



**COMMUNIQUE OF THE 6th COMPREHENSIVE AFRICA
AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME PARTNERSHIP
PLATFORM (CAADP PP) BUSINESS MEETING
OCTOBER 29 -30, 2013
Abuja, Nigeria**

INTRODUCTION

1. The 6th Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) Partnership Platform (PP) Business Meeting, jointly organised by the African Union Commission (AUC), the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NEPAD Agency) and the CAADP Development Partners Task Team and hosted by the Economic Community for West African States (ECOWAS), as well as the Government of the Republic of Nigeria took place at the Transcorp Hilton Hotel, in Abuja, Nigeria from 29 to 30 October 2013.
2. The Business Meeting was organized under the theme: “Planning for a Decade of Implementing the Sustaining CAADP Momentum Strategy.”
3. The Business Meeting was attended by 63 participants, including representatives of member states; representatives of regional farmers’ organizations¹; delegates from international non-government organizations engaged with agricultural development in Africa; members of the African private sector involved in the promotion of agricultural value chains; media institutions; representatives of research institutions and representatives of bilateral and multilateral development partners. The delegations from the African Union Commission (AUC) and the NEPAD Agency were led by the Director of the Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture of the AUC, Dr. Abebe Haile Gabriel, and Director of Programmes Implementation Directorate, Mrs Estherine Fotabong, respectively. The representative of the Development Partners Mr Bernard Rey, and ECOWAS representative, Mr Ernest Aube. The Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), and the East African Community (EAC) were represented by senior staff of their respective agriculture / CAADP coordination departments.
4. Opening statements were made by the Director of Rural Economy and Agriculture Dr Abebe Haile Gabriel, in which he outlined the prospects and options for funding CAADP implementation into the next decade. The Business Meeting also served as an opportunity for fostering a shared understanding on supporting agricultural transformation as the primary driver for development on the continent.
5. The Meeting was informed that agriculture is a priority area in the AU strategic plan. Accordingly, the Sustaining CAADP Momentum is a central intervention within which support will be provided to AU member states on the agriculture agenda. Furthermore, the Meeting was informed that the January 2013 AU Heads of State and Government Summit declared 2014 as the Year of Agriculture and Food Security. In this regard, all stakeholders on the CAADP agenda were called upon to organize events in their respective constituencies, as well as support and actively participate in the AU-organized events that have been planned for observing the year.

¹ UMAGRI, SACAU



6. Statements were also made by the representative of the development partners Mr Rey (Dep. Head of Unit- DEVCO/EC) who highlighted the focus on food and nutrition security in 2014 on the international scene. He maintained that the events observing the International Year of family farming reflect the global attention to agriculture, and underline the role of smallholder farmers.
7. The ECOWAS representative, Mr Aubee noted the satisfactory progress has been in implementing the CAADP agenda during the last decade in the ECOWAS region. While acknowledging the support that agriculture development has received over the past decade, it was reiterated that there is need to consolidate achievements, increase investments, boost political support, and continue facilitating institutional reforms in support of agriculture development. In addition, the varied levels of progress in ensuring food and nutrition security on the African continent, especially with regard the MDG-target year 2015 in sight, it was observed, provide a justification for continued and enhanced concerted efforts on the CAADP agenda. In this regard, further efforts will be required to engage with all stakeholders – including national governments, to pursue the vision of a food secure and food self-reliant continent.

MEETING PROGRAMME AND STRUCTURE

8. The Business Meeting (co-chaired by the Director of AUC DREA and the representative of the Development Partners), reviewed CAADP implementation support in light of the priorities agreed at the CAADP PP in March 2013. The Meeting also received reports on the status of CAADP funding support from the Multi-Donor Trust Fund (MDTF) and progress on specific work streams such as the Sustaining CAADP Momentum Results Framework. Major issues of consideration that require ensuring coherent and coordinated support on CAADP implementation were presented and discussed in plenary, and a set of actions were agreed, as outlined during the Meeting discourse.

