UNITED NATIONS
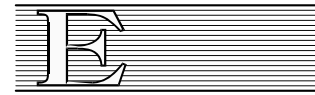**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL**

ECONOMIC COMMSION FOR AFRICA

Eighth Session of the Committee on Food Security and Sustainable
  Development
                      and
 The Regional Implementation Meeting for the Twentieth
 Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development

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Implementation of the 2012/2013 Work Programme of the ECA Subprogramme on Food Security and Sustainable Development

Progress Report

Contents

Acronyms

ACPC	African Climate Policy Centre
ATPC	African Trade Policy Centre
AU	African Union
AUC	African Union Commission
ADF-VII	Seventh African Development Forum
AfDB	African Development Bank
AMCEN	African Ministerial Conference on the Environment
A21	Agenda 21
CAHOSCC	Conference of African Heads of State and Government on Climate Change
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CIRAD	Centre for Agricultural Research for Development
CSD	Commission on Sustainable Development
CTA	Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation
CTA	Technical Centre for Agriculture and Rural Development
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
FAO	United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization
F&G	Framework and Guidelines
FSSDD	Food Security and Sustainable Development Division
HLC-3A	High Level Conference on African Agribusiness and Agro-Industries
ICTSD	International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IFDC	International Fertilizer Development Centre
IITA	International Institute for Tropical Agriculture/Nigeria
ILRI	International Livestock Research Institute
LPI	Land Policy Initiative
LSLBI	Large Scale Land-Based Investments in Africa
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development
PFIA21	Programme for Further Implementation of Agenda 21
PIP	Programme Implementation Plan
RAAMIS	Regional African Agricultural Market Information System
REC	Regional Economic Community
REDD	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation
RCM	Regional Coordination Mechanism
RITD	Regional Integration and Trade Division
SADC	Southern Africa Development Community
SCP	Sustainable Consumption and Production
SDRA	Sustainable Development Report on Africa
UNCSD	United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
UN-ECLAC	United Nations Economic Commission for Latin American Countries
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNISDR	United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction
WFP	World Food Programme

1.   Introduction

1.   Implementation of the subprogramme on Food Security and Sustainable Development of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) is entrusted to its Food Security and Sustainable Development Division (FSSDD).

2.   This report is being submitted to the Eighth Session of the Committee on Food Security and Sustainable Development (CFSSD-8) in order to:

(a)   Apprise the Committee on the progress made and seek guidance on the further implementation of the subprogramme's planned outputs for the biennium 2012/2013; and

(b)   Solicit guidance, inputs and direction from the Committee to inform preparation of the subprogramme for the 2014/2015 biennium, taking into account the lessons learned during the current biennium and emerging priorities on food security and sustainable development at global, regional, subregional and national levels.

2.   Implementation of the 2012/2013 Work Programme

3.   The overall objective of the subprogramme during the 2012/2013 biennium is to "Promote food security and sustainable development including addressing the challenge of climate in Africa in accordance with the priorities of the African Union (AU) and its NEPAD Programme, and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation".

4.   The implementation of subprogramme outputs is expected to result in the following accomplishments:

(a)   Enhanced capacity and engagement at the national, subregional and regional levels to develop and implement appropriate policies, strategies and programmes for achieving food security and sustainable development; and

(b)   Improved capacity of member States to mainstream climate change into development policies, strategies and programmes.

5.   The main thrust of the subprogramme activities during the biennium is in the following areas:

(a)   Supporting countries to achieve sustainable development through strengthening their capacity to achieve a balanced integration of environment, economic and social dimensions in the development and implementation of policies, strategies and programmes. In this connection, a significant level of effort was devoted to supporting African countries to effectively prepare for and participate in the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, also known as Rio+20, which took place in Rio de Janeiro in June 2012. The support was provided with the intent of facilitating effective coordination and consultations among African countries to ensure that Africa adequately prepared for the conference and arrived at a consensus on its key sustainable development concerns and priorities, to effectively

articulate them and to ensure that these were adequately reflected in the conference outcomes. Continued support to member States, regional and subregional organizations to implement the outcomes of Rio+20 will be provided;

(b)   Strengthening capacity to develop and implement policies, strategies and programmes to achieve food security including responding to the challenges posed by the volatility of food prices;

(c)   Promoting the development of strategic agricultural commodity value chains for food security and sustainable development in Africa;

(d)   Supporting African countries to respond to the urgent challenges posed by climate change;

(e)   Strengthening the capacity of African countries to develop and implement land policies. Activities in this area are aimed at ensuring the effective implementation of the AU decision on the Framework and guidelines on policies in Africa; and

(f)   Provision of regional advisory services in water and forest resources development and management.

6.   The following sections provide highlights on the status of implementation of planned outputs for the 2012/2013 biennium:

A.   Completed outputs

7.   The implementation of the following outputs under the different categories has been completed:

> *(a)   **Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies:** Parliamentary documentation*

8.   Five parliamentary and other reports have been prepared for submission to CFSSD-8. These reports focus on main intervention areas of the subprogramme. In the reports, details on various activities implemented are provided. The reports also highlight and analyse key challenges and emerging priorities and provide recommendations for consideration by the committee, to promote food security and sustainable development in Africa. These reports are as follows:

> *(i)   Report to the Committee on Food Security and Sustainable development (CFSSD) and Africa RIM on Main Outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development - Implications for Africa:*

9.   This report presents an analysis of the main outcomes of Rio+20 and their implications for Africa. It focuses on the elements that will be discussed at the Twentieth Session of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD-20), namely: the High Level

Political Forum on Sustainable Development; the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); Means of Implementation (Financing Sustainable Development, Technology Development and Transfer; and Capacity Development); as well as the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States (SIDS). In addition to these, the report includes an analysis of other outcomes deemed important for Africa such as the voluntary commitments that complement the traditional means of implementation, a programme on measures to complement Gross Domestic Product (GDP), the green economy, and the Africa section of the Outcome Document. In analysing the implications for Africa, the report identifies possible areas of intervention by regional partners and organizations.

10.   The conclusion of the report is that the Rio+20 Outcome Document largely reflects Africa's priorities and concerns as contained in its Consensus Statement that constitutes the region's Common Position for Rio+20. Rio+20 has set in motion a series of crucial intergovernmental processes that will ultimately determine the impact of the conference for the global sustainable development agenda. All these processes are critical for Africa, as they deal with matters that will have significant bearing for the region's sustainable development agenda. It is therefore of the utmost importance that Africa effectively engages in these intergovernmental processes, to ensure that its priorities and concerns are adequately addressed in their outcomes.

