

African Union Commission
**DEPARTMENT OF RURAL ECONOMY
AND AGRICULTURE (DREA)**



Annual Report 2012

Acronyms and Abbreviations

ACP	African, Caribbean and Pacific
ACPC	African Climate Policy Centre
ADFNS	African Day for food and Nutrition Security
AfDB	African Development Bank
AFP	Africa fertilizer Programme
AFSRDC	The Agriculture, Food Security and Rural Development Cluster
AGN	African Group of Negotiators
ALIVE	African Livestock Forum
AMCOW	African Minister's Council on Water
AMCEN	African Ministerial Conference on Environment
AMESD	African Monitoring of the Environment for Sustainable Development
ASTI	Agricultural Science and Technology Indicators
AU	African Union
AUC	African Union Commission
AWF	Africa Water Facility
CAADP	Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme
CAADP PP	CAADP Partnership Platform
CAHOSCC	Committee of African Head of State and Government on Climate Change
CAMA	Conference of African Ministers of Agriculture
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CBPP	Contagious Bovine pleuropneumonia
CCDU	Climate Change and Desertification Unit
CCPP	Contagious Caprine pleuropneumonia
CGIAR	Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
COMMSTRAT	Communication Strategy
CPB	Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety
CSOs	Civil Society Organisations
DFID	United Kingdom's Department for International Development
DREA	Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture
DRR	disaster risk management
GF-TADs	Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Trans-boundary Animal Diseases
EAC	East African Community
ECCAS	Economic Community of Central African States
ECOWAS	Economic Community Of West African States
EU	European Union
FANRPAN	Food Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organisation

FDH	Fouta Djallon Highlands Integrated Natural Resources Management Project
G8	Group of Eight
GAFFSP	Global Agriculture and Food Security Programme
GALVmed	Global Alliance for Livestock Veterinary Medicine
GDSC	Gender and Development Sub Cluster
GGWSSI	The Great Green Wall for the Sahara and the Sahel Initiative
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
IBAR	Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources
IFDC	International Fertilizer Development Centre
IFPRI	International Food Policy Research Institute
IGAD	Inter Governmental Authority on Development
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IPPC	International Plant Protection Convention
ISRCT	International Scientific Council for Research and Control of Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
JAP	Joint Action Plan
KEPHIS	Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Services
LSIPT	Livestock Sector Investment Tool
LDPS2	Livestock Development System 2
MAF	Mutual accountability Framework
MEAs	Multilateral Environmental Agreements
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MDTF	Multi-Donor Trust Fund
MESA	Monitoring of the Environment for Security in Africa
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MTCCBP	Medium Term Comprehensive Capacity Building Programme
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NPCA	NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency
NPPOs	National Plant Protection Organisation
OAU	Organisation for African Unity
OCS	Online Comment Systems
OIE	World Organisation of animal Research
PAAT	Programme against African Trypanosomiasis
PAHYB	Pan African Animal Health Year Book
PACA	Partnership for Aflatoxin Control
PAFO	Pan African Farmers Forum
PAP	Pan African Parliament

Acronyms and Abbreviations *continued*

PAMA	Pan African veterinary Medicine Agency
PAN-SPSO	Participation of African Nations in Sanitary and phyto-sanitary Standards-setting Organizations
PANVAC	Pan African Veterinary Vaccine Centre
PAAT	Programme Against African Trypanosomiasis
PATTEC	Pan African Tse-tse and Trypanosomiasis Eradication Campaign
PHL	Post Harvest Loss
PHLP	Post Harvest Loss Programme
PPR	Peste des Petits Ruminants
RASFF	Rapid Alert
RCM	Regional Coordination Mechanism
RECs	Regional Economic Communities
ReSAKSS	Regional Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System
SAFGRAD	Semi-Arid Food Grains Research and Development
SDC	Swedish Development Cooperation
SIT	Sterile Insect Technique
SPS	Sanitary and Phytosanitary Standards
STEP	Southern Tsetse Eradication Project
STEPRI	Science and Technology Policy Research Institute
STDF	Standards and Trade Development Sub Cluster
T&T	Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis
UMA	Arab Maghreb Union
UNCSD	United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UNECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
UNEP	United Nations Environment Program
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNGA	United Nations General Assembly
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VCA	Value Chain Analysis
VETGOV	Veterinary Governance in Africa
WACDEP	Water, Climate and Development Programme
WECARD	West and Central African Council for Agricultural Research and Development
WEF	World Economic Forum
Wfp	World food Programme
WHO	World Health Organisation
WMO	World Meteorological Organisation

