergencies with food and nutrition security implications.
  - ix) Target priority geographic areas and community groups for interventions on Food and Nutrition.
  - x) Encourage and facilitate increased consumption of locally produced food items, including the promotion of innovative school feeding programs that use food items sourced from the local farming community
- 4. Enhancing resilience of Africa's agriculture to climate change and risk management**
- i) Support the integration of the resilience-building agenda into Africa's contribution to the post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and sustainable development agenda.
  - ii) Accelerate implementation of the Climate Change Response Strategies at national level and the Africa Regional Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction and its Programme of Action in line with the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA).
  - iii) Support capacity development and increase investments for resilience building initiatives, including social security for rural workers.
  - iv) Integrate climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction programmes and mainstream both into NAIPs and RAIPs.
  - v) Strengthen continental, regional, and national platforms for enhanced coordination, experience sharing and mutual learning.

- vi) Improve availability and access by smallholder farmers to reliable and up to date climate and risk information, knowledge, technology and instruments (e.g., crop and livestock insurance) to facilitate climate-resilient and risk-informed agricultural development process through investments on climate and weather information services.
- vii) Promote the conservation and development of crop varieties and livestock breeds that can withstand and adapt to harsh climate conditions –. including use of indigenous genetic resources.
- viii) Improve risk management and resilience capacity for the most vulnerable groups, including women, children, and socially disadvantaged groups.
- ix) Prioritize the vulnerable ecosystems such as forests, arid and semi-arid lands, biodiversity, etc., where the challenges of desertification and land degradation are acute.
- x) Develop and implement in-country pilot projects on climate change, desertification impacts on agriculture, for possible scaling up of best practices.
- xi) Set realistic targets on a number of households practicing climate smart agriculture by 2025.

**5. Enhancing public-private partnerships and investment financing for African agriculture**

- i) Sustain the momentum of allocating an increased percentage of national annual budgets to agriculture, in line with the 10% minimum commitment, also putting in place measures to ensure efficiency and effectiveness of these investments.
- ii) Put in place mechanisms and systems to recognise and appreciate performance of Member States with respect to progress on commitments.
- iii) Establish and/or strengthen inclusive public-private partnerships for at least five (5) priority agricultural commodity value chains with strong linkage to smallholder agriculture.
- iv) Put in place and/or strengthen financing schemes that are friendly to smallholder enterprises to support their transition to viable businesses.
- v) Create multi-stakeholder platforms to promote mutual financing mechanisms.
- vi) Promote and prioritise local resource mobilisation for agriculture investment to discourage heavy dependence on external sources of funding that may limit a sense of ownership and buy-in by farmers and other stakeholders.

- vii) Establish and strengthen the capacities of domestic apex private sector intermediary institutions for inclusive facilitation and coordination to ensure engagement of private sector in the CAADP implementation

## **6. CAADP Results Framework**

- i) Endorse the CAADP RF as an instrument for tracking, monitoring and reporting progress as well as facilitating mutual learning and accountability for actions and results.
- ii) Strengthen Africa's capacity for knowledge and data generation and management to support evidence based planning and implementation.
- iii) Strengthen platforms for regular peer review, mutual learning and mutual accountability.
- iv) Undertake Mid-term review after 5 years of the 2015– 2025 CAADP goals.

### **DISCUSSION on Draft Report Recommendations:**

- i) Mention access to mechanization, power , energy and electricity, water management and irrigation infrastructure, land clearing, rural water supply, extension services, cooperatives as important to irrigation development.
- ii) Explicitly mention agro-processing as an agricultural product.
- iii) Reference contract farming's rapid development in Africa.
- iv) Include desertification and sustainability when discussing environmental theme.
- v) Develop food security indicators, strategies and monitoring approaches.
- vi) Address markets, bilateral trade.
- vii) Use Year of Agriculture as opportunity to share lessons learned.
- viii) Develop common priorities for implementation.
- ix) Review plans and strategies every 5 years rather than after 10 years.
- x) Emphasize bio-fortification and strengthen research and dissemination capacities to address micronutrient deficiency and stunting.
- xi) Define / develop position and common vision on GMOs in Africa; Refer to convention on biodiversity security in GMO statement.



