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NEPAD Planning and
Coordinating Agency (NPCA)

P.O. Box 1234
Halfway House 1685
Midrand, Johannesburg
South Africa

COMMUNIQUE OF THE SIXTH COMPREHENSIVE AFRICA AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME PARTNERSHIP PLATFORM MEETING

April 21-23, 2010

Johannesburg, South Africa

1. The sixth (6th) Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) Partnership Platform (PP) Meeting took place at the Birchwood Conference Center, in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 21 to 23 April, 2010. The Learning and Sharing Session took place on April 22-23 and was preceded by a Business Session on April 21. The meeting was hosted by the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA).

2. The 'Business session' was dedicated to reviewing progress with CAADP implementation since the last PP meeting, took decisions on key issues that would improve the coordination and management of CAADP implementation and agreed on specific actions that the key stakeholders are expected to implement and report against in subsequent PP meetings. The two days' 'Lessons Learning and Experience Sharing' session focused on providing participants with stakeholder reports on the various coordinating processes they had embarked on as well as the major substantive issues that CAADP implementation needed to take into consideration.

3. The participants, close to 200 in number, included representatives of the African Union Commission (AUC), NPCA, Regional Economic Communities (RECs), representatives of national governments, national and regional farmers' organizations, civil society organizations engaged in advocacy work in support of African agriculture and CAADP, CAADP Pillar Lead Institutions, other knowledge institutions and think tanks, as well as Pan-African organizations and representatives of at least 15 development partner agencies. The People's Republic of China attended the PP as an observer.

4. The meeting was opened with statements by H.E Rhoda Peace Tumusiime, Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture at the AUC, Dr. Ibrahim Assane Mayaki, CEO of the NPCA, and Ms. N Vutula representing the Government of the Republic of South Africa, and Neil McPherson from the United Nations High Level Task Force on Food Security Coordination Support Team on behalf of the development partners. In their messages, they emphasized: the fact that CAADP has been and continues to be a high priority for the continent which is supportive of the AU Chair's vision of a hunger free Africa; the support of the South African government for the CAADP agenda; the consideration that CAADP is moving beyond processes to the provision of public services / goods and the appreciation by the development partner



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community of the rapid progress in the pace of CAADP implementation over the last 12 months.

SUMMARY OF KEY MESSAGES

5. The meeting reviewed the implementation of actions and recommendations of 5th CAADP. It noted with satisfaction that progress against actions called for in the 5th CAADP PP Communiqué showed that the majority of these actions have been carried out.

6. The meeting noted the progress in defining a post-compact strategy to complete the design of investment plans and agree on funding and policy-related modalities of implementing these plans. It highlighted the critical importance of: alignment by, and harmonization among, development partners in the field and at HQ levels around a common post-compact strategy; country leadership and broad ownership of post-compact processes and products; and ensuring financing, effective programme formulation and implementation after successful completion of the business meeting.

7. The role of the PLIs in the post compact process was considered. The decision by the PLIs to: (i) establish an Inter-Pillar Working Group (IPWG), regrouping all PLIs and ReSAKSS, (ii) designate regional PLI-Liaisons to interact with RECs and stakeholders at the regional level, as well as country liaisons to coordinate PLI interventions at the country level through a pool of experts, was welcome as an important step towards deepening their intervention.

8. The meeting highlighted the need for CAADP implementers at all levels to acquire and improve CAADP related skills for the smooth delivery of CAADP goals and this implies a comprehensive and coordinated strategy to align existing training to CAADP and also for the set-up of elaborate programmes to address country needs. A comprehensive list of actors and beneficiaries of training at all levels, both within as well as outside of Government was presented.

9. Participants stressed the need to: (i) prioritise the capacity support that will be delivered and differentiate between the support of existing capacity (ies) and the creation of new skills; (ii) address the different layers of capacity building at different levels and ensure that there is impact on the ground; and (iii) identify the African institutions that will deliver on the capacity support and assess their ability to do so. In addition, participants agreed on the need for a single comprehensive capacity strategy and it is in this regard that a joint CAADP / DP task team is to be established to finalise the capacity strategy in consultation with the various constituents.

10. The meeting reiterated the importance of a comprehensive Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) framework and its role in supporting peer review, dialogue, and mutual accountability as key values and principles of the CAADP agenda was highlighted. It welcomed the validation the Comprehensive CAADP M&E framework in March 2010.