Table of Contents

Foreword by H.E. Commissioner Tumusiime	2
Note from the Director	3
Overview of DREA	4
Key activities of DREA in 2012	6
• Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme	6
• Agriculture and Food Security Division	11
• Rural Economy Division	14
• Environment, Climate Change, Water and Land Management Division	17
Key achievements by DREA Technical Offices	22
• Pan African Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis Eradication Campaign	22
• Pan African Vaccine Centre	23
• Inter Africa Phytosanitary Council	24
• Semi-Arid Food Grain research and Development	25
• Inter African Bureau for Animal resources	27
Annex	31



Tumusiime Rhoda Peace

Foreword

*By H.E. Mrs. Tumusiime Rhoda Peace,
Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture*

Welcome to the third edition of the DREA annual report. This edition pays particular attention to the success and achievements of the department in its quest to ensure that Africa attains food and nutrition security.

The African Union Commission recognizes that efforts aimed at increasing agricultural productivity, enhancing food and nutrition security and sustainable natural resources management are at the heart of addressing rural transformation in much of Africa. In this regard, I commend the staff of DREA and, indeed, the efforts of our leaders, institutions and partners for the collective and coordinated approach towards addressing the challenges of agricultural development and environmental management in the context of CAADP.

As part of sustaining the CAADP momentum, major activities took place during the reporting period to reduce the vulnerability of African citizens, build their resilience and better their livelihoods. The 2012 G8 Summit applauded and upheld the progress made under CAADP as the overarching framework for policies, programmes and initiatives for increasing agricultural production, productivity, food and nutrition security in Africa. Throughout the Continent, there is notable progress in country-led implementation of CAADP targets and principles. CAADP has since created space for inclusive participation of all relevant sector players – from within and outside the state and at the grassroots level. CAADP has raised the profile of the agricultural sector in domestic, national, regional, continental and international politics, and the attention accorded by leaders and citizens to agriculture has significantly increased. CAADP is a model for the rest of the continents as a home grown, country led, and stakeholder inclusive agricultural transformation agenda for results and impacts.

I trust that you find reading this report beneficial!



Abebe Haile Gabriel

Note from the Director

The year 2012 marks an exciting episode for DREA in which important milestones and achievements have been registered. It was a year marking the end of the 2nd Strategic Plan of the AUC and therefore that of DREA, but also the beginning of reflections defining the priorities for the next planning cycle.

The year saw a significant process of thinking, reflection and consultations leading to further clarity and consensus building among all stakeholders around sustaining the CAADP momentum and on ensuring the cardinal principle and practice of African ownership and leadership. In July 2012 the Assembly of the African Union Heads of State and Government had proclaimed the year 2014 as the AU Year of Agriculture and Food Security. Preparations to implement this Decision had started in earnest, and by the end of the year, necessary resources to support the activities have already been secured. In November 2012 the first ever AU Joint Conference of Ministers of Agriculture and Trade was successfully organised, which gave the opportunity to deliberate on the theme of **“Boosting Intra-African Trade: a key to agricultural transformation and ensuring food and nutrition security”** and adopted resolutions, which was subsequently endorsed by the Executive Council and Assembly of the African Union.

The year 2012 also marks a year in which Africa not only continues to advance its common position in climate change negotiations, but also has articulated a common position on sustainable development and spoke with one voice at the Rio+20 conference in Rio de Janeiro, which has seen positive outcomes.

During the year, remarkable progress has been registered by the three Divisions and the six Technical Offices of DREA, in terms of implementation of flagship projects that arise out of several Decisions adopted by AU policy organs, despite some challenges. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture for her guidance and support, the entire staff of the department for their commitment, hard and quality work and our partners for their support – the achievements registered during the year are due to such a clear vision and concerted actions by all. It is gratifying to note that DREA continues to enjoy the support and confidence of its key stakeholders and partners.

Enjoy Reading.

Abebe Haile Gabriel, PhD
 Director,
 Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture

Overview

Acceleration of Africa's sustained economic growth hinges on the extent to which the agricultural and rural sector is successfully transformed so that increased productivity and competitiveness is achieved to spur gainful employment and wealth for the population, hence contributing towards improved quality of life. Africa's sustainable economic development can neither be conceived nor achieved in isolation from the sustainable management of its environment and natural resources.

