



CAADP



COMMUNIQUE OF THE 12th COMPREHENSIVE AFRICA AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME PARTNERSHIP PLATFORM (CAADP PP) MEETING

“Accelerating Implementation of CAADP through Innovative Financing and Renewed Partnership”

12- 14 April 2016

Accra, Ghana

INTRODUCTION

1. The 12th Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) Partnership Platform (PP) Meeting was convened by the African Union Commission (AUC) and the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NEPAD Agency) from 12 to 14 April 2016. The meeting was hosted by the Republic of Ghana, and took place at the La Palm Beach Royal Hotel, in Accra, Ghana.
2. The Partnership Platform meeting was organized under the theme: “Accelerating Implementation of CAADP through Innovative Financing and Renewed Partnerships”. The Meeting was attended by over 400 participants, including representatives of the AUC, the NEPAD Agency, Regional Economic Communities (RECs), Farmers’ organizations, National Governments, Public and Private Financial institutions, Agricultural Research Centres; Civil Society Organizations, Private Sector, African Youth Organisations, Media Institutions and Development Partners. Among the high level participants, the Partnership Platform hosted H.E Olusegun Obasanjo; Former President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and H.E. John Kufuor; Former President of the Republic of Ghana.
3. The 12th CAADP PP sought to identify the capacity needs and the necessary partnerships at all levels to finance agricultural transformation and enable the implementation of the Malabo Declaration. The Partnership Platform meeting was structured to address seven sub-themes: (i) Funding the African Agricultural Investment to Attain Malabo Commitments, (ii) Agricultural Finance Landscape and Policy Environment, (iii) Inclusive Access to Finance to empower women and youth, (iv) Innovative Delivery of Financial Services, (v) Value Chain Finance, (vi) Agriculture and Food Insecurity Risk Management, and (vii) Renewing Partnership for Accelerated Development.
4. The 12th CAADP was expected to deliver four main outputs: (1) Recommendations from each sub-theme to guide the AUC, NEPAD Agency and RECs to create adequate support to Member States, (2) Actions that need to be followed up by AUC NEPAD Agency and the RECs, (3) Contribute to improving the design of the partnership and highlight key elements of the partnership

- structure, and (4) Provide an update on the Biennial Review Cycle aimed at tracking performance.
5. Several side events have been organized in the morning of the 12th April 2016. Participants of the side events have discussed on different issues and how best to accelerate the Malabo targets implementation.
 6. The opening ceremony featured remarks from Dr Ahmed Yakubu Alhassan, Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture, Republic of Ghana, Mr Philip Kiriio President of East African Farmers representing the President of Pan African Farmers' Organisation (PAFO), Mr Christoph Rauh, Deputy Director, Sub-Saharan Africa, Federal Ministry of Cooperation (BMZ), Germany and Chair of the CAADP Development Partner Coordination Group (DPCG), Dr Ibrahim Mayaki, CEO of the NEPAD Agency and H.E. Tumusiime Rhoda Peace, Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture at the African Union Commission.
 7. The opening remarks addressed the importance of the CAADP PP and its role in collating collective and mutual responsibilities among the CAADP partners (Governments, Regional Economic Communities, private sector, civil society, donors). Addressing food security and agricultural development requires high levels of public investment to address the public good dimensions but also requires significant private sector investments and participation. There is a global paradigm shift as the African smallholder starts to produce for the market and therefore a need for greater investment to meet the needs of this shift. Africa can only make things happen if Africa collectively innovates, there is a need to innovate and create fit for purpose instruments for finance and risk management that speak to the unique requirements of the Member States.
 8. The Partnership Platform opening Ceremony marked the launch of the Africa Food Prize by H.E Olusegun Obasanjo. The Africa Food Prize will award best performance towards achieving Malabo Commitments.
 9. The Partnership Platform validated the instruments which will help to appraise NAIPs and conduct Biennial Reviews of the implementation of Malabo Declaration.