> *(ii)   Report to the CFSSD on the development of strategic agricultural commodity value chains for food security and sustainable development in Africa*

11.   This report is a synthesis of two country reports on the livestock value chains of Botswana and Ethiopia and was undertaken in order to determine and establish the current livestock production potential, demand for livestock products/by-products, and market access to both regional and international markets; identify commodity flows and stakeholders, including their interaction across the value chain; identify major challenges and opportunities across the value chain; and to indicate the relevance and significance of livestock in the livelihoods of smallholder farmers and agro-pastoralists/pastoralists, including those across the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa/Southern African Development Community (COMESA/SADC) subregion.

12.   The livestock value chain in COMESA/SADC is a multi-billion dollar business, which is yet to benefit 70-80 per cent of the people in the rural areas. The livestock value chain is grossly underdeveloped in *most* countries and their contribution on the world market is largely insignificant.

13.   Despite the huge livestock resource base in COMESA and SADC, its contribution to income generation, employment creation, food security and nutrition, social security and poverty reduction is farfetched, as exhibited by high poverty levels. Currently, more than 70 per cent of the people including livestock keepers, in COMESA/SADC, are poor and survive on $1.00 per day (Thornton and others, 2002). It is for this reason that the Alliance for Commodity Trade in East and Southern Africa (ACTESA) was established in 2009 as an arm of COMESA to tackle these issues effectively.

14.   The report indicates that livestock, as a strategic commodity in COMESA and SADC:

- Can be promoted, due to their potential to become significant, particularly at regional markets but also at the continental level;

- Is crucial for food security in the subregion from an increased production potential perspective;

- Has significant demand and is currently poorly traded within the subregion

(iii)   Report to the CFSSD on the status of food security in Africa

15.   Achieving food security in Africa remains a challenge. The situation is constantly affected by complex factors including unstable social, economical and political environment such as political instability, macroeconomic imbalances in trade, natural and man-made disasters, poor human resource base, and changing global food market dynamics among others. All these factors contribute to either insufficient national food availability or insufficient access to food by households and individuals. As a result, 240 million undernourished people (representing 24 per cent of Africa) of the total of 1 billion undernourished in the world live in Africa. This report shows that the root causes of food insecurity in Africa are still not well addressed. The high prevalence of food insecurity is due to persistent structural production deficiency, which is induced by low productivity, and the inability of people to gain access to productive assets and food due to poverty.

16.   African countries need to shape their policy response on increased agricultural productivity and production, development of markets and on building the resilience of vulnerable populations. Policies should focus on sustainable agricultural productivity leading to increased agricultural production, and development of agricultural markets channels. African small farmers need to be at the centre of all efforts leading to agricultural productivity and production. This is still to be realized in most countries. Building resilience and safety nets should be core elements in any design of policy response to Africa food insecurity. An effective food-security strategy in African countries should rely on a combination of factors such as increased productivity in agriculture, good governance, building resilience and rural transformation, within the context of sustainable development.

(iv)   Report to the CFSSD on Climate for Development (ClimDev-Africa) in Africa Programme

17.   The Climate for Development in Africa Programme (ClimDev-Africa Programme) is an initiative of the African Union Commission (AUC), UNECA and the African Development Bank (AfDB) mandated at the highest level by African leaders. The programme has been established to create a solid foundation for the African response to climate change, and to scale-up the capacities of key institutions and stakeholders with a view to improving climate-related data and observation, information services, policies and risk-management practices in priority climate-sensitive sectors such as agriculture, water, energy, health and human settlements. As the knowledge hub and secretariat of the ClimDev-Africa programme, the African Climate Policy

Centre (ACPC) is based at UNECA, under the Food Security and Sustainable Development Division (FSSDD). Some of the ACPC technical work and support to national and regional entities includes the following:

- Needs assessment to develop technical support programme on hydro-meteorological data and information, and mainstreaming of climate change into sectoral plans in six member States;

- Review of agricultural sector policies to determine the extent to which agricultural policies are informed by climate-related agricultural research; the extent to which the policies influence practice in the agricultural sector and the feedback mechanisms between policies, research and practice;

- Organized jointly with UNFCCC, the African experts meeting to address issues related to the loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change;

- Providing technical support to the African Group of Negotiators (AGN) throughout 2012;

- Several high-level expert consultations and stakeholder forums to strengthen Africa's voice in the global climate change agenda, including playing a central role in the organization of the Africa Pavilion at the Conference of Parties 17 and Meeting of the Parties 7 (COP-17/CMP-7);

- Initiate an African dialogue on the Sustainable Energy for All initiative.

(v)   Report to the CFSSD on the Land Policy Initiative

18.   The Land Policy Initiative (LPI) is a joint programme of the African Union Commission (AUC), UNECA, and the AfDB, established in 2006 to assist AU member States address the priority land issues that hamper their economic development. During its first phase, (2006-2009), the objective of the LPI was to develop a Framework and Guidelines on Land Policy in Africa (F&G). After the development and endorsement of the F&G, the main objective of the LPI was to facilitate implementation of the AU Declaration on Land Issues and Challenges in Africa, which was adopted by African Heads of State and Government during their thirteenth Ordinary Session in Sirte, Libya, 1-3 July 2009.

19.   A five-year strategic plan has been developed by the LPI secretariat in order to guide the implementation activities of the AU Declaration on Land toward concrete impacts at regional and country levels. Key objectives of the strategic plan include: to mainstream land issues in the programmes of AUC, ECA, AfDB and the Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP); improve communication and advocacy on land policy; develop capacity for land policy development and implementation; enhance monitoring and evaluation on land policy; and enhance partnership and resource mobilization.

20.   Key activities carried out to implement the AU Declaration on Land Issues and Challenges in Africa include:

- Wide dissemination of the F&G and Declaration on Land on the continent and abroad;

- Studies on land and conflicts in Eastern Africa and ongoing study on women's land rights in Africa;

- Policy dialogue on Large Scale Land-Based Investments in Africa (LSLBI) in Africa and adoption of the Nairobi Action Plan on LSLBI in Africa;

- Ongoing assessment study on LSLBI in Africa with a view to developing guiding principles on investments in the land sector;

- An Expert Group meeting (EGM) on capacity development for land policy in Africa, and ongoing preparation of a capacity development for land policy in Africa;

- Presentations and discussion sessions on LPI for development partners with a view to building partnership and raising resources.