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The Framework highlights an adequate set of indicators related to inputs, outputs, impacts, and outcomes and also describes a roadmap for its operationalization at the country, regional and continental levels.

11. The meeting also acknowledged the first Comprehensive CAADP M&E report which showed trends in public expenditures, growth, poverty reduction, and nutrition across regions and individual countries. Participants were pleased with the progress being made but are concerned by its unevenness and the fact that the majority of countries are still far away from the growth, poverty, and expenditure targets.

12. The meeting noted the progress made on the preparation and drafting of the Framework on Agriculture Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation following its endorsement at the 5th CAADP PP. The meeting looks forward to the final framework and its implementation in country post compact / agricultural investment programmes.

13. The critical role of civil society organizations, in all their segments, was stressed, as was the importance of their effective inclusion into all stages of the process by the continental organizations, AUC and NPCA, RECs, national governments, and other stakeholders.

14. The meeting noted that, unlike the country level, where the involvement of Agriculture Donor Working Groups has grown significantly, adequate mechanisms to facilitate coordination of development partner support to CAADP at the regional level are still absent. The meeting stressed that the implementation of the regional CAADP compacts will require greater involvement of partners at the regional level and hence a more effective harmonization of their intervention.

15. At the global level, the meeting welcomed the launch of the L'Aquila Food Security Initiative (AFSI). It is pleased, in particular, with high degree of concurrence between the CAADP principles and the five Rome principles, consisting of: 1) support country-led processes; 2) ensure comprehensive approach to food security; 3) strategically coordinate assistance; 4) support a strong role for multilateral institutions; and 5) sustain a robust commitment of financial resources.

16. The meeting was encouraged by the establishment of the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP) and called on the development partners and the leadership of the international organizations that will be participating in the implementation of the programme in Africa to adhere to the CAADP principles of country ownership and leadership, high quality evidence and outcome based planning and implementation, as well as inclusive dialogue and review. The meeting also underlined the need for establishing a formal institutional link between the AU, the NPCA, continental organizations and GAFSP to ensure that the above considerations are taken on board in GAFSP implementation.

IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS



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17. The meeting noted that although progress had been made in terms of implementing key actions from the 5th CAADP PP – there are some actions that were yet to be fully executed. In particular, the establishment of the Peer Review Unit by NPCA was not completed, but an M&E specialist has been recruited and consultations with the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) Secretariat started in order to guide the future peer review mechanisms and the work program of the Unit. The facilitation of the national SAKSS nodes will take place under the IFPRI CAADP Project Phase II. The efforts towards the establishment of the Regional Policy Analysis and Knowledge Platforms are ongoing. Input into the action plan by all stakeholders is being gathered. The MDTF has been disbursing directly about US\$500 thousand per month to support the 10 CAADP coordinating/supporting agencies (AUC, NPCA, five Pillar Lead Institutions, and four RECs). It held its first Partnership Committee (PC) meeting in Pretoria on April 20, at which the action plans of 5 agencies were approved for a total of US\$17 million. Finally, the meeting noted the importance of developing joint principles and tools for Development Partners' engagement with CAADP regional programmes that are implemented by the RECs. Discussions were focused on the findings of the stocktaking and scoping exercise. The next steps towards developing joint principles and tools should be a collaborative effort involving the RECs, AUC, NPCA and other regional organizations and development partners.

18. The meeting recognized the recent trends in growth and poverty reduction across regions and individual countries which show that 10 countries in Africa had met the 6% agricultural growth rate in 2008/9. The decline in the average malnutrition rate is encouraging, but it is still high at 29%. About 13 countries are making sufficient progress towards the hunger or poverty targets, but only Ghana is on track to achieve both the targets by 2015. Furthermore, estimates of IFPRI's Global Hunger Index (GHI) show that most countries have achieved reduction in hunger and poverty. The participants noted that the fact that Africa, as a whole however, is not on track to achieve MDG1 and that this adds to the sense of urgency towards the speedy and effective implementation of CAADP.

19. It noted the progress showing that 10 countries in Africa had met the 10% percent budget target, and several others have moved into that range, with at least 9 countries showing budget allocations in the 5 – 10% range. More importantly, the share of agricultural expenditures has gone up in the large majority of countries since the Maputo Declaration. However, participants noted that although there has been some progress – resources should be provided and focused on the needs of women and farmers organizations.

