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REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS
OF AGRICULTURE, LILONGWE, MALAWI
26 - 29 OCTOBER 2010

**REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS OF AGRICULTURE,
26 - 29 OCTOBER 2010, LILONGWE, MALAWI**

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

1. The CAMA, was organised in Lilongwe, Republic of Malawi between 26 and 29 October 2010, under the theme 'Delivering on Africa's Agriculture Development Agenda', under two segments: Experts' Meeting (26 – 27 October) and Ministerial Meeting (28 – 29 October).
2. Both segments of meetings were attended by a total of 22 member states and by representatives of over 25 development partners including UN agencies, international NGOs, regional and continental farmers organisations, and academic and research institutions from within and outside of Africa.
3. The Experts' Meeting reviewed progress with the implementation of CAADP; deliberated on operationalisation of the vision for a Food Secure Africa and the African Food Basket Initiative through, among others, identification of quick win actions that demonstrates linkages with the CAADP framework; examined progress with the African Fertiliser Financing Mechanism (AFFM); explored the utility of the 'Commodity Value Chains' approach in realising food security-related Summit Decisions; discussed AU-NEPAD's Agriculture Climate Change Adaptation-Mitigation Framework; and reviewed the Pastoral Policy Framework in Africa and strategies for rural livelihoods in semi-arid areas of Africa.
4. The Ministers' Meeting was prefaced by an AUC-moderated panel discussion on land-related foreign direct investment in Africa involving representatives of African farmers' organisations, national governments, development partners and research and development organisations. The panel discussion underlined the importance of transparency and citizen participation in land deals and the need for enhancing Africa's own capacity to benefit from the heightened international interest in Africa's land and water resources.
5. The Ministers' Meeting reviewed the draft resolutions from the Experts' Meeting and endorsed the same with some modifications. The Ministerial Decisions centre on the following key issues: the considerable progress Africa made in advancing the CAADP agenda and the need for coordinated international support to trigger CAADP-based transformation; the need for ensuring mainstreaming of quick-win actions identified as part of the AFBI into CAADP processes; the importance of mobilising resources to operationalise the AFFM; the importance of coordinating efforts at establishing multi-institutional platforms on strategic commodities; the need for operationalising the AU-NEPAD Agriculture Climate Change Adaptation-Mitigation

Framework; adopted the Pastoral Policy Framework in Africa and urged member states to make effective use of the Framework as and when they formulate respective policies and strategies; and the need for supporting the strategies in place for improving rural livelihoods in semi-arid areas of Africa through concerted national and international capacity building measures.

6. The Ministers' Meeting created space for Statements from eight African Ministers of Agriculture and identified three clusters of resolutions from submissions made by Malawian and Nigerian Ministers of Agriculture. These relate to aspects of WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control and food safety and organic agriculture.

7. The Ministers' Meeting was concluded by the launch of the African Food and Nutrition Security Day.

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**CONFERENCE OF AFRICAN
MINISTERS OF AGRICULTURE (CAMA)
26 - 29 October 2010
Lilongwe, Malawi**

CAMA/Ministerial/Rpt.(I)

**REPORT OF THE CAMA MINISTERIAL MEETING
PROCEEDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Ministerial Meeting of the Conference of Ministers on Agriculture took place in Lilongwe, Malawi from 28-29 October 2010. The purpose was to review progress on implementation of continental agricultural development initiatives especially the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) and agree on a short term and medium-term action-oriented strategy towards realising the vision of a food secure Africa within five years. In particular, the Conference had the following objectives:

- i) building on the progress and achievement in the implementation of the CAADP framework and noting the Resolutions of Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development (L7) review and adopt a strategy to operationalise the vision of a food secure Africa through, among others, identification of quick win actions;
- ii) agreeing on areas of immediate (short term) follow up, at country, sub-regional or regional level, of quick win actions that demonstrates linkages with on-going African wide Initiatives and Decisions especially the CAADP framework and related national and regional Agriculture and Food Security Investment Plans;
- iii) proposing key approaches and actions for high level political engagement of Africa Union (AU) Chair and President of the Republic of Malawi H.E. Professor Bingu wa Mutharika with fellow Heads of State and Government on how not only to create and act on quick wins and translate decisions into actions, but also to consolidate those quick wins taking into account the need to build/strengthen local sustainable systems and capacity through necessary reforms at all levels;
- iv) examining and adopting policy frameworks including the Policy Framework for Pastoralism in Africa, launching of Framework and Guidelines on Land Policy and strategies to improve rural livelihoods in semi-arid zones of Africa.