> *(b)*   ***EGM:*** *The development and promotion of maize, rice and livestock value chains in the Economic Community of West African States*

21.   The EGM was a follow-up activity to a consultative meeting held earlier at AfricaRice based in Cotonou/Benin. The main outcome of that meeting was that many institutions are now working on value-chain projects in Africa with the objective of improving rural livelihoods and food security in sub-Saharan Africa through the development of competitive value chains and agro-food industries. In order to create synergy among partners and avoid duplication in working towards the same goal, an EGM was recommended and held at AfricaRice in Cotonou, 13-14 September 2012. The participants included AfricaRice, International Institute for Tropical Agriculture (IITA), International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), REPAD, LARES, the Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA), and Michigan State University. The overall aim of the meeting was to agree on a framework for conducting baseline studies on maize, rice and livestock value chains in the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). The two-day meeting resulted in placement of three teams to conduct such studies under the umbrella of ECOWAS. AfricaRice will be team leader for the baseline study on rice, ILRI will be team leader for the baseline study on livestock and IITA will be lead agency for the baseline study on maize. A report of the meeting documenting the proceedings as well as the key messages and recommendations of the meeting was produced.

(c) ***Contribution to joint outputs:*** *contribution to the meetings of the thematic clusters of the United Nations Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa (RCM-Africa)*

22.   The subprogramme participated in the annual retreat of cluster 4 on Environment, Population and Urbanization of the Africa Regional Coordination Mechanism (RCM-Africa) that was held 24-25 July 2012 at Naivasha, Kenya. As inputs to the cluster retreat, the subprogramme submitted: an update on implementation of the programme-related outputs contained in the 2012 work plan; a table of the main outcomes of Rio+20; a table of the Rio+20 thematic and cross-sectoral issues relevant to the work of cluster 4; a comparative analysis of the Rio+20 outcomes; the African Common Position for the conference; and a power point presentation on the outcomes of Rio+20 with specific emphasis on cluster 4 intervention areas.

23.   The programme also participated in the RCM-Africa inter-cluster meeting held back to back from 26 to 27 July 2012 at the same venue. The objectives of the meeting were to enhance inter-personal and inter-cluster relationships, and to identify ways of mobilizing resources to accelerate implementation of the Ten-Year Capacity Building Programme for the African Union (TYCBP-AU). At this meeting the subprogramme submitted: a table of the main outcomes of Rio+20; a comparative analysis of the Rio+20 outcomes and the African Common Position for the conference; and a power point presentation on the outcomes of Rio+20 with specific emphasis on cluster 4 intervention areas. The inter-cluster meeting requested ECA, as lead technical coordinator for Africa's preparations for, and participation in Rio+20, to undertake an analysis of the implications for Africa of the Rio+20 outcomes, including the voluntary commitments, to inform the work of the clusters. The cluster and inter-cluster retreat adopted concrete recommendations including to:

(i)   Develop a results-oriented Cluster Business Plan 2013-2015 and include priority issues for RCM-Africa, including the outcomes of Rio+20;

(ii)   Include in the Business Plan, thematic and cross-sectoral areas of intervention relevant to cluster 4 based on the Rio+20 Outcome Document, *The Future We Want*;

(iii)   Mobilize resources for the implementation of the Business Plan;

(iv)   Strengthen coordination for fund raising by partnering with agencies, foundations, and the private sector; and

(v)   Deepen intra- and inter-cluster coordination by holding meetings regularly.

(d) ***Contribution to joint outputs:*** *Africa's Regional Preparations for and participation in Rio+20*

24.   Under this category, the subprogramme has completed implementation of all the outputs planned to support African countries in effectively preparing for and participating in Rio+20. In this regard, it is to be recalled that the subprogramme on behalf of ECA led and coordinated the

activities for the Rio+20 regional preparatory process. The process was spearheaded by ECA jointly with AUC and AfDB, in strong partnership with Regional Economic Communities (RECs), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The regional preparatory process culminated in the convening of the Africa Regional Preparatory Conference for Rio+20. This conference was organized by ECA jointly with AUC and AfDB, in partnership with RECs, UNEP, UNDP and the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA). It was attended by ministers in charge of economic, social and environmental affairs, as well as ambassadors and officials of foreign affairs ministries from capitals, Addis Ababa and New York, representatives of major groups, development partners and United Nations agencies, adopted the Africa Consensus Statement to Rio+20, which was subsequently approved as Africa's Common Position for Rio+20 by the eighteenth Ordinary Session of the AU Assembly of Heads of State and Government held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in January 2012. The Consensus Statement as well as various background reports on the objective and themes of Rio+20 prepared in collaboration with partners were finalized, published in French and English, and widely disseminated in both hard and electronic copies. Below are highlights of these reports and associated activities:

(i)   *Report to Rio+20 on Africa Consensus Statement to Rio+20*: The Statement acknowledges and emphasizes that the critical foundation for sustainable development lies in good governance, strong and responsive institutions, wealth creation, social equity and equality, poverty eradication and environmental sustainability, as well as sustained progress in the achievement of internationally agreed commitments including the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). It urges the international community to accelerate and increase support to the region to enable it to enhance implementation of its sustainable development commitment; calls on Rio+20 to reinvigorate political will and international commitment to the goals and ideals of sustainable development, to move the sustainable development agenda forward, and raise the level of commitment by countries, regions and the international community to a common cause for sustainable development, including the need to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, such as the MDGs. Additionally, it calls on Rio+20 to adopt concrete measures, supported by adequate means of implementation, to ensure accelerated implementation of sustainable development commitments, including those to be adopted at Rio+20. It further calls on the developed countries to fulfil previous commitments and pledges to help Africa's efforts in achieving sustainable development. It also calls for enhanced commitments to advance action in key economic, social, environmental and cross-cutting areas critical to Africa's sustainable development. The Statement also addresses the objectives and themes of Rio+20, as well as the means of implementation.

(ii)   *Report to Rio+20 on progress towards sustainable development in Africa*: The report is based on desk research as well as information drawn from reports on progress towards sustainable development in the five subregions of Africa, namely East, West, North, Southern and Central Africa. It presents a synopsis of efforts made by the region, starting from the Earth Summit in 1992 (the Rio

Summit), through the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Rio+10), to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) held from 20-22 June 2012. Thus, it is a guide for the extent to which the Africa region has implemented international and regional commitments on sustainable development. In light of the implementation progress and constraints, the report provides concrete recommendations for accelerating implementation of the sustainable development commitments.

(iii)   *Reports to Rio+20 on subregional progress towards sustainable development in the five subregions of Africa:* Five subregional reports on progress towards sustainable development for East, West, North, Southern and Central Africa were prepared. Each of the reports highlights the priority sustainable development issues and trends, concrete actions taken, best practices, progress made and achievements, and identifies implementation challenges and constraints. The reports also cover inter-linkages between the economic, social and environmental pillars of sustainable development, institutional framework for sustainable development in each of the subregions, transition towards a green economy within the context of poverty reduction and sustainable development in the subregion, and new and emerging challenges. They provide conclusions and recommendations on the way forward for accelerating progress towards sustainable development in the subregions.

