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Thirty-first meeting of the Committee of Experts



**AFRICAN UNION
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Report on the implementation of the comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP)

Input to the Ministers of Finance Meeting

I. CAADP and CAADP Implementation

1. In 2013, it will be ten years since the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP) was endorsed in Maputo in 2003. Beyond the 29 countries that have signed CAADP Compacts, and more than 20 countries developed CAADP-based Agriculture and Food Security Investment Plans (AFSIPs), CAADP has since created space for inclusive participation of all relevant sector players – from within and outside the state and to the grassroots level. CAADP has raised the profile of the agricultural sector in national domestic politics and the attention to agriculture has significantly increased. CAADP has contributed to more specific, purposeful and incentive-oriented agricultural policies. CAADP has facilitated a noticeable improvement and progress towards donor coordination, harmonisation and alignment to country priorities. In a number of countries, additional resources have been allocated to targeted programs that have the highest potential to generate returns to these investments. Regional co-operation has been increased as a result of CAADP engagement. CAADP has also facilitated the establishment of mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation, peer review, dialogue and accountability.

CAADP Facts

- 29 countries have signed CAADP Compacts
- 21 countries have CAADP Investment Plans Developed
- 15 countries have CAADP Business Meetings and defined financing modalities
- 6 received GAFSP money
- 7 have developed blueprints for private sector investment

2. This progress, however, has exposed the critical constraints and experiences in CAADP implementation. Implementation of country plans for results and impact has now put CAADP on the spot to demonstrate that the good policy environment provided can be translated into clear results, impact with clear growth, food security and increased incomes. The call for faster and better implementation for results is evident and on the increase. As a result, CAADP stakeholders, and especially the African Union institutions (notably AUC, NPCA and RECs), together with Development Partners have embarked on a rigorous consultation process on how to respond to this challenge and so as to propel and sustain the momentum in CAADP implementation. There are critical and strategic issues that require greater attention if CAADP is to achieve its medium and long-term objectives in changing the face of Africa's food security situation, significantly raising incomes of households and spurring rural development. At national level, the questions are now centred on issues like:

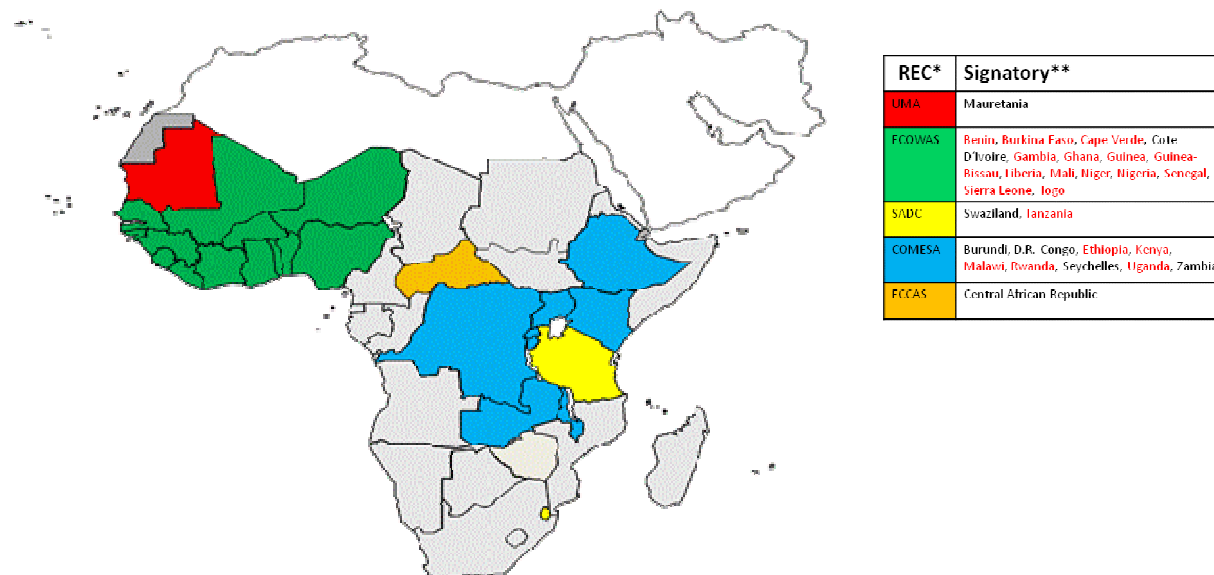
- How best can institutional and policy environments be shaped in order to respond to the calls for faster and better implementation (including more efficient and effective use of available resources)?
- Can instruments like Public Expenditure Reviews, Peer Review Mechanisms, Mutual Accountability platforms and M&E frameworks and knowledge support systems be harnessed to facilitate institutional reforms and propel implementation?

- How can CAADP become more effective in leveraging private sector investments?
- How can vertical integration between country programs and regional programs be strengthened?

3. Such questions could inform the consultation process. Moreover, there are a number of emerging global and national issues and concerns that will impact on CAADP implementation. Important among these include:

- Climate change and its variability;
- Increasing global food and energy prices;
- Large scale land and water acquisition;
- Emerging interest from new –non traditional - donors
- An increasingly dynamic domestic and international private sector
- Trends in bio-fuels
- As well as the democratisation and decentralisation processes in Africa.

4. Global economic crisis and weather variability put Africa at continuous risk for food security. While CAADP is building long and medium term resilience to such effects with sound policy, global attention is still focussed on Africa`s agriculture as engine of growth. A key challenge at country level has been lack of or inefficient inter-and intra-sectoral coordination.



II. Key messages to Ministers of Finance

- The Ministers of Finance have a key role in facilitating faster and better implementation of National Agriculture and Food Security Investment Plans.
- We call on Ministers of Finance to initiate and or facilitate effective spending instruments like Public Expenditure Reviews, effective monitoring and evaluation systems and regular sectoral reviews and dialogue mechanisms for Agriculture and related sectors for better results.
- The budget process in countries should be used as instruments for better inter-and intra-sectoral coordination. During budget discussions, emphasis needs to be placed on complementarities of different sectors as the only instrument to determine and allocate sector budgets.
- While appreciating the policy environment for attracting private sector investments, Ministers of Finance need to take lead in providing additional incentives to facilitate private sector investments in agriculture, BUT without undermining national sovereignty in areas such as land and water acquisition.