II. PARTICIPATION

2. The Following Member States of the African Union participated in the Ministerial Conference: Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, Congo Brazzaville, Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Libya, Malawi, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone South Africa, The Gambia, Togo, The Sudan, Uganda, and Zimbabwe.

3. In addition, the following organisations and institutions participated in the Conference: ACTION-AID, Africa Development Bank (AfDB), Alliance for a Green Revolution for Africa (AGRA), Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), CARE Malawi, European Commission, COMESA, Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA), FAO, IFAD, International Fertilizer Development Centre (IFDC), International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), GTZ, OXFAM, Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM), Tufts University, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), UNHCR, USAID Malawi, World Bank Malawi, World Vision South Africa, and WFP.

III. OPENING SESSION

4. Madam Sheila Sisulu, WFP Deputy Executive Director, speaking on behalf UN Agencies, welcomed and commended the continued leadership, vision and concerted efforts of AU Member States, NEPAD, Regional Economic Communities (RECs), and Development Partners to address the challenges of food security in Africa through the CAADP framework. She noted that the theme of the Conference “Delivering on Africa’s Agriculture Development Agenda” speaks to Africa’s commitment to an integrated approach to address sustainable agricultural development, economic growth, and food and nutrition security. She underlined that the vision of a food secure Africa can only be realised through supporting country-led initiatives and programmes that are gender sensitive and promote synergy in resource mobilisation.

5. Dr. Vincent O’Neill, the Representative of Development Partners and the Chairperson of the Donor Committee on Agriculture and Food Security in the Republic of Malawi commended the objective of the Conference in advancing quick-win actions and sharing cross country lessons to move forward the vision of a food secure Africa within five years. Dr. O’Neill acknowledged the positive growth rate of Africa over the last decade. He mentioned that it has taken the international community many years to recognise the importance of Africa’s agriculture to national growth, poverty reduction and improvement in food and nutrition status. He highlighted the efforts of development partners to support the African agriculture agenda such as the L’Aquila Food Security Initiative, establishment of the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP), the Global Food Crisis Response Programme of the World Bank, the new Food Facility of the EU, the ‘Feed the Future’ food security initiative of the US Government, as well as the 1000 Days Initiative to address maternal and childhood malnutrition launched at the September 2010 MDG Summit.

6. Dr. O’Neill affirmed the partners’ commitment to CAADP which presents an excellent opportunity for supporting the leadership of African governments by the

international community in ensuring that the increased focus on agriculture can lead to continued growth. He further restated the development partners' commitment to supporting AU, RECs and national governments in their efforts to translate the CAADP framework into national agriculture and food security investment plans and programmes. He underscored the importance of CAADP Compacts. He affirmed the importance of the Africa Food Basket Initiative and endorsed the objective of the meeting to translate the initiative into concrete plans of action that would in turn help improve the availability of, and accessibility to, food for African citizens.

7. Ms. Elizabeth Atangana, Representative of Farmers and the Chair of Pan African Farmers Forum (PAFFO) expressed gratitude for the opportunity provided to farmers to articulate and advance their development agenda by the establishment of the PAFFO. She stated that PAFFO will enhance the harmonisation of policies and strategies for farmers to promote dynamic and sustainable agriculture in Africa and will act as the voice of farmers. She paid tribute to development partners who have supported farmers in the quest for a farmers' forum and looks forward to consolidation of partnership with AU. Ms. Atangana alluded to the Africa Food Basket Initiative and how it complements CAADP. She called on Member States to honour pledges made in advancing the CAADP agenda including the budgetary allocations recommended in the AU Maputo Assembly.

8. Mrs. Tumusiime Rhoda Peace, the Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture on behalf of the African Union Commission welcomed delegates to the AU CAMA and thanked H. E. Professor Bingu wa Mutharika, the President of the Republic of Malawi and Chairman of AU for gracing the occasion. The Commissioner briefly focused on the vision of a food secure Africa. She saluted the President for his exemplary leadership on the continent by transforming Malawi from a food deficit to a food surplus country; from a food importing to a food exporting nation. The Commissioner acknowledged that by espousing and championing the vision of a Food Secure Africa: A Five Year Commitment, the Chairman of the African Union has further given impetus to the implementation of CAADP. She highlighted the significance of signing CAADP Compacts to act as a springboard for business discussions of the countries' priorities and pave the way for strong partnership and unity of purpose.