(iv)   *Report to Rio+20 on new and emerging challenges:* The report highlights Africa's new and merging challenges, which include the adverse impact of climate change, increasing water scarcity, and biodiversity and ecosystem loss, desertification, low resilience to natural disasters, potential non-achievement of the MDGs, energy crisis, food crisis, limited benefits from globalization, health security, the global financial crisis, trafficking and piracy, low penetration of information and communication technology (ICT) services, urbanization, need to develop better disaster response mechanisms, genetically modified crops in relation to food security and technology transfer, among others. The report recommends that in order to maintain the momentum in the implementation of sustainable development programmes, it is necessary for countries to mobilize and increase the effective use of available financial resources and achieve the national and international economic conditions needed to fulfil internationally agreed development goals; explore ways of generating new public and private innovative sources of finance for development purposes, provided that those sources do not unduly burden developing countries and can provide quick wins; promote, facilitate and finance appropriate access to and the development, transfer and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies; use ICTs where appropriate, as tools to increase the frequency of communication and the sharing of experience and knowledge; continue to focus on education as critical for promoting sustainable development; enhance and accelerate human, institutional and infrastructure capacity-building initiatives, and promote partnerships in that regard that respond to the specific needs of developing countries in the context of sustainable development; and complement existing coordination at a high level,

with sufficient opportunities for the coordination of implementation mechanisms at a lower, operational level.

(v)   *Report to Rio+20 on a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication in Africa:* The report provides a definition of green economy and an analysis of its role in sustainable development in the context of Africa, as well as pathways to a Green Economy in Africa. The report concludes that through a political process, African countries have already begun to identify opportunities and challenges in the continent's transition to a green economy. Moving forward, the report recommends that it is essential that Governments put the enabling policies and conditions for a green transformation into place. African Governments can encourage the transition to a green economy through an overall policy framework, consisting of a coherent set of policies, regulations and standards. In addition to national policies and financing, external financing and facilitation of access to technology are needed for a green economic transformation to occur. This external financing should be directed especially at capacity-building and institutional strengthening. The international community can play a decisive role in this process. As African countries seek to maximize opportunities in areas where they possess significant competitive advantage, it is important to ensure that policies adopted in other countries do not result in new or additional barriers to trade, investment or aid. The report notes that although the green economy is a new concept, there are many examples of successful policies and initiatives across Africa in the areas of energy, agriculture and forestry, which prove that green- economy action is already underway in several countries.

(vi)   *Report to Rio+20 on Institutional and Strategic Frameworks for Sustainable Development in Africa:* This report assesses the institutional and strategic frameworks for sustainable development at regional, subregional and national levels on the basis of data gathered through desk review and field visits. It also benefited from the comments and observations of ministers and other participants at the Africa Rio+20 Regional Preparatory Conference held in October 2011. The report assesses how existing institutional and strategic frameworks have promoted the integration of the three pillars of sustainable development in a balanced manner; enhanced institutional linkages; encouraged multi-stakeholder participation and decentralization in the planning and implementation of programmes; and catered for intra-generational and intergenerational equity through long-term planning and strategies that bridge the equality gaps. The report reflects on lessons learned and provides concrete recommendations on the way forward to achieve the desired outcome in the various areas assessed.

(vii) *Report to Rio+20 on means of implementation*: The report provides an overview of progress made in the fulfilment of commitments, constraints and challenges, lessons learned, and the way forward with different types of means of implementation - financing for sustainable development, aid and development effectiveness, technology development and transfer; capacity development; globalization and trade; regional integration; and South-South cooperation.

(viii) *Other activities in the lead-up to Rio+20:* In addition to the reports summarized above, the following activities were also undertaken in the lead-up to Rio+20, to support Africa's negotiators:

- A capacity-building and consultative meeting aimed at complementing the knowledge and skills of African negotiators and supporting the consolidation of Africa's negotiating strategies;

- Substantive servicing of a retreat for African ambassadors and Rio+20 negotiators to further strategize on Africa's collective negotiating position;

- Preparation of analytical papers on the Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development, Means of Implementation and Sustainable Development Goals;

- Analysis of the draft text of the Rio+20 Outcome Document; and

- Estimation of the level of financial resources required for Africa's sustainable development agenda.

(ix) *Activities at Rio+20:* At Rio+20, AUC, ECA, AfDB, OSAA, UNEP and UNDP jointly organized the following events:

- Institutional framework for sustainable development: integrating the three pillars provided a platform for Africa and its partners to deliberate on the findings of the Africa Report on Institutional and Strategic Frameworks for Sustainable Development. The event facilitated discussions on the institutional frameworks needed at various levels to promote a balanced integration of the three pillars of sustainable development.

- Financing sustainable development: transition towards a green economy in Africa, facilitated dialogue on the challenges and opportunities related to long-term financing for sustainable development and transition towards a green economy in Africa, with a particular focus on innovative sources of financing and commitment to financing sustainable development and GG.

- Promoting Inclusive GG and building a Green Economy as a means to achieve sustainable development provided a platform to discuss and identify opportunities, gaps, and challenges for advancing the green economy transition in Africa tailored to its specific development needs.

- Africa Day, held on 19 June 2012, was sponsored by the Republic of the Congo and was organized jointly by ECA, AUC, AfDB, UNEP, UNDP and OSAA. It consisted of a high-level roundtable discussion to deliberate on Africa's progress towards sustainable development.

25.   Furthermore, brochures on Africa's preparations for, and participation in, Rio+20, electronic copies of publications on the objective and themes of Rio+20 and the Africa Consensus Statement to Rio+20 were distributed widely at the conference. A joint exhibition space was also secured to showcase and disseminate various products of Africa's preparations for the conference. For more information on the Africa Regional Preparatory Process, please see the conference document entitled, 'The Africa Regional Preparatory Process for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development', available from http://uneca.org/rio20.

(e)   Field Projects

Capacity-building in DRR and disaster management:

26.   The subprogramme has completed implementation of this field project which was designed to strengthen the capacity of ECA, AUC, RECs, River Basin Organizations (RBOs), and specialized climate institutions in the region, to support countries on DRR and disaster risk management (DRM).

27.   In the context of this project, the subprogramme, in collaboration with the Global Facility for Disaster Risk Reduction (GFDRR) of the World Bank, UN-ECLAC, WFP, (UNISDR) and the AUC organized a Capacity Development Workshop on Disaster Risk Reduction and Disaster Risk Management for staff of AUC, RECs, RBOs and ECA." The workshop was held from 25 to 29 June 2012.