Review of the 1-2013 CAADP PP Business Meeting Agreed Actions

9. The meeting received a presentation on the progress made against the agreed actions made at the March 2013 CAADP PP. Specifically, highlights on the progress made were provided on all the agreed actions, including: the CAADP results framework; a paper on the CAADP Partnership framework; options for financing for CAADP implementation support in light of second phase of MDTF; refinement of the KIS project proposal; and status of the JAG process review. Information was also shared on on-going or upcoming events such as the AU organized meeting with RECs on the CAADP agenda, the EAC symposium and the Rural Development forum.

Discussion and Action Points on the Review of the 1-2013 CAADP PP Business Meeting

10. The Meeting took note of the progress made on the actions that were agreed during the March 2013 CAADP PP, and committed to providing further support to ensure complete and satisfactory implementation of all the agreed actions.



Sustaining CAADP Momentum – Results Framework

11. The Meeting received an elaborate presentation of the Sustaining CAADP Momentum Results Framework. The rationale for the Results Framework includes the urgent need to: Demonstrate results and impact; guide the design of new programmes within NAIPs; attract investment financing; harness private sector energy in driving agricultural transformation and agriculture-led development; and to enhance the capacities to respond to emerging issues. Additionally, there is compelling need to build-on and consolidate the achievements realized over the last decade of CAADP implementation, as well as provide the requisite tools and instruments for operationalizing and benchmarking the design and formulation of new programmes. The Meeting was also informed that all the work streams within the CAADP agenda, such as the KIS and the partnership framework, will be aligned to the Results Framework to ensure coherence in advancing the CAADP agenda over the next decade.
12. It was stressed that the vision of CAADP is still valid and the issues that informed the adoption of CAADP ten years ago remain pertinent in the next decade. Nonetheless, it was emphasised that in the next ten years of CAADP implementation, agriculture will need to be positioned as a key driver for wealth and job creation, while serving as the primary source of thrust for pursuing food security and food self-reliance. Accordingly, there will be need to focus on issues such as policy strengthening, enhancing institutional capacities, boosting investment financing – including private sector financing, and fostering regional and inter-regional trade.
13. Implementation of the Sustaining CAADP Momentum Results Framework will entail three broad steps, namely: a) at continental and regional levels – with 2014 as the inception period, some of the specific actions will include defining the operational architecture, developing the attendant guidelines, and strengthening the analytical and M&E capacities; b) at national level, implementation of the Results Framework will include a major orientation towards internalizing and domesticating the framework, alignment of NAIP goals and targets alongside strengthening country-level implementation and coordination capacities; c) advocacy and communication including extensive public debate and dialogue, building regional and continental knowledge base and communicating the African agenda.
14. The Meeting was informed about the next steps in the implementation of the Results Framework, which include, amongst others: i) Releasing the Formal document for further stakeholder review; ii) Undertaking analytical work on the strategies, priorities and baselines – including ensuring that the Framework inputs into the AU-2063 agenda to ensure alignment and coherence; iii) defining the operational architecture; iv) strengthening and aligning implementation support – with thrust on results and strengthening expert networks and pools; and v) holding high-level NPCA-AUC-RECs meetings on implementation of the Framework.

Discussion and Action Points on the Sustaining CAADP Momentum – Results Framework

15. The Meeting recommended that the Results Framework be presented to the Heads of State at the January 2014 AU Summit with the intention of seeking renewed demonstrable commitment by the African leaders on the old targets of 10% budget allocations and 6% agriculture growth rates, as well as on new targets that the commissioned studies will reveal. Furthermore, recommitment from the African leaders to agriculture development will be sought on enhancing systemic capacity, upholding mutual accountability, and fostering inter-sectoral and



inter-ministerial collaboration and coordination to ensure higher order results – such as ending hunger on the continent and promoting rural transformation.