9. The Commissioner hailed the constructive cooperation and collaboration that the AUC and NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency have been receiving from various institutions in pursuit of a shared vision for a Food Secure Africa. She also expressed gratitude to the development partners for increased support towards Africa's agricultural production, productivity, and food and nutrition security.

10. The Commissioner concluded with the outline of challenges still faced by agriculture and sought the leadership and guidance of the Ministers to move the agricultural agenda forward.

11. The meeting was officially opened by the President of the Republic of Malawi and Chairman of the African Union, H.E. Professor Bingu wa Mutharika, who, said that overseeing production of enough food to feed people is a primary responsibility of the Ministers of Agriculture. He gave statistics on Africa's food imports *vis a vis* exports indicating a negative balance of trade of about US\$18 billion on food alone. He mentioned that the biggest challenge in achieving MDGs is transformation of the Agricultural sector into an engine of economic growth and poverty reduction.

12. The President appealed to all to study the proposal of "The African Food Basket: Innovations, Interventions and Strategic Partnerships" which calls on Africa and partners to focus on improving agriculture and food security. He highlighted the key elements in the proposal including subsidies, increased budgetary allocations, private sector investment, and reduction of post-harvest food losses, strategic transport infrastructure, energy development and climate change mitigation and adaptation.

IV. OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF THE FRAMEWORK AND GUIDELINES ON LAND POLICY IN AFRICA

13. Remarks by Representative of UNECA, Dr. Josue Dione noted that land is at the heart of the nexus of critical determinants of sustainable development, economic growth, peace and social stability and hence land policies should be multifunctional. He cautioned participants that the Framework and Guidelines on Land Policy in Africa is a tool to help formulate and implement comprehensive land policies to achieve economic efficiency, social equity as well as environmental sustainability. He described the process undertaken in developing the Framework as consultative and participatory through reviews, issues, lessons learned and best practices. He reiterated the commitment of AUC-ECA-AfDB Consortium to support on going and future efforts in the development and implementation of the Framework with capacity building, technical assistance, experience sharing as well as monitoring and tracking progress.

14. Remarks by Representative of AfDB, Mr. Masamba emphasised that land issues are critical for the attainment of MDG's, since land tenure stand in the way of investment. He pledged the support of the AfDB in the implementation of the Framework and Guidelines. He mentioned the relationship between the Guidelines and climate change and further outlined the role of the Bank in supporting climate change programmes and projects. He foresaw that there might be challenge in tracking the impact of the implementation of the Guidelines. In his conclusion he reiterated that AfDB looks forward to the implementation of the Land Policy Framework.

15. Remarks by Representative of AUC, Mrs. Tumusiime Rhoda Peace, said that land is a resource, a right and a political good central to the livelihoods, cultures, economies and security of populations. Mrs. Tumusiime outlined the process undertaken by the various partners in developing the Framework including consultative workshops. The process culminated in the adoption by the 13th Ordinary Session of the African Union Heads of State and Government held in Sirte, Libya in July 2009, the “Declaration on Land Issues and Challenges in Africa”. She underlined the importance of the Framework in aligning the efforts of Member States to develop, implement and track progress of land policies to complement their respective national development processes. She mentioned that AUC will continue to provide leadership in the future phase of implementation and periodic reviews to ensure the realisation of the benefits intended in the Framework for the African population. She made special recognition of all that worked tirelessly to ensure the successful delivery of the Framework and Guidelines. She then officially launched the Framework and Guidelines on Land Policy in Africa.