28.   The training workshop was attended by about 50 policymakers and experts from AUC, Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), Southern Africa Development Community (SADC), Indian Ocean Commission (IOC), African Centre of Meteorological Application for Development (ACMAD), IGAD Climate Prediction and Application Centre (ICPAC), Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development (RCMRD), Organization for the Development of the Senegal River Valley (OMVS), Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILLS), International Conference on Great Lakes Region (ICGLR), ECA Headquarters, ECA Subregional Offices for East, North, West and Southern Africa, and the ECA Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP).

29.   The workshop was held with the overall goal of mainstreaming DRR, DRM and climate-change adaptation in development strategies and supporting country-led and -managed implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) on disaster risk reduction and the Africa Regional Strategy for DRR.

B.   Outputs under implementation

30.   Implementation of the following outputs is progressing:

(a)   Ad hoc expert group meetings

Preparations are underway to hold the following EGMs:

(i)   *Assessment of biodiversity, biotechnology, forests, mountains and tourism in Africa, in preparation for CSD-20 (2012):*   This EGM is planned to be held 22-23 November 2012. The main inputs to the EGM will be regional review reports on the implementation of sustainable development commitments in the areas of forests, biodiversity, mountains, tourism and biotechnology. The overall objective of the Ad Hoc EGM is to enable participants to deliberate on and provide inputs and comments to validate and enrich the thematic regional review reports in order to inform their finalization. The reports have been prepared by ECA in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), UNEP, and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). The reports are intended to raise awareness, generate commitment and catalyse action by the various stakeholders to accelerate the implementation of the various commitments.

(ii)   *Rethinking African agriculture and rural transformation in the new global context: challenges, opportunities and policies options (2012):* This EGM will review and discuss the draft report on "Rethinking African agriculture and rural transformation in the new global context: challenges, opportunities and policies options." The report draws on lessons and provides recommendations on the way forward, to the extent possible from the findings of six country case studies. The report is intended to define and analyse missing conditions for successful agricultural and rural transformation in selected countries. It also points to key measures needed to put these conditions in place and identifies key measures to be taken in the short term (1-3 years) to accelerate the transformation process of the countries in order to achieve the three basic goals: food security for all, employment-creation in non-agricultural sectors, and decreased vulnerability to shocks.

(b)   Recurrent publications: fifth issue of the Sustainable Development Report on Africa (SDRA-V)

31.   The fifth issue of SDRA is being produced under the theme "Achieving sustainable development in Africa through inclusive green growth". The main objectives of the report are to provide a holistic assessment of progress made towards sustainable development in Africa; and to identify challenges and opportunities for Africa in promoting inclusive GG, as well as policy options to foster this growth model. The intent is to facilitate knowledge networking among

member States and regional and subregional organizations, with a view to promoting the sharing of best practices, and the scaling-up and scaling-out of success stories.

32.   The report is also intended to inform future initiatives on inclusive GG in Africa. It is expected that the SDRA-V process will lead to the following outcomes: improved availability of indicators to measure and track progress on sustainable development in Africa, including those relevant to GG; additional tools available to RECs and member States to monitor the implementation of sustainable development policies, strategies and programmes; enhanced awareness and appreciation among policymakers of the need for balanced integration of the three pillars of sustainable development in the development and implementation of policies, strategies and programmes; enhanced understanding and appreciation of the opportunities and challenges in achieving inclusive GG, and of the policies and instruments needed to foster it; and enhanced understanding and awareness of the social, economic and environmental impacts of GG policies, strategies and plans. So far, a concept note to inform the preparation of the report has been produced. In addition, a refined set of sustainable development indicators (economic, social, environmental and governance) has been produced and will be reviewed in a workshop. Furthermore, terms of reference (ToRs) are being finalized to recruit national-level writers on GG case studies, an expert on trade and GG, a statistical expert as well as a policy expert.

33.   SDRA-V is being produced through an inter-institutional collaborative process, between ECA and relevant specialized agencies of the United Nations, including UNEP, UNDP, FAO and United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). Member States, regional and subregional organizations, including AUC, AfDB and RECs, will also partner in the process, in particular contributing to the refinement of the sustainable development indicators for measuring progress on sustainable development in the region, providing reference materials and data to inform the analysis, and contributing to drafting of the thematic chapters.

> *(c)*   ***Non-recurrent publication:*** *Compendium of thematic review reports on biodiversity, biotechnology, forests, mountains and tourism*

34.   The compendium is to provide a concise assessment of progress in implementation of the respective commitments, implementation challenges and constraints, lessons learned, and the way forward in accelerating implementation in the cluster of issues comprising forests, biodiversity, biotechnology, tourism and mountains. The compendium is intended to raise awareness, generate commitment and catalyse action by the various stakeholders to accelerate implementation of the various commitments. Towards this end, the compendium will be disseminated widely at relevant regional and international forums including CSD-20. Concise summaries for policymakers are being drawn from the already produced comprehensive reports on the five issues. The summaries will be synthesized into a single, succinct compendium. The summaries for policymakers will be validated at the Ad Hoc EGM on the Assessment of Biodiversity, Forests, Mountains, Biotechnology and Tourism.

(d)   **Non-recurrent publication:** *Report on the assessment of Africa's representative farming systems. Africa's agricultural and rural transformation in the new global context: challenges, opportunities and policy options*

35.   The report reviews the main prevailing farming systems in Africa focusing on their associated characteristics, risks, and prospects. The report will as well shed light on the perspectives on future food systems in Africa taking into consideration the changing dynamics of the global food system as well as other influential factors, such as climate change and demographic changes. The report will also provide action-oriented policy options towards accelerating rural and agricultural transformation in Africa. The report is part of overall technical assistance provided by ECA to AU/NEPAD Planning, Coordination Agency (NPCA) and the member States it serves to put in place the foundations for successful agricultural and rural transformation. More specifically, the report will define and analyse missing conditions for successful agricultural and rural transformation in selected countries; identify key measures needed to put these conditions in place; and point to key measures to be taken in the short term (1-3 years) to accelerate the transformation process at national level. This is aimed at achieving three basic goals: food security for all; employment-creation in non-agricultural sectors; and decreased vulnerability to shocks.