Hence, DREA, aims to make the thrusts of agricultural growth and transformation, and sustainable management of the environment and natural resources, the centre-piece of its priority actions. With the objective of promoting agricultural and rural development and ensuring food security, and achieving sustainable growth and improved livelihoods for the population, underpinned by sound environmental and natural resources management and adaptation to climate change, DREA's core functions include: (a) advocacy for transformation and development, (b) policy harmonization and coordination, (c) strategic communication for political engagement, (d) resource mobilization and partnership.

DREA's Strategic Intervention Areas are broadly categorized under two broad thrusts, namely, (1) Agriculture, food security and rural development; and (2) Environment and natural resource management.

The thrust under agriculture, food security and rural development includes:

- (a) Rolling out CAADP: through facilitation and coordination of the CAADP implementation, DREA aims to assist Member States in their efforts to align their policies and strategies in support of their agricultural sector. Successful implementation of these is expected to enhance agricultural productivity and competitiveness, promote trade, and achieve food and nutrition security.
- (b) Coordinating and facilitating the implementation of specific AU Decisions on priority initiatives and programmes that are aimed to promote intra-African cooperation for development and self-reliance, such as programmes on the promotion of animal and plant health, production and trade; promotion of regional value chains for strategic commodities for food and nutrition security, the African Fertilizer Financing Mechanism, the African Seed and Biotechnology Programme, etc.
- (c) Designing and coordination of initiatives and programmes that are aimed at addressing the vulnerabilities of agricultural production and livelihoods to natural disasters – for improving adaptation and building resilience.
- (d) Designing and coordination of the implementation of various initiatives on key policies related interventions, such as the Land Policy Framework and Guidelines, the Policy Framework on Pastoralism, the Policy Framework on Rural Infrastructure, etc. and
- (e) Supporting and facilitating networks of farmers and pastoralist organizations with a view to enhancing their capacities to articulate and adequately represent their voices.

The thrust on Environment and Natural Resources areas include:

- (a) Advancing Africa's Climate Change and desertification Agenda, including supporting Africa's negotiations on climate change and desertification at global level, through facilitation of effective coordination around African common position on climate change and desertification, and formulation of an African Climate Change Strategy,
- (b) Enhancing the capacities of Member States and RECs in terms of improving supply and access to earth observation and climate information through operationalizing of Monitoring of the Environment and Security in Africa Project and, in partnership with UNECA and AfDB, the programme on Climate Information for Development in Africa (ClimDEV).
- (c) Building Member States capacities for improved performance in terms of discharging their responsibilities and derive benefit from Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs)
- (d) Operationalisation of the GGWSSI– which has begun to serve as an important platform and instrument to bringing together key actors and partners at various levels for a concerted action to support the efforts of combating desertification.

- (e) Advancing the African Water and Sanitation agenda, in terms of implementation of the Sharm El-Shekh Commitments on Water and Sanitation, and supporting Intergrated Water Management initiatives.
- (f) Facilitating and coordination of the implementation of the Africa Regional Strategy on DRR and the Afirca Risk Capacity.

DREA implements these key result areas through its three (3) Divisions and six (6) Specialised Technical Offices. These are:

- The Agriculture and Food Security Division,
- The Environment, Climate Change, Water and Land Management Division,
- The Rural Economy Division, and
- The Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (IBAR), based in Nairobi, Kenya.

- The Pan-African Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis Eradication Campaign (PATTEC), based in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia,
- The Pan-African Vaccine Centre (PANVAC), based in Debre-Zeit, Ethiopia,
- The Inter-Africa Phytosanitary Counsel (IAPSC), Based in Yaoundé, Cameroon,
- The Semi-Arid Food Grains Research and Development (SAFGRAD), based in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso), and
- The Fouta Djallon Highlands Integrated Natural Resources Management Programme (FDH), Based in Conakry, Guinea.

In addition DREA has a CAADP support unit that provides the much needed mainstreaming and technical backstopping function in rolling out CAADP.

KEY ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL ECONOMY AND AGRICULTURE IN 2012

1. Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP)

CAADP as a continental framework guiding agricultural growth and transformation provides the basis for DREA's response to support and address the major challenges of Africa's agricultural and rural development.

Enhanced leadership role of AUC-DREA to effectively rally political support to CAADP.