V. HIGH LEVEL PANEL DISCUSSION

16. The Panel was conducted under the theme “Land Related Foreign Direct Investment in Africa”.

17. The panel was moderated by Mr. Boaz B. Keizire and attended by Eng. Ladislaus Salema from the President’s Office, Tanzania; Phillip Kiriho representing CSOs and farmer’s perspective; Prof Kwanjo Ochere, from IFPRI; Klaus Deneinger, Lead Economist at the World Bank representing development partners and Mafa Chipeta, a retired and former representative of the Regional Office of the FAO Subregional Office for Eastern Africa. At the panel, it was clarified that the Framework and Guidelines on Land Policy in Africa is not a model land policy for AU member states, but rather a tool to assist and guide Member States in the development, implementation and monitoring of their national land policies. Among the many issues that the framework and guidelines would help was the issue of Foreign Direct Investment that has, of recent, dominated debate in Member States, at RECS and at Continental level. Other issues that have been at the centre of discussion include: state sovereignty over land; legal pluralisms; customary based land rights; land disputes and conflicts; land in the context of rapid urban development; marginalisation of women in access and ownership of land; among others.

18. In addition to these priority issues, a number of emerging land issues were identified as relevant and which also need to be addressed by comprehensive land

policies. These emerging issues include: land and climate change; land and rising food prices; and the new scramble for Africa land resources

19. The key messages from the panned discussions include;

- Land is finite resource and therefore the growing African population will generate more pressure for land use and will create more land-related conflicts. Despite this, Africa is still endowed with abundant land resources, with only less than 30 percent of cultivable land being cultivated;
- The land grabbing phenomenon is not a recent phenomenon; some countries have a long history of land grabbing since the colonial period. The phenomenon was triggered by the collapse of the world food market, leading to a search for land in Africa by food import-dependent countries. The energy crisis also led to the diversion of land initially used for food production in Africa toward agro-fuel production by foreign companies;
- The Framework and Guidelines on Land Policy in Africa will be a helpful in guiding development of land policies in Africa specifically to strengthen land rights, enhance productivity and secure livelihoods for smallholder farmers;
- There is need to organize regular workshops to sensitise African leaders (including parliamentarians) on land acquisition and countries should be encouraged to embrace the recommendations in the Framework and Guidelines for better land management;
- Africa should not be too realistic in trying to have the “perfect investment”; Africa needs to reduce the asymmetry between governments and investors in improving its capacity to negotiate;
- Africa cannot avoid foreign investments. However, investments are to be controlled by laws and policies; land use plans are also needed to canalise investments;
- Land policies in Africa should provide space for prioritising African farmers in accessing land for investing. Moreover, it is important to recognize and protect the land rights of local communities in the ongoing land deals.

VI. COMPOSITION OF THE BUREAU

20. The Bureau was elected and constituted as follows:

Chair:	Malawi
1st Vice Chair:	Ghana
2 nd Vice Chair:	Chad

3rd Vice Chair: The Sudan
Rapporteur: Angola

VII. ADOPTION OF AGENDA/PROGRAMME AND ORGANISATION OF WORK

21. The Ministers adopted the agenda and programme of work in its entirety.

VIII. PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS

CAMA: Theme, Sub-themes, Aims and Objectives

22. The overall theme of CAMA was linked to the call made by the Chairman of the African Union, H.E. Professor Bingu wa Mutharika, to focus on agriculture and food security under the theme “Feeding Africa through New Technologies: Let Us Act Now” has rekindled the commitment toward the CAADP and food and nutrition security agenda at national, regional and continental levels. Following a deep reflection on the status quo of the Continent and the charge of the AU Chairman- “Let Us Act Now” invariably became the clarion call that informed the theme for the CAMA 2010 “Delivering on Africa’s Agriculture Development Agenda” that emphasises on implementation, results and impact and also drive for urgency to deliver on results.

23. The Theme was presented to the Ministers by H.E Rhoda Peace Tumusiime, Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture of the AUC, who outlined the following sub-themes:

- Sub-theme 1: Evidence-based analysis and information support underlining quality of Agriculture and Food Security Investment Plans (AFSIP) and programmes”;
- Sub-theme 2: Accountability and aligning capacity to deliver on Africa’s own agriculture development commitments; and
- Sub-theme 3: Action to realise the value of the Africa Bread Basket approach within the AU/NEPAD-CAADP context.

24. The theme evolved from the following factors:

- Noting the progress being made in attaining the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) 1 and 7;
- Building on the progress being made in the implementation of key Decisions and specifically on:

- i) allocation of at least 10 percent of annual public budget to agriculture and the resulting growth outcomes;
- ii) the fertilizer financing mechanism;
- iii) the Abuja Food Security (commodity value chains); and
- iv) the need to bring agriculture and food security into the climate change discussions.