(e)   **Non-recurrent publication:** *Regionally Integrated Livestock value chain in Eastern and Southern Africa: The case of Botswana and Ethiopia*

36.   The main goal of COMESA in this regard is to increase the income levels of poor rural small livestock keepers, including livestock-related enterprises through; (a) promotion and enhanced value addition to tradable commodities such as livestock, livestock products (milk and meat) and livestock by-products (hides and skins); and (b) access to domestic markets and further integration of their participation in regional and international markets. However, in Ethiopia, studies have shown that the majority of sellers at terminal markets are traders (66%), followed by farmers (23%) and butchers (7%) and at the same market the majority (40%) of buyers are butchers followed by traders (34%). This indicated that farmers' participation in the supply chain is minimal while livestock keepers in Botswana seem to enjoy full access to domestic markets by selling their animals through a range of marketing outlets, including the Botswana Meat Commission which has the monopoly of beef exports (69.7%), local butcheries (8.2%), traders (7%), auction (6.7%) and other farmers (8.2%). This further shows that in Ethiopia, the supply chain is dominated and controlled by many middlemen/brokers at primary, secondary and terminal markets making it impossible for pastoralists to fully participate in domestic and export markets for lack of market information. The supply chain in Ethiopia is also characterized by numerous informal or illegal cross-border trade routes with the absence of watering and feeding facilities along the way. This means that during trekking or transportation, animals have less access to water and feed resulting in high mortality rates, and emaciation due to dehydration. Consequently, animals which arrive alive at terminal markets are of reduced value. While commercial farmers have access to the European market, most traditional livestock keepers in Botswana have failed to penetrate the European market due to non- compliance with

sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) standards, and animal identification and traceability, as demanded by the European Union.

(f) Technical material

(i) Support to member countries in the establishment of knowledge management platforms on trade and environment to be jointly implemented with the African Trade Policy Centre (ATPC)

37. The subprogramme is providing support to the Commission of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and its member countries to establish and operationalize a knowledge management platform consisting of three workspaces, namely trade, environment, and trade and environment linkages. The main objective is to establish a community of practice (CoP) on the trade and environment nexus to increase knowledge, build capacity and enhance cooperation among national and subregional policymakers and experts in the ECOWAS subregion. The CoP will promote, formulate and implement mutually supportive and effective trade and environment policies at national, subregional and regional levels.

38. The platform, which will comprise both e-forums and face-to-face/physical forums, will also contribute to the enhanced capacity of the countries of the subregion to arrive at a consensus position and effectively and proactively engage in subregional, regional and global negotiations, especially on issues of trade and environment. The e-platform will comprise the three workspaces dedicated to trade, environment and trade, and environment linkages respectively. The main beneficiaries of the platform will be the ministries, departments and/or agencies responsible for trade and environment from ECOWAS members States and within the ECOWAS Commission. So far, the concept note has been prepared to guide establishment of the platform. As part of the planned activities, a stakeholder needs assessment and a knowledge audit in ECOWAS Commission has been completed. The design and setting up of an electronic platform is underway.

(ii) ECA and the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) project on strengthening capacities of African policymakers to mainstream natural disaster risk reduction into national and regional development policies and strategies in Africa

39. The objective of the project is to strengthen the capacities of relevant regional, subregional and national entities to mainstream disaster risk reduction (DRR) into regional, subregional and national development strategies to contribute to meeting the MDGs and the attainment of sustainable development goals in Africa. Project activities are mainly targeted at two selected RECs and their members States. In addition to the two RECs, ECA and UNISDR is implementing the project in close partnership with AUC, NPCA, UNDP, and the Division of Sustainable Development in UNDESA. The project will develop guidelines for mainstreaming DRR in policies and programmes. In addition, national and subregional studies will be conducted to identify and document good DRR practices. Training at subregional levels will be conducted and project results disseminated at all levels.

(g)   ***Field Projects***

(i)   *Strengthening the capacity of member States and regional and subregional entities to develop and implement policies and programmes on climate change and development through the African Climate Policy Centre*

40.   Wide-ranging activities have been undertaken or are underway at the ECA-based African Climate Policy Centre (ACPC) to support successful adaptation to, and mitigation of climate-change impacts in Africa and to improve the capacity of African countries to participate effectively in multilateral climate negotiations. ACPC was established in November 2010 and currently part of the ClimDev-Africa programme, which is a partnership between ECA, AUC and AfDB.

41.   ACPC submitted two reports to AUC to inform the AUC report to Conference of African Heads of State and Government on Climate Change (CAHOSCC). These were 'The State of Climate Negotiations: Report of Agreements and Outstanding Issues' and 'Key Issues in and post the Durban Conference'. ACPC has completed reports which will be printed soon on: 'The Africa Pavilion: a summary of African discussions and lessons from the Africa Pavilion, COP17/MOP7'; 'the Report of the First Conference on Climate Change and Development in Africa (CCDA-1) on Development First: Addressing Climate Change in Africa'. The Outcome Statement of CCDA-1 has already been published.

42.   Among the activities carried out were the following: completion of the needs assessment to develop the technical support programme on hydro-meteorological data and information, and mainstreaming of climate change into sectoral plans in four pilot countries, namely, Ethiopia, the Gambia, Mozambique and Rwanda. Needs assessment for four other countries, namely, Malawi, Mali, Kenya and Zambia are under preparation. Pilot projects are currently being designed to assist in implementing country-specific climate data and information-strengthening interventions.

43.   The subprogramme through ACPC has also been providing technical support to the African Group of Negotiators (AGN) throughout 2012. Following the request from the preparatory meeting of the Group held in Windhoek, Namibia, 16-20 April, ECA produced three technical papers on climate finance and market mechanisms, cost of adaptation, and the Durban Platform, which were presented during the climate meeting in Bonn in May 2012. Furthermore, ECA held a workshop for the lead coordinators of AGN from 13 to 17 August in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The objective of this workshop was to provide a forum for the lead coordinators to discuss key issues among themselves and with high-level experts with a view to making recommendations to the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) on how the African Common Position could be refined further at its fourteenth ordinary session held from 10 to 14 September 2012 in Arusha, Tanzania.

44.   The other activities undertaken included conducting a review of agricultural sector policies to determine the extent to which agricultural policies are informed by climate- related agricultural research; the extent to which the policies influence practice in the agricultural sector

and the feedback mechanisms between policies, research and practice; a regional meeting to address issues related to a range of approaches to address loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change; and, in collaboration with the United Nations University and in partnership with local experts and institutions in countries, conducting case studies on Loss and Damage assessment, due to the adverse impacts of climate events in five African countries, namely Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mozambique and the Gambia. Field data collection is complete in the case study countries, and data cleaning is in progress. Final reports are expected to be produced by end November.

> *(ii)*   *Strengthening capacity of member States, and regional and subregional organizations for land policy formulation and implementation in Africa through the joint AU-ECA-AfDB Land Policy Initiative*

45.   The project has developed a 5-year LPI strategic plan and results-based budget, and an Annual Work Plan for 2012 which have been endorsed by the LPI Joint Working Group and Steering Committee. This has enhanced strategic planning and programme management. LPI human resources capacity has also been strengthened through the creation of five posts, namely Information System Assistant, 2 Regional Land Experts, a Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Officer, and a Communication Officer. The recruitment process is underway.