- **Engaging in National and Regional Efforts of Political Mobilization in Support of CAADP**

Broadly, twenty four (24), out of fifty four (54) countries on the continent, are engaged in the CAADP. 30 countries have signed country CAADP Compacts.

- **Engaging in nurturing and supporting country CAADP teams in preparation for CAADP Compacts**

With 30 countries having signed CAADP Compacts, it was necessary to provide support in a manner that responds to post compact demands by Member States and RECs. At the same time, it was also necessary to rally support behind countries at a pre-compact stage, most of which are within the central African (ECCAS) and north African (UMA) regions. Consultation with the concerned RECs confirmed that a high demand indeed exists for political mobilization and therefore a need for rallying leaders to embrace CAADP and facilitate better internalisation towards developing and signing of CAADP Compacts.

Organized and coordinated implementation support missions including MDTF beneficiary institutions (RECs, NPCA, etc.)

The objective of this activity was to undertake political, policy and technical support missions mainly to RECs and knowledge support institutions focusing on those benefiting

from CAADP MDTF. The CAADP MDTF Partnership Committee in June 2011 made a decision to support the efforts of ECOWAS and SADC in the implementation of CAADP. At the same time, it was noted that those RECs which have not yet benefited from CAADP MDTF such as the East African Community (EAC), Inter Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD), etc. also needed to benefit from joint implementation support missions.

Signing of regional and national CAADP Compacts

DREA engaged and supported the preparations and final signing of the Djibouti national CAADP Compact on 19th April 2012.

DREA was also engaged directly in supporting the formulation of IGAD regional compact. This took the form of facilitating meetings with experts engaged to develop the regional compact.

Supporting Joint Post-Compact Orientation Missions

AUC-DREA is mandated to participate in joint planning and collaborative meetings together with the NEPAD, RECs and knowledge institutions in order to promote a common policy agenda. AUC-DREA's role is to facilitate policy harmonization and also play an important role in promoting and policy adoption and harmonization at the regional level. This takes place through regional consultations, participation at regional fora and provision of targeted inputs for the design of regional programs, compacts and investment plans by AUC-DREA staff or consultants.

In 2012, DREA provided support in preparation for the IGAD Ministerial and High Level Development Partners Meeting, which took place in Nairobi, Kenya. DREA actively took part in the planning and organisation of the IGAD Ministerial and High level Development Partners meeting. Further, DREA, together with FAO and in collaboration with STEPRI organized an International Outreach Event to explore **Institutional Support for Inclusive Agribusiness and Agro-Industries Development** in Africa in the context of supporting CAADP

implementation. This meeting was organized in Accra, Ghana from 4th to 7th of September 2012.

Engagement in regional post-Compact review and business sessions

While RECs and NEPAD Agency are expected to take the lead in supporting and coordinating CAADP processes at regional and country level, AUC-DREA has from time provided stop gap measures especially where higher level advocacy for political engagement is required. For AUC-DREA, this includes participating in joint country visits to support and nurture country CAADP teams and seeking for political engagement for CAADP buy-in. At the post-compact level, this includes advocating for a thorough post-Compact review process. For overall support to CAADP implementation support institutions, this includes guiding, coaching and linking to knowledge centres as part of the CAADP Resource Group and directly as part of AUC-DREA and NEPAD Agency oversight roles.

During the period, a number of countries were involved in the review of their respective country investment plans and business meetings. Some of these countries were supported

by RECs and NPCA. The commission was directly involved in the CAADP Business Meeting of the Republic of Cote D'Ivoire to mobilize resources for the implementation of the National Agricultural and Food Security Investment Program.

At the 2012 G8 Summit under the US presidency, the new Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition was initiated to support CAADP. The New Alliance was initiated to focus on issues and challenges affecting private sector investments in agriculture through CAADP and as a build-up on the work and progress that was made under Grow Africa. As an instrument to operationalise the New Alliance, country cooperation frameworks were developed to translate country, donor and private sector commitments to support CAADP and in the context of country investment plans. During the year, a number of cooperation frameworks were launched in countries as part of the implementation of New Alliance and in support of CAADP.

DREA also participated in two key meetings organized by the Government of Tanzania to Launch the New Alliance on Food Security and Nutrition and another by FANRPAN on Regional Food Policy Dialogue. The meetings took place from 3rd to 7th September 2012 in Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania.