25. The major key issues raised and discussed include;

- a) Need to include natural resource management and rural infrastructure in agricultural development programs;
- b) Need to mobilize resources to operationalise the implementation of the CAADP framework;
- c) Need to strengthen agro-industries to link farmers to markets and meet urban effective demand;
- d) Need to develop regional value chains based on strategic commodities belts;
- e) The development of agricultural statistics and rural population census is critical for advancing agricultural agenda in Africa;
- f) Need to reinforce the resolution on free movement of people and goods in Africa;
- g) Need to encourage countries to comply with their obligations towards contributing at least 10% of their national budget to agriculture;
- h) Need to give more attention to livestock both in policy making and in investment allocation;
- i) Need to realise that regional agricultural value chains and regional integration are the key to the structural transformation of agriculture in Africa; and
- j) Need to prioritise investments in agriculture with the view to bringing about broad-based economic growth and combating hunger and poverty.

IX. MINISTERIAL RESOLUTIONS:

1. Progress on CAADP Implementation

Recognising the active and encouraging progress in CAADP implementation by the Member States and regional economic communities;

Noting the increased national budgetary allocation to agriculture in a growing number of countries and the global interest, commitment and pledges to finance agriculture in Africa along the CAADP framework;

Recognising the growing commitment and participation of non-state institutions including civil society, farmers organisations, private sector as well as universities and knowledge institutions in advancing the CAADP agenda;

Appreciating the value addition from the AUC-NEPAD-led independent technical reviews in enhancing the quality of country and regional Agriculture, Food Security Investment Plans;

Noting that human and institutional capacity is key element in enhancing Africa's ability to deliver on its objectives and targets to increase agriculture productivity;

Commending the diligent role played by the Regional Economic Communities in leading the support to member states on country-led CAADP implementation processes;

Urge member states to up scale public sector budget allocation to agriculture along the levels of public sector financing desired to trigger and sustain CAADP based transformation;

Further Urge member states, the AUC and NEPAD Agency to intensify engagement with local and international private financing institutions to mobilise increased private investment into African agriculture;

Requests AUC-NEPAD and partners to priorities provision for country and regional specific capacity development support to monitor agriculture performance including identification of best practices and lessons;

Further Calls On AUC-NEPAD and RECs to support member states to mainstream mutual accountability mechanisms including commonly agreed indicators, reporting schedule and joint review of progress and performance as integral parts of programme implementation;

Requests member states to take into consideration the complex combinations of factors such as volatile prices, market distortions, and climate change; and

Calls Upon member states to prioritise technical and financing support to strengthening Africa's human and institutional capacity at all levels including in agricultural tertiary education.

2. Update on African Fertiliser Financing Mechanism (AFFM)

Recognising the importance and urgency of meeting the funding gap within the AFFM;

Appreciating and Recognising Nigeria as being the first and only member state that has contributed financially to the AFFM;

Urges Member States to urgently make financial contributions to the AFFM; and

Further Urges Member States to assist the AUC and the African Development Bank to close the funding gap necessary to render the AFFM legally operational.

3. Update on Abuja Food Security Decision in context of Commodity Value Chains

Recognising the need to pursue the vision of a Food-Secure Africa, and the compelling challenge to deal with the issue of African food insecurity as a matter of urgency;

Recalling the AU decision to focus on specific food commodities according to ecological and regional advantages across the continent;

Noting that the realisation of the vision would require a multi-dimensional approach from multiple actors and disciplines to simultaneously deal with the issues of food insecurity at various levels;

Further Recognising the multi-dimensional nature of the food security challenge and the importance of evoking a commensurate multi-pronged strategy to address the scourge of food insecurity on the Continent;

Further Noting the need for a multi-institutional approach to address the implementation of the Abuja 2006 summit decisions;

Acknowledging the remarkable interest demonstrated by the partners in synchronizing efforts on the delivery of regional agricultural agenda;

Directed the AUC to coordinate the coalition of partners and knowledge centres on the strategic commodities in the different regions of the continent in partnership with the RECs in the operationalisation of a robust multi-faceted hunger and poverty mitigation mechanism;

Endorses the action plan on Policy and Knowledge Support for supporting the strategic commodities and as elaborated in the Regional Value Chains Strategy on these strategic commodities; and

Urges the establishment of the Regional Value Chain Strategy including the use of a broad-based multi-stakeholder action planning process under the leadership of the AUC.