16. The Meeting noted the need for further refinement of the Results Framework, and as well underscored the urgency to provide structured support to guide countries and other partners in the implementation of the Framework. In addition, the Meeting took cognizance of the fact that the Framework is knowledge intensive – in terms of new programmes, M&E and research capacity, and accordingly underscored the need to uphold notions such as partnerships, complementarity and subsidiarity in the implementation of the Framework.
17. The AUC and NPCA were also called upon to devise a robust and integral communication and advocacy mechanism within the Results Framework. The mechanism should ensure easy-to-understand messages are developed and disseminated to raise awareness and promote dialogue for internalizing and domesticating the Results Framework especially at national level.
18. The need to anchor the implementation of the Results Framework on the country-NAIPs and the development of guidelines that allow for self-selection of countries for the implementation of the Results Framework were also drawn out as an important set of actions.
19. The need to align the indicators in the CAADP M&E Framework with the Results Framework was also noted. Furthermore, the Business Meeting called for capacity strengthening in data generation and recommended the development of standards and a dashboard that will serve to benchmark and facilitate assessment of implementation of the Results Framework among the different stakeholders and initiatives at continental, regional and country levels.

Preparations for the AU 2014 Year of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Security

20. A presentation on the preparations for the AU 2014 Year of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Security was made. The Meeting was informed that 2014 was declared by the African Union Assembly of Heads of State and Government, during its 19th Ordinary Session, held from 15-16 July 2012 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, to be the Year of Agriculture and Food Security in Africa. The year also marks the 10th Anniversary of the adoption of CAADP. Drawing lessons from the last decade, 2014 provides the opportunity to launch a public campaign that characterizes the next decade of CAADP implementation.
21. The Year 2014 will see the facilitation of broad based, inclusive consultation particularly at country level. The year 2014 will also be capitalised on to address the noted communication gap in member states that detract from a thorough appreciation of the advantages CAADP provides. Beyond this, the year will also be used to deepen mutual learning and experience among countries. Facilitation of dialogue with both Heads of States and strategic partners seeking demonstrable commitment is another prominent objective for 2014.
22. On the part of African leaders, the AU 2014 Year of Agriculture and Food and Nutrition Security, events will seek to get further commitment pertaining to sustaining the support and engagement on agriculture through the CAADP Framework. The pronouncement of commitment will be delivered at the July Heads of State and Governments Summit of the African Union, which will mark a key milestone towards shaping the future of CAADP



CAADP

implementation. CAADP Partners' focus will be on programme alignment, harmonization, coordination and mutual accountability for results and impacts as embedded in Sustaining the CAADP Momentum discourse. The CAADP Results Framework is an instrument that exists to structure and measure commitments exists in the form of the results framework.

23. The Meeting was further informed of the major strategic events that have been planned to deliver messages throughout the year, including the January AU Summit, the 10th CAADP Partnership Platform Meeting, and the Joint AU Conference of Ministers responsible for Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture, and Rural Development, amongst others.

Discussion and Action Points on the Preparations for the AU 2014 YAFNS

24. All institutions supporting the CAADP agenda were called to rally their support towards making the AU 2014 Year of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Security a success. The AUC and NPCA were called upon to provide guidance to the RECs and other stakeholder on the preparations for 2014.

The CAADP Implementation Support

A: Funding Status

25. A presentation on the status of the Multi-Donor Trust Fund (MDTF) as one of the instruments that are providing financial support for CAADP implementation was made. The total donor-pledges – as at October 2013, amounted to USD62.9 million of which about 88% had been received by the MDTF Secretariat, and USD43.5 million spent. Currently, four institutions - AUC, NPCA, COMESA and ECCAS- have received Child Trust Funds and plans to provide funds to ECOWAS and SADC are underway. The Meeting was also informed that the duration of the MDTF has been extended by two years until 2016.
26. Some of the areas that have been supported through the parent MDTF include: Development of the CAADP Results Framework; KIS; Sustaining CAADP Momentum exercise; engaging agri-business with CAADP; agricultural policy; agricultural science and technology; and agricultural education. Furthermore, MDTF has undertaken specific studies – such as the “Mapping Investment Flows into African Agriculture: The Role of CAADP,” targeted at providing evidence to guide decision- making on the support that is provided to CAADP.

Discussion Points on MDTF Funding Status

27. The Meeting acknowledged that the existing Trust Fund is useful and largely successful in fulfilling its objectives. Accordingly, the Meeting commended the support received from the development partners.
28. The Meeting had a discussion on the structure of the proposed new Trust Fund, including possible considerations for dedicated focus on the new emerging result-specific issues guided by the new Results Framework. Further discussions suggested increasing resource allocation making consideration of enhancing the quality of use of the resources, and for CAADP implementation structure support to be guided by a thematic focus.