Tanzanian President, H.E Jakaya Kikwete with AUC DREA Commissioner H.E Tumusiime R. Peace

Heightening Global Advocacy in Support of CAADP in G8, G20, UNGA, Rio+20 Forums

AUC-DREA plays a key role in global and continental actions and specifically in lobbying and advocating for coordination of efforts, alignment, and harmonization of development assistance to CAADP by Development Partners, philanthropic organisations as well as technical agencies. Together with the NEPAD Agency, AUC-DREA is required to undertake these roles through organizing and participating in meetings or missions to encourage international institutions to support, align, coordinate assistance and harmonise efforts to CAADP. AU-DREA plays a lead role in this agenda. The G8, G20, and the United Nations General Assembly are global fora for example where the priorities for engagement and support are shaped. In many cases, the discussions that take place at such meetings are used to shape the actions in the way development assistance and support is provided.

Consequently, during the period under review, the Commission was instrumental in informing the preparations and later attending the pre-G8 Summit in Washington DC which, was organized by the Chicago Council on Global Affairs.

CAADP was championed as home grown and African owned and driven framework at the G8 through the active participation of the AU Chairperson H.E Boni Yayi (President

of Benin) the AUC leadership (Chairperson Dr. Jean Ping and Commissioner Tumusiime, among others). Other African leaders who were actively involved include the Heads of State and Government of Ethiopia, Tanzania and Ghana. During those fora, the Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture together with technical experts participated at both Pre-G8 Symposium on Global Agriculture & Food Security and the main G8 Summit; and conducted a series of follow up meetings with relevant institutions and actors representing the G8 including the 2012 G8 chair – the United States of America – on how to take up and operationalize the G8 outcomes as related to CAADP.

Aligning the Agricultural Science Agenda in Support of CAADP

DREA was also involved in a key engagement on how to align CGIAR work to CAADP priorities and principles. To this effect, DREA represented by the Director of DREA and the CAADP Technical Adviser, attended a planning meeting in Dublin, Ireland between 16 and 19 September 2012 to review and provide guidance on how to shape the work of CGIAR in line with the African agriculture development process under CAADP. The key input to the meeting by DREA was to define the demand for CGIAR reforms based on a series of principles and priorities as enshrined in the CAADP Process.



H.E Boni Yayi, President of Benin, (second from left) with G8 leaders

DREA through participation of the Director and CAADP Advisor also engaged key partners (the World Bank, USAID and DFID) in a discussion on the significance of addressing resilience to manage food security shocks. This was expected to lead towards a formulation and implementation of risk management and resilience programs in national and regional plans and in the context of CAADP such as those being developed in the horn of Africa and in the Sahel. The meeting took place in the margins of the CAADP MDTF Partnership Committee Meeting, which was chaired by DREA Director, in July 2012, in Washington DC.

Organization of the CAADP Partnership Platform

As part of its joint responsibility with the NEPAD Agency in supporting CAADP partnerships, AUC-DREA is mandated to support the CAADP Partnership Platform through preparations and participation in planning events. AUC-DREA and NEPAD Agency jointly convenes the meeting and manages the operations of the Platform as an event.

In 2012, AUC-DREA co-convened with NPCA the joint AUC-NPCA-RECs and ReSAKSS joint planning and review meeting which took place between March 30th and 31st in 2012. The main outcome of this meeting was an agreement and a common understanding on what constitutes country support priorities for CAADP support.

DREA was instrumental in the preparation and successful organization of the 8th CAADP PP which was held on 3rd and 4th May 2012 in Nairobi, Kenya under the theme *“Accelerating CAADP implementation for results and impact.”* During the preparatory process, DREA provided the necessary guidance and follow up, including co-leading the CAADP PP task team and the preparation of the CAADP Implementation Support Progress Report, for effective delivery of the CAADP PP.

Further, AUC through DREA hosted on May 9th 2012 a Grow Africa Partnership event held in Addis Ababa in the margins of the 2012 World Economic Forum on Africa, in which seven AU Member States (Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Kenya, Ghana, Rwanda, Mozambique and Tanzania) had presented concrete business proposals on specific and well identified and articulated value chains to national, regional and global business leaders and companies. At the same meeting, Heads of State and Government from Rwanda, Ethiopia and Tanzania had articulated, in very clear terms using illustrations and examples, that the Grow Africa initiative was only to be understood as part of Africa’s Agricultural Transformation agenda – CAADP. It was acknowledged that the Grow Africa partnership was a catalyst to the CAADP implementation through mobilization of private sector resources and actors to finance private sector priorities as articulated in country investment plans.