46.   A number of project activities have been implemented or are underway. These include the following: an EGM on development of the framework for capacity development on land policy which took place in June 2012; knowledge generation, management and dissemination of promising practices; communication and advocacy materials such as brochures, roll-ups and bookmarks, as well as LPI publications, have been prepared and were disseminated at the Rio+20 conference; an issues paper for the thematic session on land during the Eighth African Development Forum (ADF-VIII) was developed and submitted; a study on mainstreaming land in the programmes of the AUC, ECA and AfDB is underway; and partners/donors have been identified and concept notes/proposals prepared and sent to mobilize additional resources for the project. To this effect, the Swiss Development Cooperation and FAO have pledged grants to financing for LPI to the tune of over $ 1 million. In addition, the Final Report of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) grant to support the formulation and implementation of Pan-Africa Land Policy Guidelines has been finalized and submitted. Reports for EU and DA accounts have also been submitted.

47.   Land is at the heart of Africa's economic and social development and is critical for ensuring environmental sustainability and maintaining peace and stability in the continent. The LPI was established by the AUC-ECA-AfDB consortium in order to facilitate the development and implementation of a comprehensive land policy in Africa through a participatory approach. Guided by the F&G on Land Policy in Africa it prepared during its first phase (2006-2009), the LPI is now working for implementation of the Declaration on Land Issues and Challenges adopted by African Heads of State and Government at their thirteenth ordinary session in July 2009.

48.   The implementation process of the AU Declaration is guided by a five-year draft strategic plan prepared by the LPI secretariat and endorsed by the steering committee. The strategic plan guided the LPI in enhancing the human resource capacity of the secretariat in particular through the effective recruitment of a Chief of the Land Policy Programme and the on-going recruitment of two regional land experts. In order to ensure the impact and sustainability of the work on land, a study was launched on "Mainstreaming land in the programmes of the core tripartite partners of the LPI (AUC- ECA- AfDB) and CAADP". The study will be completed by December 2012. Generating knowledge on priority land issues is critical to successful land policy development and implementation. The LPI in collaboration with the ECA Subregional Office for East Africa (SRO-EA) has prepared a study on land and conflicts in East Africa. This study was discussed during an Ad Hoc EGM and was finalized based on the recommendations of the participants. The study will be published soon. In their Declaration on Land, African Heads of State and Government resolved to give special attention to strengthening security of land tenure for African women. In response to this important commitment, the LPI has undertaken a study on "Improving access to land and enhancing land rights of women in Africa". Based on case studies from all five regions of the continent, the study will provide knowledge on best practices in enhancing women's land rights.

49.   Developing and implementing comprehensive land policy requires that the capacity of Governments, land professionals, civil society organizations (CSOs) and other stakeholders be enhanced. The LPI signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with UN-Habitat in order to partner on the preparation of a "Capacity Development Framework". An EGM was held last June to discuss the methodology for preparing this framework. It will serve as an important tool to guide training sessions and other capacity-development activities at regional and country levels.

50.   The recent trend towards large-scale land acquisitions is an issue of major concern for African Governments and CSOs. The LPI is addressing the issue through a study on "Large Scale Land-Based Investments in Africa (LSLBI). Building on the outcomes of the Nairobi High-level Policy Forum on LSLBI, specifically the Nairobi Action Plan, the LPI is currently conducting an assessment study on LSLBI. The results of the study will inform the development of guiding principles for sustainable investments in the land sector.

51.   M&E was identified as one of the weakest aspects of land policy processes in Africa. Based on the background document that tracked the progress of land policy in Africa, which it prepared in 2011, the LPI is now developing an M&E framework. The M&E framework will help AU member States learn from their past successes as well as failures and report back periodically to the AU Summit on progress achieved in land policy development and implementation.

>   (iii)   *Study on the Cost of Hunger in Africa (COHA): the Social and Economic Costs of Child Undernutrition*

52.   The objective of this initiative is produce a series of national reports on the social and economic cost of child undernutrition in the health and educational sectors, and estimate the

impact that this generates on national productivity. This regional initiative is being led by the AUC Department of Social Affairs, within the framework of the Revised African Regional Nutrition Strategy (2005-2015), the objectives of the African Task Force on Food and Nutrition Development (ATFFND) and the principles of CAADP Pillar 3 of AU/NEPAD. Its implementation is being carried out by ECA, with support from WFP, and under the guidance of a regional secretariat that includes high-level representation of AUC, ECA, WFP and NEPAD.

53.   One of the key aspects of the COHA initiative is its potential to bring stakeholders of multiple sectors together to discuss the rippling effects of child undernutrition. In March 2012, the COHA initiative was presented at the AU Conference of African Ministers of Economy and Finance (CAMEF) and ECA Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development. As a result of the report presented, the Ministers reaffirmed the importance of COHA in the final declaration, which commended the participatory process in which the study had been developed, acknowledged the South-South collaboration between ECA and ECLAC and urged the participating member States to provide the resources for its successful completion.

54.   This project has not only been a good practice in terms of South-South collaboration but also in strengthening national capacities. During 2012, efforts have centred on working with ECLAC in adapting a model that was designed to estimate the social and economic cost of undernutrition to the African context. For this, four pilot countries were selected namely, Egypt, Ethiopia, Swaziland and Uganda, where national implementation teams were established and trained on the methodology. National validation workshops have been planned for the last trimester of the year in each country, to analyse the initial results of each country report.

55.   For 2013, the COHA will roll-out to additional countries including Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi and Rwanda.

C.   Outputs to commence in 2013

56.   In addition to continuing the implementation of outputs underway as outlined above, the subprogramme will embark on implementation of the following additional outputs in 2013:

(a)   *Expert Group Meeting:* Review of the Fifth issue of the Sustainable Development Report on Africa (SDRA-V);

(b)   *Non recurrent publication:* Climate change and development in Africa: priorities and policy options;

(c)   *Non-recurrent publication:* transboundary water resources in Africa - an assessment of progress made since the adoption of the African Water Vision 2025;

(d)   *Technical material:* developing state of the art analytical tools for improved decision-making and informed debate on Africa agriculture and rural transformation;

(e)   Technical material: maintaining and managing the regional agricultural market information systems in Africa;

(f)   *Contribution to joint <u>outputs</u>:* contribution to the meetings of the thematic clusters of the United Nations Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa (RCM-Africa);

(g)   <u>Contribution to joint outputs:</u> contribution to the meetings and normative outputs of theUN-WATER programme;

(h)   Follow up to Rio+20 outcomes: provide technical support to member States, regional and subregional organizations, in the follow-up of the Rio+20 outcomes, including on: high-level panel on sustainable development; green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication; and sustainable development goals;

(i)   Assistance to representatives: provide functional support to member States, RECs, AU and its NEPAD programme in the context of the United Nations ten-year capacity-building programme for the AU, the Multi-Year Programmes (MYPs) and the MDGs. Further, to provide functional support to the UN- Water/Africa group of agencies in providing inputs to the programme of UN Water;

(j)   *Advisory services:* advisory services, upon request, to member States, RECs, AU and its NEPAD programme in the area of promoting food security and sustainable development including climate change in the context of the United Nations ten-year capacity-building programme for the AU, the MYPs and the MDGs. Advisory services will also include regional advisory programmes on water and forest resources development and management.