B: Domestic Resource Mobilisation

29. A presentation on the on-going work that aims to highlight initiatives geared at promoting domestic resource mobilization was also shared at the Business Meeting. It was noted that while aid has been helpful in supporting Africa agriculture, it will not deliver sustainable growth without proper domestic funding mechanism. Furthermore, it was acknowledged that there are a number of financing models that can be used to leverage resource-mobilisation in support of CAADP implementation - including equity funds, credit guarantee facilities, bond markets, and pension funds.

Discussion and Action Points on Domestic Resource Mobilisation

30. The Meeting participants acknowledged the potential value of the study-findings. Further discussions explored the possibilities of engaging the diaspora to be part of the development of Africa agriculture. It was also noted that the study can help to map out the resources that Africa has, and chart a way forward to effectively utilize these resources to support Africa agriculture.

Special Reports

A: Reports from Regional Economic Communities

31. The Meeting received progress reports on CAADP implementation from four² regional economic communities. The reports highlighted cumulative as well as discrete progress made at the national and regional. Notable progress was made on the roundtable processes at country level, reflected in the increased number of countries actively engaging on the CAADP agenda. Progress was also noted on the technical and financial³ support that countries received from various institutions towards CAADP implementation.
32. The reports also outlined the progress that the regional economic communities have made towards developing and / or implementing their regional CAADP compacts. The Meeting was informed that remarkable progress has been made towards the formulation and finalization of regional compacts for COMESA and for EAC. The Meeting was further informed that the RAP in SADC will be the regional CAADP Compact.
33. The reports also enumerated the challenges encountered during implementation, with most RECs highlighting inadequate staffing and low funding for implementation. Furthermore, the Meeting was informed about the areas of support required for effective implementation and implementation support of the CAADP agenda.

Discussion and Action Points on the Reports from the Regional Economic Communities

34. The Meeting noted with satisfaction the progress made by countries and RECs on the CAADP agenda, and lauded the efforts made by RECs in providing the requisite leadership and

² Progress reports on CAADP implementation were received from SADC, COMESA, ECOWAS and EAC

³ In the August 2013 GAFSP funding-release, four African countries, namely Zambia, Uganda, Burkina Faso and Mali received funding, bringing the total number of African countries that have received funding from GAFSP to 15.



support. Furthermore, the RECs were implored to continue supporting their respective member states.

35. Taking cognizance of multiple membership of some countries to different regional economic communities, the RECs were requested to aptly address any overlaps in providing support to countries as well as in designing and implementing regional-level activities. In the same vein, AUC and NPCA were called upon to promote inter-REC cross-learning and peer support.
36. With support and guidance from AUC and NPCA, the Meeting also called upon RECs to actively participate in observing the AU 2014 Year of Agriculture and Food Security by planning relevant activities.

B: Joint Report of AUC and NPCA

37. The joint progress report from AUC and NPCA highlighted progress in seven broad outcome areas, namely: Technical support – access to knowledge, information and analytical skills in CAADP implementation; strengthening local ownership and leadership of stakeholders; managing communication and information in support of CAADP implementation and partnerships; advocacy and communication – with a focus on Sustaining CAADP momentum and 2014 Agenda; enhancing capacity & mechanisms to monitor and assess CAADP progress, results- impact to inform accountability and to support learning; and CAADP complementary programmes.

Discussion and Action Points on the Joint Report of AUC and NPCA

38. The Meeting noted the progress that AUC and NPCA have made on the outcome areas enumerated above. The activities planned for implementation in 2014 and over the next decade were noted, with a call for the implementation and reporting-focus to be placed on level 3 of the Results Framework for the initiatives targeted at demonstrating the value-addition of CAADP, and level 2 for the flagship programmes.
39. The Meeting reaffirmed that the Results Framework can be used as the central reference for the different themes – including the work of Joint Action Groups (JAGs) and hence provides the structure within which their respective contributions can be measured.
40. The pivotal role of country-level institutions including the CAADP country teams in advancing the CAADP agenda was acknowledged. Accordingly, the need to strengthen the tools and mechanisms for enhancing the capacities of country institutions on the implementation of CAADP was acknowledged. On a related note, the AUC, NPCA and the RECs were requested to strengthen the inter-institutional communication and coordination functions, and ensure coordinated support to CAADP implementation – working in close collaboration with farmer organizations, civil society, development partners and other stakeholders on the CAADP agenda.