- xii) Include reference to rural training and vocational training in rural areas for framers, traders and producers to enhance F&N security.
- xiii) Use 'livestock welfare' rather than animal welfare.
- xiv) Establish indicators so that the document is less vague.
- xv) Revise French draft: refer to PDDAA rather than CAADP; replace term 'indigènes' with 'native'.
- xvi) Revise Portuguese to include all information, specifically on resilience and risk.
- xvii) Include Annex (Results Framework).
- xviii) Emphasize need for small farmers to be organized and professionalized.
- xix) Link Environmental issues raised in this document with the UNFCCC.
- xx) Include soil erosion and soil health in section on vulnerability of ecosystems.
- xxi) Develop free trade zones.
- xxii) Establish and monitor social security programmes, especially nutritional security.

## **VIII. CONSIDERATION OF SENIOR OFFICIALS REPORT – FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE**

**45.** On 2 May 2014, the report of Fisheries and Aquaculture Senior Officials & Experts Meeting held from 28-29 April 2014 was presented to the Ministers, and discussion followed. The report included the following recommendations:

1. *On the Policy Framework and Reform Strategy for Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa:*

Considering the need for enhancing conservation and sustainable use of fisheries resources through the establishment of national and regional governance and institutional arrangements;

Recognizing the potential of small-scale fisheries to contributing to poverty reduction, food and nutrition security and socio-economic benefits of fishing communities and beyond;

Recognizing the potential of the aquaculture sector to generate wealth, social benefits and contribute to the development of the African economy;

Considering the need to harness the benefits of Africa's fisheries and aquaculture endowments through accelerated trade and marketing;

Considering the importance of coherence of fisheries policies and integrated management for aquaculture development;

Recognizing the challenges and the needs of enhancing the capacity of MS and institutions in order to ensure sustainable development of the sector;

Emphasizing the need for increasing and consolidating the “African Voice” in the governance and management of high seas fisheries in order to substantially enhance the benefits accruing to the Member States associated with exploitation of high seas resources;

Recognizing the role of fisheries and aquaculture in contributing to the 6% growth in agriculture and the need to effectively mainstream fisheries and aquaculture in the national agricultural investment plan;

Concerned about all forms of overexploitation of the fisheries resources including Illegal Fishing leading to plundering of the resources.

**46.** The experts:

- a) Express their satisfaction with the process of the development of the policy framework and reform strategy for fisheries and aquaculture in Africa.
- b) Recommend that the policy framework and reform strategy be submitted to the Joint conference of ministers of Agriculture, Rural Development, Fisheries and Aquaculture for adoption.
- c) Recommend that CAADP subcommittee on fisheries and aquaculture be established at national level in support of the CAADP country team.
- d) Urge member states to strengthen institutional arrangements to ensure institutional and policy coherence in the fisheries and aquaculture.
- e) Request development partners and other stakeholders align their interventions in fisheries and aquaculture sector to the policy framework and reform strategy and support its implementation.
- f) Urge Member States to prioritize and develop action plan to realize the implementation of the policy framework and reform strategy.
- g) Recommend the AU to put in place a mechanism to monitor the implementation of the policy framework and report regularly to Member States.
- h) Request Member States and RECs to design fisheries access strategies which encourage secure rights and sustainable harvesting of fisheries resources to harness the wealth-generating potential of the resources.
- i) Request AU, RECs Member States and partners to support operationalization of the African Fisheries Reform Mechanism as the

continental platform for coordinating coherent intervention and investments in fisheries and aquaculture.

- j) Urge AU, RECs and Member States to facilitate the participation of non-state actors in fisheries and aquaculture decisions making processes.
- k) Request AU and RECs to strengthen capacity of Member States for effective participation in RFMOs and other international forums to secure benefits.
- l) Urge AU and RECs to support institutional linkages at regional levels for fisheries and aquaculture development.
- m) Request AU, REC and Member States to strengthen Committee on Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa and other networks to effectively play their role in promoting aquaculture development on the continent.
- n) Request AU and RECs to build capacity in Member States for domestication of international legal instruments governing the utilisation of shared fisheries resources in national waters.
- o) Reaffirm commitment by Member States to strengthen the MCS capacity including implementation of port states measures, flag state measures and related instruments in order to combat IUU fishing.
- p) Reaffirm the need for RECs to strengthen their collaboration and cooperation with Regional Fisheries Bodies to fast track the reforms in the fisheries sector at regional level.