4. Agriculture, Food Security and Climate Change: Key Issues and AU-NEPAD's Framework

Noting that agriculture in Africa is where the strongest linkages between food security, climate change and poverty reduction are feasible and practical with desired results and impact realised within the short to medium term;

Recognising that African agriculture is the most at risk from the impact of climate change and the poorest segments of the rural population are already suffering from the consequences;

Appreciating that agriculture presents very significant potential to contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation objectives within the continent and with global benefits;

Recalling the 13th Summit Decision on the need for an Africa-wide framework on agriculture climate change;

Considering the key roles that AU-NEPAD's Agriculture Climate Change Adaptation-Mitigation Framework can play in stimulating and facilitating alignment, coherence, synergies and complementarities;

Endorses the AU-NEPAD Agriculture and Climate Change Adaptation-Mitigation Framework;

Requests member states, RECs and CAADP knowledge pools and networks, stakeholders and partners including civil society and farmers' organisations, development partners and private sector to customise and operationalise the Framework at all stages of CAADP implementation including analysis of national priorities and growth options, formulation of investment programmes/projects, technical review of implementation progress and performance evaluation;

Requests partners, including non-state actors, such as, the domestic private sector, CSOs and farmers' organizations, to accelerate the scaling up of best practices in climate-resilient sustainable agriculture;

Urges member states and the RECs to institutionalise appropriate social protection and disaster risk mitigation measures taking into account the uneven impact of climate change challenges across the different social and eco-agricultural systems;

Further Urges, member states to ensure consistency and coherence between agriculture, food security and climate change policies and strategies;

Requests development partners and the international community to provide adequate financial and technical support so as to enhance Africa's capacity to tackle the climate challenge within the context of AU-NEPAD's Agriculture Climate Change Adaptation-Mitigation Framework;

Calls for the international community to create space for participation of smallholder farmers and pastoral communities in future carbon mechanisms in general and the compliance and voluntary carbon trading in particular;

Urges all Africa's representatives at the UNFCCC COP 16 to strengthen the case for a clear decision to put in place a programme of work on agriculture;

Urges AUC-NEPAD Agency to strengthen within the Agriculture Climate Change Adaptation-Mitigation Framework context, the definition and operationalisation of appropriate monitoring and progress/performance assessment with simple and measurable common indicators at both process and result levels;

Further Urges AUC-NEPAD Agency and partners to also prioritise support for functioning knowledge-information generation and sharing mechanisms that would strengthen agriculture-climate change policy review and formulation, programme design, implementation and evaluation as well as forecasting and re-planning; and

Further Urges the international community to provide AUC-NEPAD Agency and RECs necessary capacity development support as they jointly embark on enhancing the climate-proof character of CAADP.

5. The African Food Basket Initiative

Agreeing on a process of integrating and assimilating the food basket quick-wins into the CAADP processes as a way of advancing the vision for a Food Secure Africa;

Noting the 13th AU Summit Decision to place the high priority on agriculture and food security as the basis for economic transformation and change within the shortest period of time, and acknowledging the progress being made within the context of CAADP;

Recalling the launching of the Africa Food Basket Initiative within Africa's broader development objectives;

Urges AU Member States to;

- a) take immediate steps review their agriculture and food security policies, strategies and plans and mainstream quick-win interventions;

- b) strengthen and make use of the current institutional arrangements in the context of CAADP for implementation of the Africa Food Basket Initiative and build adequate human, financial, and technical capacities to support the initiative;

Requests the AUC, the NEPAD Agency and RECs, together with development partners:

- a) to agree on a process of integrating and assimilating the food basket quick-wins into the CAADP processes including Pillar activities as a way of advancing the vision for a Food Secure Africa; and
- b) to make use of high level platforms within and outside the continent to mobilise support from bilateral and multilateral institutions for funding the quick-win investments in crop and livestock development, markets, irrigation, extension support), and for reporting on progress made.