3.   Results Achieved

57.   The main results obtained from the implementation of the above outputs are the following:

(a)   *Strengthened capacity of the AU/AUC and RECs to lead, coordinate and support African countries in the Rio+20 processes*

58.   This result was achieved through a bottom-up, multi-stakeholder regional preparatory process which ECA spearheaded jointly with AUC and AfDB, in strong partnership with RECs, UNEP and UNDP. The process enjoyed support at the highest level – that of the African Union Summit, which provided guidance on Africa's preparations for, and participation in Rio+20, and mandated Republic of the Congo to coordinate Africa's preparations at the political level. The process also received endorsement and enjoyed support from the Joint Annual Meetings of the AUC Conference of Ministers of Economy and Finance and the ECA Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, AMCEN and RCM-Africa.

(b)   Africa effectively participated and achieved a favourable outcome at Rio+20

59.   Africa effectively participated in Rio+20 whose Outcome Document "The Future We Want" largely addressed and reflected the continent's concerns and priorities. This remarkable achievement was an outcome of a number of activities supported by the collaborating partners, under the auspices of an inter-agency steering committee. These activities are adequately highlighted in the previous sections.

(c)   Increased awareness of member States and Regional Economic Communities on matters related to sustainable development, and strengthened capacity to coordinate within the subregion

60.   The bottom-up regional preparatory process for Rio+20 involved the preparation, in close collaboration with the RECs, of five subregional review reports on progress towards sustainable development in Central, West, North, East and Southern Africa. The subregional review reports were informed by, inter alia, data and information collected through field visits to selected member States in each of the subregions. The reports were discussed and validated at subregional consultative meetings. The subregional review reports in turn contributed to informing the Africa Review Report and the various thematic reports on the objective and themes of Rio+20.

61.   By addressing in a comprehensive manner the objectives and themes of Rio+20 in each of the five subregions, and highlighting priority sustainable development issues and trends, concrete actions taken, best practices, progress made and achievements, as well as providing recommendations on accelerating progress towards sustainable development, the reports provided relevant information to member States and RECs that enabled them to better engage in subregional, regional and global discussions and negotiations on sustainable development. Furthermore, the subregional validation meetings contributed to raising awareness on sustainable development, and provided valuable platforms for the subregions to reach agreement on key messages to Rio+20.

(d)   Enhanced knowledge and skills of the staff of AUC, RECs, RBOs, specialized regional institutions and ECA in DRR and DRM, particularly in disaster damage and loss assessment

62.   The Capacity Development Workshop on DRR and DRM for the staff of AUC, RECs, RBOs and ECA, which was held from 25 to 29 June 2012, contributed to this result. In addition, the workshop generated actionable recommendations and way forward to provide further support and strengthen the capacities of RECs and other intergovernmental organizations and member States, to effectively prevent, assess and manage disasters.

(e)   Strengthened capacity of member States to effectively participate in international climate negotiations

63.   The various activities undertaken by the subprogramme through ACPC to support the African Group of Negotiators have made a significant contribution to strengthening the continent's negotiators to effectively engage in international climate negotiations.

(f)   Enhanced awareness of LPI stakeholders, member States and regional and subregional organizations on land policy formulation and implementation in Africa

64.   The various knowledge tools and the dissemination of LPI publications have continued to raise awareness of the various players in land policy formulation and implementation in Africa. This is reflected in the integration of land policy considerations in development cooperation policies.

4.   Lessons Learned and Way Forward

65.   Some of the lessons learned and way forward recommendations include the following:

(a)   There is need to mobilize adequate resources for the implementation of subprogramme activities in an effective and timely manner. This is particularly so in the wide range and urgent initiatives needed to help countries to address food insecurity, implement climate change and mitigation actions, and promote sustainable development including through effective implementation of Rio+20 outcomes.

(b)   Capacity to mobilize funding at various levels should be enhanced including through developing and implementing effective resource mobilization strategies. Advocacy should also be carried out to raise and maintain the profile of the food security and sustainable development issues at a high level in development cooperation policies and programmes.

(c)   On the follow-up and implementation of the Rio+20 outcomes in the region, it is noteworthy that Rio+20 adopted outcomes that are well aligned with Africa's priorities and sustainable development aspirations. Moreover, Rio+20 outcomes set in motion a series of intergovernmental processes that will ultimately determine the impact of the conference for the global sustainable development agenda. It is therefore crucial for the region to fully engage in the processes set in motion under the General Assembly of the United Nations, to ensure that they take into account Africa's specific needs and priorities. In this regard, facilitation and support from all partners will be crucial.

(d)   The partnership model that ensured a well-coordinated preparatory process should be built upon to support Africa in implementing the outcomes of the conference.

(e)   ECA, jointly with AUC and AfDB, in the context of the joint secretariat, should play an instrumental role in improving coordination and collaboration, and providing strong support on food security and sustainable development to RECs, member States, and major groups on food security and sustainable development.

5.   Preparation of the 2014/2015 Work Programme

66.   The ECA proposed programme of work for the 2014/2015 biennium is under preparation. With regard to the subprogramme on food security and sustainable development within the overall ECA strategic framework for the biennium, the overall objective of the subprogramme for 2014/2015 is to promote food security and sustainable development, including addressing the challenge of climate change in Africa.

67.   In order to realize this objective, the subprogramme is expected to accomplish the following:

(a)   Enhanced capacity of member States and intergovernmental bodies to formulate and implement sustainable development policies and strategies with particular emphasis on food security and rural development; and

(b)   Improved capacity of member States to mainstream climate change into development policies, strategies and programmes.

68.   The next stage in preparation of the proposed programme budget for the 2014/2015 biennium is identification of the outputs and activities to be implemented in order to attain the above expected accomplishments. CFSSD-8 is therefore timely as it provides member States with the opportunity to give guidance and direction, and provide inputs towards the elaboration of the outputs.

69.   It is important that the key outputs to be implemented be built on the 2012/2013 work programme. In identifying the outputs for 2014/2015, the lessons learned and way forward proposed above could be taken into account. Moreover, the outputs will need to reflect emerging priorities, requests and mandates from member States, AU and legislative organs. Among these are the requests and mandates contained in the Rio+20 Outcome Document, 'The Future We Want' - in the areas of food security and sustainable development.