2. *On Agricultural Transformation for Accelerated Growth: Science Agenda for Agriculture*

Recognizing the crucial role of research, science, technology and extension in transforming fisheries and aquaculture for sustainable production and productivity;

Noting the need to implement research and capacity strengthening aspects of Member States to increase investment in research for development, thus guiding wider economic investment in the sector;

In pursuant of aligning national research with the framework of agricultural productivity and technical support programme in fisheries and aquaculture.

**47.** The experts:

- a) Urge Member States to strengthen and build capacity for fisheries and aquaculture research to conduct fish stock dynamics assessment; economic valuation of fisheries resources; undertake research on impact of climate change.

- b) Urge Member States to establish mechanism for active involvement of private sector in research and extension.
- c) Urge Member States to put in place mechanism to generate revenue on fisheries and aquaculture for research and development.
- d) Request AU with the support of partners to establish African Centres of Excellence for Aquaculture (ACEA), Capture fisheries, biodiversity studies and oceanography

3. *On Harnessing Markets and Trade Opportunities*

Concerned that Africa is a net importer of fish and fisheries products and the marginal intra-regional trade of fish and fisheries products;

Recognizing that while tariff barriers and quantitative restrictions have mostly been eliminated in most RECS, non-tariff barriers still persist and seriously hamper inter and intra-regional trade of fish and fisheries products;

Concerned with the limited development of fisheries value chains.

48. The experts:

- a) Urge RECs and member states to harmonize trade policies & legal frameworks to reduce trade barriers.
- b) Recommend Member States to strengthen trade capacities at country level, and build physical and institutional trade infrastructure in order to increasing intra-African trade.
- c) Request AU, RECs and Member States to support/ implement eco-labelling mechanisms consistent with the policy on stocks conservation and consideration with social welfare.
- d) Request RECS and Member States to strengthen/establish regional trade and market related organizations or networks for enhancing improve market information to enable better decision taking at all levels.
- e) Encourage Member States to promote value chain approach when analysing the sector to take broader trade issues into account.
- f) Urge Member States to implement measures to combat IUU fishing by implementing appropriate plan of action and measures including Port State Measures.

4. *On Harnessing Investment Financing for Small and Medium Enterprises in Fisheries and Aquaculture*

Recognizing that growth in fisheries and aquaculture sector is mainly private sector led;

Noting the quasi-absence of specific financial mechanism to support SMEs in fisheries and aquaculture in most MS.

**49.** The experts:

- a) Request Member States to create an enabling environment for financial services for SMEs in fisheries and aquaculture within the CAADP framework.
- b) Recommend AU, RECs Member States to develop innovative approach for increasing private sector investment in fisheries and aquaculture.

**5.** *On Food and Nutrition Security*

Underpinning the importance of fish in food and nutrition security and livelihoods;

Concern over the high level of post-harvest losses especially in small scales fisheries and aquaculture.

**50.** The experts:

- a) Urge Member States to strengthen regulatory frameworks to protect operations of sustainable small-scale fisheries and for stock conservation.
- b) Request Member States RECs to reduce post-harvest losses and support post-harvest activities through adequate investments and appropriate policies.
- c) Urge Member States to develop sector-wide strategies at national level for expansion and intensification of aquaculture and inland fisheries.
- d) Request AU, RECs and Member States to harness the opportunities for small and medium enterprise development by expanding domestic markets for fish, including growing urban demand.
- e) Request AU, RECs and Member States to scale-up integrated small-scale aquaculture as a means of increasing rural productivity and food security.
- f) Urge AU and RECs to support the development of national policies for fisheries and aquaculture that promote appropriate food safety infrastructures for enhancing fish processing, trade and marketing.
- g) Urge AU, RECs and Member States to strengthen the capacity of fish stakeholders along the value chain.
- h) Urge Member States to prioritize aquaculture development for food security.

6. *On Resilience and Risk Management, including Climate Change*

Recognizing the high vulnerability of the fisheries communities to Climate Change and disasters impact;

Noting the serious economic and environmental costs and its impacts on food security and livelihoods;

Recognizing the vulnerability of fishing communities to HIV and other Sexually Transmitted Disease.