Opening ceremony of the CAADP PP



(l-r) Late Ethiopian Prime Minister, H.E Meles Zenawi, Tanzanian President, H.E Jakaya Kikwete, Rwandan President, H.E Paul Kagame and former AUC Chairperson, H.E Jean Ping on a panel discussion during the Grow Africa meeting

Formulation and Adoption of Decisions in Support of CAADP

In November 2012, DREA held a retreat with Parliamentarians from AU Member States which was hosted at the AU Pan African Parliament premises in Midrand, South Africa. This being the first ever direct interaction with the Chairs of Member States Parliamentary Standing Committees on Agriculture and Environment, the purpose of the retreat was to provide an opportunity to the legislators to acquaint themselves with the continental agendas on agriculture and environment and on the Decisions/ Declarations adopted by the AU Policy Organs on behalf of Member States, how AUC-DREA has been driving those agenda, the progress achieved, challenges encountered and going forward explore ways in which they can play an active role in playing their legislative and oversight roles within their respective chambers but also as an interest group as African parliamentarians. It also was aimed at providing DREA with an opportunity to solicit much needed support from the parliamentarians as champions to drive change in terms of promoting the agricultural transformational and environmental and natural resources management agenda that it has espoused, in particular in terms of improving the follow up and reporting on progress of implementation of the relevant Decisions adopted by the AU Policy Organs. The parliamentarians exchanged views on how political and technical leaders at country level could be more effectively

engaged and mobilized to ensure compliance with the key principles and targets of CAADP. A Joint Communiqué was adopted at the end of the meeting (see Annex 1). DREA also held its internal retreat back to back with the Parliamentarians retreat to thoroughly review progress in implementation of its 2012 work plan and prepare its work programme for implementation of the 2013 programme. Useful lessons learnt were documented and recommendations were made for subsequent action by management, in particular on team work and results based performance appraisal.

Design and Implementation of MAF

AUC-DREA participates in the formulation, validation and reporting on CAADP progress to the political level as well as supports peer review mechanisms through continued political engagement. While AUC-DREA takes a secondary role with respect to overall M&E it rather takes lead role in managing political engagement related to monitoring progress and in managing peer review processes.

DREA together with NPCA initiated a draft Mutual Accountability Framework (MAF) in early 2012. Mechanisms such as agricultural sector review at country level and annual CAADP Partnership Platforms are used as review and dialogue platforms and are helping in fostering accountability for results and agriculture performance.

ReSAKSS— a CAADP architecture supported by USAID-IFPRI – provides the platform for executing the CAADP MAF by way of its Biennial Steering Committee Meetings, which is chaired by the Director of DREA.

Design and Implementation of the CAADP Communication Strategy

AUC-DREA has a number of communication requirements related to managing internal information flows and key messages across AU organs and providing external information to CAADP stakeholders on key political decisions, continental policy priorities and AUC-DREA's own CAADP activities. To effectively meet its internal and external communication needs, the Department is mandated to develop a strategic communications plan as a first step. This is expected to be done in close consultation with NEPAD Agency to ensure harmonization.

Work on the development and design of the CAADP COMSTRAT started in Mid-2012. The COMSTRAT is expected to be validated by stakeholders and implemented by June 2013.

Meanwhile, significant efforts were made during 2012. Among these was the designing of the AUC CAADP website, which now contains more regular updates of developments and events in advocacy for and

implementation of CAADP. A regular, monthly edition of CAADP Newsletter is also produced and circulated to stakeholders and partners. The first edition of CAADP Brochure was produced in the eve of the celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the OAU/AU and the 19th AU Summit in July 2012. The CAADP Brochure, which provides information on the expected results, strategic purpose, strategic intervention areas and targets, core principles and values, among others, was circulated to Member States' and delegates in attendance at the 50th OAU/AU Anniversary Celebration and the Summit. Copies of the Brochure were also distributed to delegates of the Joint AU Conference of Ministers of Agriculture and Trade, which took place from 26 to 30 November 2012 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

2. Key Achievements of the Agriculture and Food Security Division (AFS)

Promotion of Ecological and Organic Agriculture (EOA) on the African Continent

The Agriculture and Food Security Division in collaboration with partners organized the 2nd African Conference on Organic Agriculture in Lusaka, Zambia in May, 2012.