20. The discussion on the levels of growth-poverty convergence among countries indicates that the growth that has taken place in most countries should have led to greater reduction in poverty levels. The review of the multiple vulnerabilities which threaten production, livelihoods, markets, national security, health and the environment highlighted the need to mobilize all key sectors, actors and ministries to overcome the



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silos mentalities of planning and programming to design comprehensive and inter-sectoral investments and programmes. In particular, countries will need to maximize synergies between expenditures in the social sectors and agriculture with the objective of raising the productivity of labor in the agricultural and rural sectors, where most of the poor and vulnerable reside. Investment plans will also need to show capacity to anticipate, respond to and adapt to potential changes, crises and threats related to African agriculture and food security.

21. The meeting also noted with satisfaction the rapid acceleration of the implementation of the CAADP agenda by Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and their member states. From one country before July 2009, the number of countries that have signed their national CAADP compacts has risen to eighteen, (6 in COMESA and 12 in ECOWAS) within the last 9 months¹. An additional 8 countries are expected to sign by June 30, 2010: Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Guinea Bissau, Kenya, Namibia, Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. ECCAS countries are progressively embracing the CAADP: Cameroon, Central African Republic, Congo Brazzaville, and Democratic Republic of Congo have taken noticeable initiatives to align their respective agricultural and food security strategies behind CAADP. Rwanda, the first country to have signed a compact, has also been the first to complete its post-compact process, with a business meeting in December 2009, followed by adoption of its financing plan. As of April 2010, US\$250 million has been secured out of a total funding gap of US\$325 million.

22. Participants highlighted the key roles that are played by civil society enactors at the country-level particularly in terms of mobilizing and sensitizing people at the grass-roots level with regard to the CAADP agenda. However, it was also recognized that CSOs required better and broader engagement with the RECs, AUC and the NPCA in order for them to have a bigger impact in advocacy and policy formulation around the CAADP agenda.

23. The progress made in terms of including the Companion document on livestock and fisheries into the pillar frameworks was also recognized and welcomed. The meeting noted with satisfaction the document on livestock and the tools (AU-IBAR livestock investment tool kit) being prepared for use in the advancement of livestock and fisheries in the CAADP implementation processes at the country-level.

24. The meeting welcomed the progress in speeding up the disbursement of funds by the MDTF and in particular, the approval by its Partnership Committee of US\$ 17 million to fund the action plans of AUC's Department for Rural Economy and Agriculture (\$4.0 mill.), NPCA (\$3.5 mill.), COMESA (\$4.5 mill.), ECCAS (\$3.9 mill.), and CMAWCA (\$1.1 mill.). The funding is for 3 years, except for CMAWCA, where it is for 1 year due to the limitation of PLI interim mandates to one year. Total committed funding of the MDTF has reached US\$32.00 million with an additional US\$ 20 million in commitments expected.

¹ Benin, Burundi, Cape Verde, Gambia, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Liberia, Niger, Nigeria, Malawi, Mali, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Swaziland, Togo, and Uganda.



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25. The meeting reviewed and approved the revised terms of reference of the Partnership Platform and commends the AUC, NPCA, and the CAADP Development Partner Task Team of the Global Donor Platform for Rural Development (GDPRD) for the quality of the document.

AGREED ACTIONS

26. Considering the comprehensive nature of the CAADP agenda and the need to promote its broad ownership within government and among other stakeholder groups, the meeting recommends to change the name of the investment plans to “National Agricultural and Food Security Investment Plans”.

27. The meeting recommends that the post-compact roadmap for the remainder of 2010 focus on countries which have already signed compacts, with a first set of technical reviews and business meetings to be held during the period June-July 2010 and a second set in October-September 2010. It also urges all parties involved to make sure that adequate post-compact roadmaps are in place in each country upon signing of the compact, to be followed without delay by the formulation of agricultural investment plans. It calls upon all parties to ensure sufficient country leadership in the post compact process as well as inclusiveness to allow participation of farmer organizations, the private sector, and civil society organizations. The same call for inclusiveness goes to countries that are at the pre-compact stage. In this later respect, AU, NPCA and development partners were urged to redouble their efforts so that the engagement of non-state domestic actors at the earliest phase of the CAADP process is ensured. Exposure of representatives of CAADP teams from pre-compact countries to PP meetings was also noted as an important instrument to promote dialogue and peer learning.