**51. The experts**

- a) Urge Member States to include fisheries/aquaculture in existing Climate Change (CC)adaptation and mitigation, and Disaster Risk Management (DRM) Policy and Strategy.
- b) Request RECs and Regional Fisheries Bodies to mainstream climate change and address vulnerabilities in their fisheries management's plans.
- c) Urge Member States to Implement/develop Ecosystems Approach to Fisheries and Ecosystems Approach to Aquaculture management plans, taking into account CC and DRM.
- d) Urge Member States to establish early warning systems and train fishers in safe fishing operations, security and navigation practices to ensure safety at sea.
- e) Request AU, REC and Member States to develop innovative insurance mechanisms for fisheries and aquaculture enterprises.
- f) Request AU, RECs and Member States to promote the implementation of international and regional best practices and technological adaptation for fisheries and aquaculture development.

7. *On Data Collection, Analysis and Dissemination*

Considering the importance of data in fisheries management and aquaculture development;

Aware of the challenges of the data collection, analysis and dissemination;

Recognizing the importance of information and technology sharing and the need for a comprehensive data collection strategy on the continent.

**52. The experts:**

- a) Urge AU to facilitate the development of data collection, analysis and dissemination strategy to assist Member States in enhancing fisheries and aquaculture statistics.
- b) Urge Member States to incorporate fisheries and aquaculture statistics into National Statistical Systems and the National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) and the Global strategy to improve Agricultural and Rural statistics.
- c) Encourage Member States to build capacity for collection, analysis and interpretation of biological, social and economic data for improved decisions making in fisheries management and aquaculture development.
- d) Urge Member States to enhance cooperation for information sharing, data collection, analysis and dissemination at national and regional levels for fisheries management and aquaculture development.

*8. On Gender and Youth*

Considering the importance of women and youth in the fisheries and aquaculture sector and their contribution to poverty alleviation and food and nutrition security;

Noting the marginalization of women and youth in decision making processes.

**53. The experts:**

- a) Urge Member States to mainstream gender and youth in national fisheries and aquaculture policy, laws and plans and promote effective participation of women and youth in decision-making.
- b) Call on Member States to eliminate Child labour and create a conducive and enabling environment for decent youth employment including access to financial services and youth friendly health services.
- c) Request Member States to promote empowerment schemes for enhancing the roles or activities women and youth in fisheries and aquaculture development activities including trade, marketing and production.

**IX. CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS FROM INTERACTIVE SESSIONS: Key issues and recommendations from the panel sessions on 1 May 2014**

**Session 1: A Vision For Africa: The Africa We Want**

**1. Panel 1: Africa's Goal on Hunger: Discussions focused on the question: "Is the goal of ending hunger by 2025 achievable"?**

**54.** While there was general consensus that ending hunger by 2025 was achievable, it was agreed that this was conditional on having 'political will'. The ensuing discussion focused on the question of political will and how this is manifested.

**55.** All ministers were convinced that if there is political will, ending hunger by 2025 is achievable. During ensuing discussion, panelists identified the factors that define political will: i) adequate budget allocation combined with appropriate policies and plans to ensure efficient and effective use of the allocations; ii) Inter-sectoral coordination, given interconnectedness of agriculture to other sectors; iii) partnership alignment / coordination; iv) access to land, credit and other inputs; v) programs to bring youth and women into agriculture; vi) technical innovations that are relevant and accessible to smallholder producers; vii) knowledge sharing; viii) dealing with corruption at border posts; ix) critical mass of trained human resources.

**Recommendation:**

- i) Member States should pay close attention to progress around these dimensions as critical means of gauging the extent to which stated commitments to support agriculture are being operationalized

**Session 2: Making It Happen**

**2. Panel 2: Making it happen – what & how – recommendations emerging from panel discussion**

- i) Financing: Member States to ensure that agriculture is reflected as a top priority in the Country Strategy Papers submitted to the Africa Development Bank (AfDB).
- ii) Youth Participation: Increase opportunities for youth engagement in a wide range of value chains (crops, livestock, fisheries etc.).
- iii) Inclusivity: Develop mechanisms, as part of CAADP implementation, through which private sector, civil society (including Farmer Organizations), development and technical partners, and other stakeholders involved in agriculture are appropriately consulted and effectively engaged in implementation.



- iv) Infrastructure: Invest in irrigation projects, market infrastructure (including postharvest handling and processing), mechanization, energy, and local input manufacturing.