DREA staff with parliamentarians

The conference attracted 300 participants from 35 AU Member States and produced the Lusaka Declaration on Mainstreaming Organic Agriculture into the African Development Agenda. The Division also organized regional training workshops on organic standards and certification systems for organic farmers and other stakeholders of EOA from the EAC, SADC and the COMESA Regions. The activities led to the creation of a stronger awareness and the strengthening of institutional capacities of EOA platforms in EAC, SADC and COMESA. It is the intention of the division to continue with the regional training programmes in 2013 with emphasis on ECOWAS and EAC.

Strengthening of cooperation between Regional Fisheries Bodies and Regional Economic Communities in Africa

The Division organized a think tank event in collaboration with NPCA in Johannesburg, South Africa in September 2012 to strengthen cooperation between RFBs, RECs and the AUC. The event came out with an action plan stipulating roles and responsibilities for RFBs, RECs and the African Union.

Africa- Arab Cooperation on Implementation of the Joint Action Plan of Agricultural Development and Food Security

To further cement the cooperation between African and Arab countries in the area of Agriculture and Food Security, the Division convened the 2nd Steering Committee Meeting on

JAP on Agricultural Development and Food Security at the AU Headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in April 2012. The Division also participated actively in organizing committee meetings convened to prepare for the 2nd Africa-Arab Ministers of Agriculture Conference to be held in September-October 2013, in Saudi Arabia. The institutional arrangements were better refined and discussions are at an advanced stage on the next steps on the action plan of the JAP.

Signing of Memorandum of Understanding between the Meridian Institute and the African Union Commission and the Launching of the Partnership for Aflatoxin Control in Africa (PACA)

The AUC and the Meridian Institute signed an MOU to control Aflatoxins in Africa on 3rd September 2012. This undertaking paved the way for the formal launching of PACA on the African Continent. The PACA Secretariat was established at the AUC and a Steering Committee of PACA was constituted, with DREA taking the role of Chair.

The Joint AU Conference of Ministers of Agriculture and Ministers of Trade

The first ever Joint AU Conference of Ministers of Agriculture and Ministers of Trade was convened from 29 to 30 November, 2012 at the AU Conference Centre (AUCC) under the theme "Boosting Intra-African Trade: A key to agricultural transformation and ensuring food and nutrition security". The Conference deliberated on crucial issues of



PACA steering committee members

significance towards facilitating intra-regional trade for the advancement of Africa's agricultural transformation and development and food and nutrition security agenda.

Commemoration of the 3rd Africa Day for Food and Nutrition Security

The third Africa Day for Food and Nutrition Security was commemorated at the AUC on 31st October 2012 under the theme, "Ensuring Access to Safe and Nutritious Food." The overall objective of the ADFNS 2012 was to provide a platform for engaging food and nutrition security stakeholders, government, civil society, the private sector, the scientific and research institutions, farmer organizations and development partners toward operationalising an African vision on food and nutrition security, taking into account global discussions and movements (G8, G20, Rio+20, 1000 days, etc.). In this regard, the ADFNS was envisioned to strengthen momentum and contribute towards a reflection on sustainable development goals and what could follow the MDGs after 2015, taking into account UNDP's Africa Human Development Report 2012: Toward a Food Secure Future.

The event was organised through joint collaboration of AUC, NPCA, UNICEF, FAO, UNIDO, WHO and Save the Children Federation. The main event featured several messages around the theme delivered through statements and keynote addresses of the AUC Chairperson, Commissioner of DREA, Dr David Nabarro, UN Secretary-General's Special Representative and Development Partner Organizations.

The Agriculture, Food Security and Rural Development Cluster Meeting

The AFSRDC held a retreat meeting in Johannesburg, South Africa from 21-23 May, 2012 to finalize the MTCCBP in support of the activities of AUC/DREA and NPCA in the context of CAADP implementation. The expected outcome, outputs, activities and indicative inputs in terms of long term experts and short term consultants for the MTCCBP were defined. The Cluster events continue to strengthen the rationale for the establishment of the Regional Coordination Mechanism.

Strengthening SPS capacity in Africa

The Agriculture and Food Security Division and the STDF of the World Trade Organization jointly organized a meeting in September 2012 to reflect and agree on how to implement the recommendations from the STDF scoping study titled "Regional SPS Frameworks and Strategies in Africa" and

other meetings, notably in relation to the role and function of the AUC, its technical offices and the RECs in adding value to SPS coordination and capacity building initiatives at continental, regional and national levels.