28. The role of PLIs has evolved from developing frameworks to the actual implementation of frameworks. The meeting therefore recommends that AUC/NPCA take the required measures to clarify their mandate and role as implementers so that they can continue to deliver on their tasks. Irrespective of the Pillar historic or existing financial mechanisms, there is need for immediate and additional support from the MDTF. Given the delay in disbursing direct support to the PLIs, there should be a contingent plan for them to access funding in light of the immediate country support demands. The meeting furthermore call on the PLIs to scale up their level of engagement in the ECCAS region.

29. The meeting noted that the need to clarify the role of TerrAfrica and the CAADP Secretariat in Pillar 1 and the implications for the role of the lead institutions for the Pillar, the University of Zambia and the Inter-state Committee for Drought Control in Sahel (CILSS).



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30. The meeting endorsed the validated Comprehensive CAADP M&E Framework as well as the Continental Steering Committee overseeing the work of ReSAKSS, as the technical arm of the CAADP M&E Framework. The membership of the Committee includes: The AUC and NPCA as Co-chairs, the ReSAKSS Regional Steering Committees (represented by the Chairs), the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM), ReSAKSS (as the Secretariat), and Regional Farmers' Organizations, Private Sector at the regional level, Pillar Lead Institutions, a Country SAKSS node per region, and the Development Partners CAADP Task Team.

31. The meeting called upon ReSAKSS and the PLIs to ensure that their work on the ground is well coordinated and their interface with the Mutual Accountability Framework and the M&E systems of the different RECs is well articulated. It recommends that ReSAKSS, in consultation with the involved parties, prepares a note showing how such coordination and articulation can be achieved under the M&E Framework.

32. The meeting also called upon the NPCA and RECs to improve their coordination with regard to the mobilization of technical expertise from external agencies and PLIs in order to improve the coordination of the country-level support towards CAADP implementation.

33. The participants welcomed the Resource Group Workshop which is scheduled for May 2010 in Kampala- Uganda, recommends that the Workshop review the capacity support proposal and ensure it meets satisfactory quality standards.

34. The meeting recommends that a draft document to guide the intervention by development partners at the regional level be prepared for discussion by the next CAADP PP. The document needs to specify how alignment of development partners with the CAADP agenda is defined at the regional level and the respect of the subsidiarity principle, as important guiding criteria for their intervention, can be achieved. The document should also specify proper mechanisms for the harmonization of development partner efforts as well as for the disbursement and proper management of funds at the regional level.

35. The meeting calls upon the World Bank to expedite the establishment of the Child Trust Funds for those grantee institutions whose plans have been approved by the MDTF PC, with expected effectiveness within two months. Furthermore, it calls upon the World Bank to continue working with the other trust fund beneficiary agencies on their strategic and operational plans for speedy finalization and submission to the PC for approval. In the meantime, the meeting invites the use of the Bank-Executed portion of the MDTF to support the intervention by PLIs in the post-compact process within the coming weeks and months.

36. The meeting requests that the MDTF PC to pay more attention to gender balance when appointing the next set of member representatives.



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37. Participants welcomed the establishment of a continental Farmers' Organizations' (FOs) to serve as partners to the AUC and NPCA and to facilitate collaboration with and involvement by their member organizations at all levels, including in particular their effective participation in the CAADP country teams and the CAADP PP Joint Standing Committee (JSC). FOs were called upon to identify and set-up a framework for their engagement/s with RECs. The meeting also called for the provision of a permanent seat for FOs on the JSC.

38. The meeting asks the Joint Standing Committee (JSC) of PP to follow up with concerned parties to ensure that the decisions and recommendations of the present communiqué are carried out. Furthermore, it asks the JSC to work with responsible parties to ensure that the outstanding actions from the 5th PP Communiqué are carried out and reported on their status at the 7th PP meeting.

ORGANISATION AND COORDINATION OF THE CAADP PP

39. The meeting recognized with satisfaction that the introduction of a Business Session has been an important and positive innovation of the CAADP PP and commends the JSC for that. It noted that there was room for further improvement. In particular, the number of items on the agenda and the format of the discussion did not allow for decision points to emerge adequately. Neither was there sufficient room for consideration of next steps.

40. The meeting therefore calls upon the Committee to carry out an evaluation of the format, content (including timely provision of the required conference documents), and output of the meeting and draw out lessons and apply these to improve the workings of the next PP, giving particular attention to the Business Session.

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