**X. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSAL TO OPERATIONALIZE THE AU DECISION ON SPECIALIZED TECHNICAL COMMITTEES (STCs) – THE STC ON AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, WATER AND ENVIRONMENT**

**56.** A representative of the AU Legal Counsel presented on the AU General Assembly decision Assembly/AU/Dec.227 (XII) to establish 14 specialized technical committees (STC). The implication of this decision is the disbanding of all the sector based African Ministerial Conferences such as the AMCOW, AMCOST, AMCEN among others. He noted that the AU General Assembly Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.365 (XVII), called for the operationalization of the STCs from January 2013, meaning that all the Ministerial Conferences will cease to exist and their work will be transferred to the STCs. He added that henceforth, the issues dealing with agriculture, rural development, fisheries and aquaculture will be handled by the Committee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Water and Environment.

**57.** The following issues were raised during the discussions on the presentation:

- i) There is need for a clear pathway for operationalization of the Assembly decision taking into consideration the peculiarities of the sectoral Ministerial Conference and committees.
- ii) That all the relevant sectors hitherto operating separately be catered for in the new Specialized Technical Committee (STC).
- iii) That the cost and funding for the sectors activities of each sector be catered for in the new STC.
- iv) Procedure/processes for formulating the present setup to the new STC including the integrating of sectoral Ministerial bodies, their secretariats into the AU system be given due consideration.
- v) Current bureaus of the ministerial conference jointly serve as the coordinating mechanism of the new STC.
- vi) Environment is a crosscutting issue that may not fit in any one STC, so there is need for clarification on how environment will be handled by the STCs as a cross-cutting issue. Furthermore, the AMCEN is a legal entity independent from the AU, so clarification is needed to understand the implication of integrating AMCEN into the AU structure.
- vii) The fish sector is vital for African countries in terms of food security and its contribution to the economy. Therefore, there is need to create an STC for fisheries and agriculture.
- viii) There needs to be clear justification for some STCs to meet once a year and others once in two years.

- ix) There needs to be clarity on how to deal with the challenge of the STCs that are outside the framework of the AU.
- x) Concern was raised that the abolition of Ministerial conferences is not appropriate as it can lead to over centralization.
- xi) It is important to clarify what capacity exists at the AU to manage the new STC which will have the mandate that Ministerial Conferences had

58. In response, the presenter noted the following:

- i) The decision to establish an STC for fisheries can only be done by the AU Assembly because the process of setting up the STCs started a long time ago. The AU Member States saw the need to reconfigure STCs to 14. As this is an AU Assembly decision that is in force, the duty of the AUC is to ensure implementation and any reconsideration of the STCs is a responsibility of the AU Assembly and not of the AUC, which can only pass on the message to the AU Assembly.
- ii) Some of these challenges raised can be taken care of by the by-laws for the STCs.
- iii) The Ministerial Conferences will be merged under the respective STCs which are bodies of the AU and will be funded by the AUC budget.
- iv) The reform was needed to rationalize operations of the Ministerial Conferences. At present, there are about 25 ministerial conferences and sometimes recommendations from ministerial conferences contradict each other hence the need for enhanced coordination among the STCs.

## XI. CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF MINISTERIAL RESOLUTIONS

**We**, the Ministers of Agriculture, Rural Development, Fisheries and Aquaculture, having met at the AUCC in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 01-02 May 2014, on the Theme of the Year of Agriculture and Food Security: *“Transforming Africa’s Agriculture for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods through Harnessing Opportunities for Inclusive Growth and Sustainable Development”*;

**Recognising and Appreciating** the African Union Assembly of Heads of State and Government for having declared, during its 19th Ordinary Session, the Year 2014 to be the Year of Agriculture and Food Security, marking the 10th Anniversary of the Adoption of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP);

**Acknowledging** the progress made in the realisation of the 2003 Maputo Declaration on Agriculture as enshrined in the CAADP framework, the challenges faced, the important lessons learnt over the last decade through implementation of CAADP, and reflecting on the prospects and opportunities for accelerated agricultural growth and transformation through sustaining the momentum;

**Convinced** that accelerated agricultural growth and transformation is a sine qua non for achieving Africans' aspirations for shared prosperity, improved livelihoods and dignity, as well as peace and security;

**Stressing** the strategic significance of ensuring that all segments of our populations, particularly women, the youth, and other disadvantaged sectors of our societies, must participate and directly benefit from the growth opportunities;