6. Pastoral Policy Framework in Africa

Recognising the socio-economic importance of pastoralism in Africa;

Acknowledging that a pan-African policy framework for pastoralism will contribute to effectively address, in a holistic manner, the diverse and complex challenges confronting pastoral communities;

Recalling the commitments that African leaders have made on a number of occasions to enhance agricultural productivity, eradicate poverty, and improve rural livelihoods;

Appreciating the initiative taken by the AUC and its partners, in developing the Policy Framework for Pastoralism in Africa;

Urges AU Member States:

- a) to review their policies impacting pastoralism, in accordance with the Policy Framework, with a view to developing comprehensive policy which take into account the peculiar needs of pastoralism;
- b) to build adequate human, financial, and technical capacities to support pastoral policy development, implementation and tracking progress;

Requests the AUC, the NEPAD Agency and RECs, together with development partners:

- a) to strengthen and/or establish an appropriate institutional framework to provide coordination of follow up activities and facilitate mutual learning by

member states as they develop and review their pastoral policies in accordance with the Policy Framework;

- b) to put in place appropriate measures/mechanisms for mobilisation of financial resources and partnerships in support of promoting pastoral policy development and implementation at regional and country levels; and
- c) to take appropriate measures for the establishment of mechanisms for progress tracking and periodic member states reporting on progress achieved.

7. Improving Rural Livelihoods in Semi-Arid Areas of Africa

Concerned about the unique and specific challenges being faced by people living and working in semi-arid areas of Africa in relation, among others, to access and management of land and water, production, productivity, technology and innovation, interaction of climate change and desertification, market opportunities, and policies and institutions;

Endorses the issues identified in the background document presented and discussed during the Conference as well as the proposals suggested for actions;

Requests AU-SAFGRAD to work with the issues identified in the background document and lead formulation of appropriate programs to improve livelihoods in semi-arid Africa;

Calls Upon governments, development partners, the private sector to increase investments in terms of improving the levels and targets of domestic and international funding support for improving rural livelihoods in semi-arid areas;

Further Calls Upon governments, development partners, the private sector to step-up efforts towards strengthening local capacities for enhanced empowerment of the people and their institutions and for effective implementation of initiatives;

Calls Upon national, sub-regional, regional and international research, extension and education systems to scale up and scale out effective approaches, methods and technologies through innovative and inclusive/participatory approaches;

Urges AUC to strengthen AU-SAFGRAD human capital by increasing the staff personnel to ensure a critical mass of expertise for execution of its mandate;

Urges AUC, the RECs, international organisations and development partners to provide technical and financial support to AU-SAFGRAD to review its strategic plan as well as to effectively implement programs related to the above mentioned themes in semi arid-zones of Africa; and

Recommends that AUC and development partners support AU-SAFGRAD to institutionalise regular meeting of directors of NARS to discuss and exchange information on agricultural research and development issues.

8. Resolution on African Food and Nutrition Security Day

Recalling the decision of the Kampala Summit on the establishment of an African Food and Nutrition Security Day and subsequent commemoration on the 30th of October every year;

Noting the inauguration of the African Food and Nutrition Security day in the context of CAMA 2010 by H.E. Professor Bingu wa Mutharika, Chairman of African Union and President of Malawi;

Request Member States to take the initiative forward by commemorating the day annually on the 30th of October under the auspices of the African Union Commission; and

Urges AUC, NPCA and Member States to identify mechanisms for planning and preparing for commemorating the Africa Food and Nutrition Security Day.

9. Resolution based on the submission by the Malawian Delegation

Considering the role tobacco growing plays in meeting the livelihood needs of hundreds of thousands of people in Africa in general and in south-eastern Africa in particular;

Appreciating the need for establishing a fair trading regime in the marketing of tobacco and other agricultural products;

Opposes the WHO framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC) draft guidelines articles 9 and 10 and 18 in their current form; and

Further Urges the Fourth Conference of Parties which will be held in mid November 2010 in Uruguay to review the above-noted articles so that the livelihood needs of small scale tobacco growers is not compromised.