C: Report from the Development Partners- Task Team

41. The DP-TT report brought out the efforts made in defining the membership, the programmatic structure and the operational processes of the DP-TT. The DP-TT has three main



workstreams, namely: i) Sharing information between members to improve harmonization; ii) Improving aid effectiveness in support to CAADP; and iii) Strengthening relations with AUC, NPCA and RECS. The report also highlighted the support that has been provided to continental and regional institutions implementing the CAADP agenda.

Discussion Points on the DP-TT's Report

42. The Meeting took cognizance of the contributions of the DP-TT in facilitating the CAADP agenda. Furthermore, it was noted that the objectives of the DP-TT are very relevant for ensuring effective coordinated support to the CAADP agenda.

D: Summary Report of the AUC-NPCA-RECs Meeting

43. A summary report on the deliberations of a joint meeting between AUC, NPCA and RECs, held together with other African institutions was presented to the Meeting. It was highlighted that joint meeting of the African constituency served as a mid-term review in light of the actions agreed at the 2013 CAADP PP. The report also provided a synopsis of the key lessons and messages, and the planned steps to ensure coordinated support to CAADP implementation.

Discussion and Action Points on the Report of the AUC-NPCA-RECs Meeting

44. The Meeting took note of the outcomes of the Joint Review and Planning Meeting of AUC-NPCA-RECs, and lauded the lead institutions for the leadership that they are providing on advancing the CAADP agenda. The Meeting also called for clear and greater commitment of the leadership of RECs on the CAADP agenda.

E: Special Workstream Reports

Science Agenda

45. The Meeting received a presentation on the Science Agenda made by a representative of FARA. The presentation highlighted the central position of the Science Agenda in sustaining the CAADP agenda. The role that FARA is playing in supporting the research and technology enhancement frontiers within the CAADP agenda was appreciated by the Business Meeting participants.

The Knowledge Information System

46. A presentation was made on the CAADP Knowledge Information System (KIS), situated within "Sustaining CAADP Momentum". The Meeting was informed that the KIS is aligned to, and directly contributes to the Results Framework of the Sustaining CAADP Momentum.

Special Information Reports

47. Special reports were received on: The outcomes of a side meeting held by the Joint Action Group (JAG) on the Regional Integration Agenda; the outcomes of a meeting held by the domestic private sector; a concept note on the ReSAKSS Conference; a concept note and



roadmap on the planned meeting of the Agriculture Development Working Group. A presentation highlighting initial ideas on the scope, thrust and construct of the 10th CAADP PP was also shared.

Discussion and Action Points on the Special Information Reports

48. The Meeting noted the potential contribution of JAGs in supporting the CAADP-support institutions. The Meeting, however, noted the ambiguity in the functioning of JAGs. Accordingly, the Meeting called upon AUC and NPCA to provide clarity on the functions, purpose, structure, membership, roles and responsibilities.
49. The Meeting also reiterated the need for strong communication among all the institutions

Partnership Paper

50. The Meeting received a presentation on the proposed draft partnership paper

Discussion and Action Points on the Partnership Paper

51. The Meeting expressed concerns about the delay in finalizing the partnership paper, and agreed to constitute a task team that will meet physically to finalize the paper (using the September 2013 draft version) to meet on the margins of the ADWG. The task team membership includes: the Co-Chairs; COMESA (representing RECs); Private Sector; Civil Society; and NPCA as the Secretariat.

CLOSURE OF THE BUSINESS MEETING

Closing remarks were received from Mr Rey, who commended the delegates for the fruitful discussions. Closing statements were also made by the PICD Director at the NPCA, Mrs Estherine Fotabong, who spoke on behalf of the AUC and the NPCA, noting that the outcomes of the Business Meeting serve as a critical milestone in the implementation of CAADP over the next decade.