**Also convinced** that success in an inclusive agricultural growth and transformation will have the most direct, positive consequential impact on achieving broader sustainable development goals in Africa, including poverty reduction, greater social equity and better environmental stewardness;

**Recognizing** the need for enhancing conservation and sustainable use of fisheries and aquaculture resources through coherent policies as well as governance and institutional arrangements at national and regional levels,

**Acknowledging** the potential of the aquaculture sector to generate wealth, social benefits and contribute to the development of the African economy, and the importance of fish and fish products in food and nutrition security and livelihoods;

**Considering** the need to harness the benefits of Africa's fisheries and aquaculture endowments through development of value chains, accelerated trade and marketing  
*Emphasising* recognizing the role of research and science in transforming fisheries and aquaculture production and productivity to exploit its full potential;

**Concerned** over the limited value addition in fisheries and aquaculture coupled with the high level of post-harvest losses especially in small scales fisheries, and taking note of the absence of specific financial mechanism to support SMEs in fisheries and aquaculture:

- I. **Commend** the African Union Commission (AUC) and the NEPAD Coordination and Planning Agency (NPCA) for the articulation of a vision and clear goals for Accelerated Africa's Agricultural Growth and Transformation to be achieved during the next decade, on which we deliberated during our meeting
- II. **Endorse** the Report of the Senior Officials and Experts of Agriculture, Rural Development, Fisheries and Aquaculture, who met from 28-30 April 2014; also endorse the key messages that arose from the interactive discussions that we held with stakeholders on the basis of the proposed vision and goals.

**Hereby adopt the following Resolutions:**

- a) **On acceleration of inclusive growth of agricultural production and productivity, to:**
  - i) At least double the current level of productivity, focussing on inputs, irrigation and mechanization, Sustain Annual sector growth in Agricultural GDP at least 6%;

- ii) Support production and utilisation of cost-effective and quality agricultural inputs, mechanisation and agrochemicals (for crops, livestock, fisheries and aquaculture) that are affordable and accessible to all stakeholders;
- iii) Invest in efficient and effective water management and irrigation infrastructure to facilitate a stable and predictable water supply system, as well as affordable, reliable renewable energy for agricultural production;
- iv) Put in place measures and mechanisms for ensuring equal access to opportunities, including land, productive assets, knowledge information and skills, for women, the youth, pastoral groups and other socially disadvantaged groups;
- v) Support professionalization of smallholder producers and family agriculture through vocational training programmes;
- vi) Endorse the Science Agenda for Agriculture in Africa (S3A) to increase the level of ATFP annual growth through technology generation, dissemination and adoption, and skilled human resources;
- vii) Endorse the Guiding Principles on Large Scale Land Based Investments (LSLBI) in Africa, prepared by the Joint AUC-AfDB-ECA Land Policy Initiative that is aimed at assisting Member States to generate an optimum benefit from such investments.

**b) On harnessing markets and trade opportunities for transformation and shared prosperity, to:**

- i) Reduce poverty through agriculture by half, through among other things, creating job opportunities for at least 30% of the youth in agricultural value chains;
- ii) Triple Intra-African Trade;
- iii) Accelerate intra and inter-regional trade in Africa aimed at bolstering demand for African agricultural products, including simplifying and formalising the current trade practices;
- iv) Fast-track establishment of Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA) and transition to a continental Common External Tariff (CET) scheme to promote intra-African value-addition and trade in food and agriculture, without compromising quality and standards;
- v) Reform policies and institutions to facilitate investment in markets and trade infrastructure and promote inclusive regional agricultural value chain development, focussing on strategically selected agricultural commodities;

- vi) Commit to coordination mechanisms put in place at continental level to promote African common position on agriculture-related international trade negotiations and partnership agreements;
- vii) Strengthen the capacities of smallholder producers in the areas of entrepreneurships, leadership and organisation development, negotiations and entry to markets including contracting;
- viii) Reduce PHL at least by half. Invest in infrastructure for market and value-chain development at national, regional and continental levels, including, local manufacturing transport, energy, ICT, post-harvest handling, processing, storage and distribution;
- ix) Support and facilitate preferential entry and participation for women and youth in gainful and attractive agri-business opportunities;
- x) Promote the establishment of platforms for multi-actors interactions.