KEY MESSAGES

10. The Partnership Platform Meeting noted the need for coherent linkages across regional markets that ensure coordination but also address the multi-sectoral dimensions of agriculture and rural development. The public sector needs to do the heavy lifting so as to create an attractive environment for the private sector.
11. The Meeting reaffirmed the vital role for agriculture in leading African development and serving as a catalyst for the needs of the youth and women. It also further emphasised that the Malabo Declaration is a strong political movement for the industrialisation of African agriculture and the smallholder farmer is a valuable component of the African private sector particularly the Small and Medium Enterprises.

12. Delegates also noted agriculture as a business that is a continuum across various sizes of farms and industries.
13. The meeting highlighted the need to implement the Malabo Declaration at national level with a greater coordination across sectors on the continent and within regions and where the Member States will disseminate the Malabo Declaration in local languages.
14. Delegates underscored the need to innovate so as to address the gaps in the financial products and delivery of financial services and further upscale good practices on financial services. Development finance policies and efforts exist but the delivery of the development finance services is clearly the weakness.

RECOMMENDATIONS

15. On Funding the African Agricultural Investment to Attain Malabo Commitments: AUC, NPCA and the RECs shall design a comprehensive financing architecture with a Continental, Regional and National perspective to ensure accelerated implementation, coordination, complementarities and accountable partnership across Africa.
16. On Finance Landscape and Policy Environment: Member States and Development Partners shall highlight ways in which development finance can be delivered to the grassroots in an efficient and cost effective manner.
17. On Inclusive Access to Finance to empower women and youth: In the 2016 AU year for Human Rights with particular focus on the Rights of Women, create components that address the needs of the women and youth; particularly on land titles and practicing agriculture as a business for women and creating smart investment for the youth based on quick returns, technology and innovation.
18. The AUC and the NEPAD Agency should work closely with the Regional Economic Communities in defining innovative finance frameworks to ensure accelerated implementation of identified priorities in RAIPs and NAIPs.
19. Private Sector and other stakeholders to translate Malabo commitment into bankable business plans that can attract required resources necessary for accelerated implementation. In particular, Member states should create the enabling environment for investments in agribusiness.
20. On Innovative Delivery of Financial Services: Stakeholders should consider how the digital revolution in financial services could be used to collect the much needed data for planning and risk management on access to finance in rural areas.
21. On Value Chain Finance: Stakeholders shall at all stages of the value chain consider and use inclusive approaches for the smallholder farmers and the agricultural Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) on how to conduct business and improve business skills.

22. On Agriculture and Food Insecurity Risk Management: Stakeholders shall address the quality of data requirement collectively together with the national planning data and financial services to reduce the unit cost of investment but to also create the opportunity for this investment to be considered as a public good. Member States shall continue to put in place the necessary infrastructure, building capacity and creating a conducive environment for the risk management markets to make it more attractive.
23. On Renewing Partnership for Accelerated Development: New partnerships models that provide equal opportunities need to be structured so the private sector and other stakeholders explore how best to leverage the partnership. This is required to ensure sustainability of the partnerships into the future and create alternative funding models as the level of development advances. These Partnerships need to be institutionalised for strengthening Mutual Accountability.

NEXT STEPS

24. AUC and NPCA to facilitate the conduct of Regional and National Agriculture Investment Plans Appraisals and establishment of the continental Biennial Review Mechanism.
25. AUC, NPCA, RECs, Member States, Development Partners and other actors to jointly work to enforce coordination, alignment, accountability by all stakeholders on deliverables and resources use at continental, regional and national level.
26. AUC and NPCA to facilitate technical support for implementation of New Generation of NAIPs through the establishment of Technical Networks. Technical Networks will help identify appropriate policies, programs and practices that can accelerate achievement of the Malabo Declaration goals and target.
27. AUC and NPCA to give an update on the NAIPs Appraisal, the establishment of the Technical Networks in the 13th CAADP PP.
28. RECs and Member States to build synergy and coherence of appraised NAIP and RAIP to ensure coordination within and across economic communities.
29. Involve parliamentarians at country and regional level to support the implementation of Malabo declaration through legislation, budget planning process and as well as advocacy for the agricultural sector.
30. Development partners to support to CAADP implementation at national, regional and continental levels through appropriate mechanisms; including innovative financing modalities building on the multi-stakeholder approach.