10. Resolution based on submission by the Nigerian Delegation

a) **On Food Safety**

Noting the laudable efforts of the AUC in the area of Sanitary and Phytosanitary initiatives on the Continent as a fundamental element of cross-border trade and the promotion of regional integration on the Continent;

Appreciating the efforts of the African Union and the European Union Commissions, towards the achievement of common principles and frameworks to improve food safety in Africa through the “Better Training for Safer Food (BTSF) Africa” programme;

Requests the African Union to support and recognise food safety as an integral component of food security and nutrition in Africa;

Encourages the further collaboration with the European Union on the 'Better Training for Safer Foods' Project;

b) On Organic Farming

In Line With the African Sustainable Ecological Agriculture Production Systems and following recommendations from the African Agribusiness and Agro-industries Development Initiative (3ADI) Conference that took place in Abuja Nigeria in June 2010;

Express its concern on the current practice of exploitation of the organic farming in Africa;

Requests support for an AU-led coalition of international partners to provide leadership and guidance on the establishment of an African Organic Farming Platform based on available best practices; and

Recommends African Governments to make concerted effort to support the development of sustainable organic farming systems under the guidance of the African Union Commission.

X. STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

26. The Ministers and Heads of Delegations at the Conference of Ministers of Agriculture listed below made statements:

Angola:

Angola announced the approval of the Agricultural Credit Framework which can provide US\$ 350 m to farmers. Angola applauded the initiative to establish an African Common Market for Agricultural Products. However, Angola insisted that water management should be emphasised in this process.

The Gambia:

The Minister announced that his government is discussing on organisation of a CAADP business meeting during the week of 01 November 2010. He noted however that resource mobilization strategy remains a concern for all resource-constrained countries. He, therefore, recommended that clear concerted efforts for resource mobilisation be made to meet the goals of the Africa Food Basket Initiative.

Kenya:

The Minister acknowledged climate change as a challenge facing Africa and recommended timely action to overcome the adverse effects of climate change on agriculture. He applauded the Policy Framework for Pastoralism that has been proposed for adoption. The Minister highlighted the initiative taken by Kenya in her endeavour to combat hunger.

Lesotho:

The Minister noted that Lesotho is committed to meeting the MDGs and CAADP targets. He applauded the partnership between the UN agencies responsible for agriculture, food and nutrition security and his country. The Minister voiced his support for the Africa Food Basket Initiative as well as the Africa Fertiliser Financing Mechanism. He also congratulated the efforts in developing the Framework and Guidelines on Land Policy in Africa.

Malawi:

The Minister reiterated her government's support for mainstreaming the Africa Food Basket Initiative into the CAADP framework. The Minister sought the support of African governments in uniting to oppose the WHO framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC) draft guidelines and specifically articles 9, 10 and 18 in their current form during the fourth conference of Parties which will be held in mid November 2010 in Uruguay. Malawi called for increased investment in agriculture, mitigation against climate change through improved technologies, participation with other stakeholders and increased productivity of agriculture.

Nigeria:

The Nigerian Delegation reiterated the efforts by AUC in the area of Sanitary and Phytosanitary initiatives on the Continent. As a fundamental element of cross-border trade and the promotion of regional integration on the Continent, the Minister called for support and recognition of food safety as a greater component of food security and nutrition in Africa.

The Minister further called for supporting an African Sustainable Ecological Agriculture Production System. He expressed the concern on the current practise of exploitation of the organic farming in Africa and further urged Member States to support an AU-led coalition of international partners to provide leadership and guidance on the establishment of an African Organic Farming Platform based on available best practices and also recommends that African Governments should make concerted effort to support the development of sustainable organic farming systems.

South Africa:

The Minister noted that Africa is a player in the world economy and hence member states approaches and strategies to address challenges facing the Continent have to be pragmatic and action- oriented and must recognise that agriculture is a business activity not a mere welfare endeavour. The Minister recommended a paradigm shift from a largely welfare oriented approach to economically driven enterprise, where the government creates an effective and supportive enabling policy and regulatory environment.

The Minister announced the intention of South Africa to bid to host the World Congress on Forestry in 2015 in Durban and requested for support from member states and AUC. Further, he extended an invitation to all African countries to attend the Wild lands Fire Congress which South Africa will be hosting at Sun City in 2011.

Chad:

The Minister expressed his happiness to participate in the CAMA meetings and informed the participants of the meeting taking place in N'Djamena in Chad on the World Forum for Sustainable Development related to the revitalisation of Lake Chad. He requested African countries for support in making this possible since the Lake Chad Area is key to ensuring food security in the country.

XI. ADOPTION OF MINISTERS' REPORT

27. The Ministers adopted their report.