**c) On achievement of food and nutrition security goals, to:**

- i) Commit to Zero Hunger by 2025, reduce stunting by 50%;
- ii) Take concrete measures that ensure good governance and necessary policy reform and legal frameworks to prioritise food and nutrition security agenda towards meeting the 2025 ending hunger goal;
- iii) Develop and operationalize social protection packages and agro-entrepreneurship programs that target rural smallholders, especially women and youth;
- iv) Develop and apply context-specific and realistic indicators for tracking food and nutrition security, considering the complexity of the food and nutrition security issue;
- v) Prioritize livestock and integrate animal welfare issues as an important part of agriculture development and transformation and as a key strategy towards realizing the food and nutrition security goals;
- vi) Develop an African position on Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) and capacity for Africa to take advantage of the opportunities;
- vii) Strengthen strategic food and cash reserves to respond to food shortages occasioned by periodic prolonged droughts or other disasters/emergencies;

- viii) Strengthen early warning systems to facilitate advanced and proactive responses to disasters and emergencies with food and nutrition security implications;
  - ix) Target priority geographic areas and community groups for interventions on Food and Nutrition;
  - x) Encourage and facilitate increased consumption of locally produced food items, including the promotion of innovative school feeding programs that use food items sourced from the local farming community;
  - xi) Enhance the nutritive quality of food items through fortification of necessary elements.
- d) On enhancing resilience of Africa's agriculture to climate change and other types of hazards, to:**
- i) Ensure at least 30% of farm/pastoral households be resilient to shocks;
  - ii) Support the integration of the resilience-building agenda into Africa's contribution to the post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, sustainable development agenda, and climate change;
  - iii) Accelerate implementation of the Climate Change Response Strategies at national level and the Africa Regional Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction and its Programme of Action in line with the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA);
  - iv) Support capacity development and increase investments for resilience building initiatives, including social security for rural workers;
  - v) Integrate climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction programmes and mainstream both into NAIPs and RAIPs;
  - vi) Strengthen and actively participate in continental, regional, and national platforms for enhanced coordination, experience sharing and mutual learning ;
  - vii) Improve availability and access by smallholder farmers to reliable and up to date climate and risk information, knowledge, technology and instruments (e.g., crop and livestock insurance) to facilitate climate-resilient and risk-informed agricultural development process through investments on climate and weather information services;
  - viii) Promote the conservation and development of crops varieties and livestock breeds that can withstand and adapt to harsh climate conditions, including use of indigenous genetic resources;

- ix) Improve risk management and resilience capacity for the most vulnerable groups, including women, children, and socially disadvantaged groups;
  - x) Prioritize the vulnerable ecosystems such as forests, arid and semi-arid lands, soil health, soil erosion, biodiversity, etc., where the challenges of desertification and land degradation are acute;
  - xi) Develop and implement in-country pilot projects on climate change and desertification impacts on agriculture, for possible scaling up of best practices and strengthen resilience;
  - xii) Set realistic targets on additional number of farm households practicing climate smart agriculture by 2025.
- e) On enhancing public-private partnerships and investment financing for African agriculture, to:**
- i) Sustain the momentum of allocating an increased percentage of national annual budgets to agriculture, in line with the 10% minimum commitment, also putting in place measures to ensure efficiency and effectiveness of these investments;
  - ii) Put in place mechanisms and systems to recognize and appreciate performance of Member States with respect to progress on key agreed-upon commitments;
  - iii) Establish and/or strengthen inclusive public-private partnerships for at least five (5) priority agricultural commodity value chains with strong linkage to smallholder agriculture;
  - iv) Put in place and/or strengthen financing schemes that are friendly to smallholder enterprises to support their transition to viable businesses;
  - v) Create multi-stakeholder platforms to promote mutual financing mechanisms;
  - vi) Promote and prioritize local resources mobilization for agriculture investment to discourage heavy dependence on external sources of funding that may limit a sense of ownership and buy-in by farmers and other stakeholders;
  - vii) Establish and strengthen the capacities of domestic apex private sector intermediary institutions for inclusive facilitation and coordination to ensure engagement of private sector in CAADP implementation.

**f) On harnessing the potentials of fisheries and aquaculture resources, to:**

- i) Endorse the AU Policy Framework and Reform Strategy for Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa;
- ii) Undertake reforms to address governance of fisheries and aquaculture and develop institutions that lead to sustainable fisheries and aquaculture in line with the AU policy framework and reform strategy for fisheries and aquaculture ;
- iii) Develop fisheries and aquaculture as an integral component of sustaining the CAADP momentum results framework;
- iv) Scale-up integrated aquaculture development as a means of increasing rural productivity and food security and nutrition;
- v) Accelerate trade by developing fish value chains, promoting responsible and equitable fish trade and marketing in order to significantly harness the benefits of Africa's fisheries and aquaculture endowments.

**g) On Sustaining the CAADP Momentum Results Framework, to:**

- i) Commit the Principles and Values of the CAADP Process;
- ii) Endorse the CAADP Results Framework as a key tool:
  - a) to translate Africa's agricultural development goals into tangible targets; to track, monitor and report on progress as well as facilitating mutual learning and accountability;
  - b) to foster alignment and coordination and rallying multi-sectoral efforts towards common goals;
  - c) to accompany further planning and programming for new programmes.
- iii) Strengthen Africa's capacity for knowledge and data generation and management to support evidence based planning and implementation;
- iv) Strengthen multi-institutional platforms for regular peer review, mutual learning and mutual accountability;
- v) Commit to an Agricultural Review Process to be conducted every two years; and a mid-term review, after five years, of the 2015-2025 CAADP key goals.



**III. Request:**

- a) The AU Commission and NPCA to develop an implementation strategy and roadmap that facilitates translation into results, of the vision and goals of the CAADP 2025 Africa Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation (3AGTG 2025);
- b) The AU Commission and NPCA, in collaboration with partners to develop mechanisms that enhance Africa's capacity for knowledge and data generation and management to strengthen evidence based planning and implementation;
- c) The AU Commission and NPCA, in collaboration with African relevant scientific institutions, to undertake a study to explore the possibility of developing an African position on GMOs with a view to taking advantage of the opportunities that this may present;
- d) The AU Commission and NPCA to institutionalize a system for peer review that encourages good performance on commitments and periodically recognize exemplary performance through awards;
- e) The AU Commission and RECs to facilitate the acceleration of economic integration to boost intra-Africa trade in food and agriculture;
- f) The AU Commission, NPCA and RECs to establish African Centres of Excellence for Aquaculture, Capture fisheries, biodiversity studies and oceanography to enhance capacity for fisheries and aquaculture research;
- g) The RECs to support the efforts of Member States in developing value chains, promoting responsible and equitable fish trade and marketing, through significantly harnessing the benefits of Africa's fisheries and aquaculture endowments;
- h) Development Partners to rally their technical and financial support in a harmonized and coordinated manner behind implementation of these resolutions.

**IV. Recommend the AU Assembly to endorse the following commitments on Africa Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation Goals to be achieved by 2025 (3AGTGs 2025):**

- a) Recommit to the Principles and Values of the CAADP Process;
- b) Recommit to the allocation of at least 10% of public spending on agriculture;
- c) Commit to Zero Hunger;

- i) At least double productivity (focusing on Inputs, irrigation, mechanization);
  - ii) Reduce Post Harvest Losses (PHL) at least by half;
  - iii) Improve Nutrition: reduce stunting by half.
- d) Commit to reduce poverty through agriculture by half:
  - i) Sustain annual sector growth in agricultural GDP by at least 6%;
  - ii) Establish and/or strengthen inclusive public-private partnerships for at least five (5) priority agricultural commodity value chains with strong linkage to smallholder agriculture;
  - iii) Create job opportunities for at least 30% of the youth in agricultural value chains.
- e) Commit to triple Intra-African Trade in Agricultural commodities and services;
- f) Commit to ensuring at least 30% of farm/pastoral households to be resilient to shocks;
- g) Commit to the CAADP Results Framework and to an Agricultural Review Process to be conducted every two years.

## **XII. OFFICIAL CLOSING**

**59.** The meeting was officially closed by the Chair after closing remarks by H.E. Tumusiime, Rhoda Peace (Mrs.) Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture on behalf of the AUC, in which she thanked the Member States for their active participation and the Host Country for the hospitality accorded to delegates.

2014

Report of the AU joint conference of  
ministers of agriculture, rural  
development, fisheries and  
aquaculture, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia,  
28 April – 2 May 2014

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