The Division and KEPHIS jointly organized a training workshop on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Compliance at the latter's Headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya in November 2012. The training was organized as part of AU's efforts towards equipping laboratories to undertake diagnostics on SPS. The workshop was aimed at creating awareness on phytosanitary import regulatory systems and enhancing the knowledge and skills of participants on phytosanitary export certification systems and phytosanitary import inspections.

A training on Geographic Indicators was conducted for farmers from African Union Member States who undertake organic farming targeted at the global market. The training was aimed at creating awareness on the importance of product origin and the linking of products to quality parameters in line with the African Union efforts of promoting and supporting intra-Africa and global trade. Creating awareness in GIs also aimed at helping organic farmers in Africa obtain premium prices for their products.

Gender Mainstreaming Retreat

The Division participated in a Gender Mainstreaming Retreat, jointly organized by the Gender and Development Sub-cluster (GDSC) of the Social and Human Development Cluster and the AFSRDC of the RCM, from 6 to 7 September 2012. The Cluster and Sub-clusters held several consultations during the year 2012 with the view to concretizing the partnership in addressing the enhancement of DREA and NPCA to mainstream gender in CAADP implementation.

The key accomplishments of the division in the year under review included the following:

- Cooperation mechanism between RFBs, RECs and the African Union Commission was established and strengthened.
- Capacity of organic farmers on organic standards and certification systems was strengthened in EAC, SADC and COMESA.
- The 2nd African Conference on Organic Agriculture was held in Lusaka, Zambia and it catalysed Ecological and Organic Agriculture sensitization and consequently activities were initiated in six pilot countries.
- The Abuja Food Security decision in the context of commodity value chains was implemented in COMESA

and ECOWAS in partnerships established with knowledge centres.

- The operationalization of RASFF for Africa was carried out to provide timely food safety information. RASFF will ensure the rapid exchange of information among Member States and the AUC about direct or indirect detected risks on food or feed.
- An SPS-Cluster coordination unit was established within DREA which provides guidance on seamless implementation of SPS programmes in line with the WTO SPS Agreement on food safety.
- The Reference Framework and Guidelines for harmonization of the management of Food Hygiene in Africa which was endorsed by the African Union Summit in January 2011 was domesticated and applied by the RECs. The Africa-Arab JAP on Agricultural development and Food Security was given a renewed impetus.

The Africa Fertilizer Programme

Since its inception, AUC-DREA's AFP has geared towards strengthening the capacity of regional economic communities and member states to implement the 2006 Abuja Declaration on Fertilizer for an African Green Revolution, which seeks to improve the access of millions of smallholder farmers to fertilizer as a means to relieving poverty and ensuring food security in Africa.

In 2012, the program's activities essentially focused on the following policy and capacity strengthening activities:

- Assessment of the status of implementation of the Abuja Declaration on Fertilizer by RECs
- To review the activities RECs have implemented since 2006 and determine how best African Heads of State and Government can orient RECs' efforts towards effective implementation of the resolutions pertaining to Regional Economic Communities within the Declaration, AUC-DREA developed and administered detailed questionnaires to COMESA, ECOWAS, ECCAS, EAC, SADC, and IGAD between January and May 2012. The questionnaires were primarily divided into the following four major sections to capture progress achieved by the RECs: Fertilizer Policies and Regulations; Regional Fertilizer Production and/or Procurement and Distribution Centres through Strategic Public-Private Partnerships; The Africa Fertilizer Financing Mechanism; and Market Information and Transparency. The response rate was 100 percent for the RECs visited. Due to budget constraints, such missions could be planned in

only four RECS. Based on the information gathered from the survey as well secondary data, a detailed report was prepared and will be published in 2013.

- Capacity of RECs and AU Member States strengthened in fertilizer policy, marketing, and production strategies.
- Fifty Participants received training on *Promoting Affordable Sources of Plant Nutrients in Africa Through Innovative Composting Alternatives*. The training focused on improving their capabilities to overcome constraints that hamper waste recycling and the feasibility of recycling strategies and their contribution to ensuring sustainable agricultural productivity and improve sanitation in rapidly growing rural, urban and peri-urban environments.
- The training also increased participants' knowledge of the principles and methodologies of solid waste and fecal sludge collection, storage and handling to ensure efficiency.
- Participants were also updated on the development of innovative composting technologies to enhance the effectiveness, aesthetical and applicability of the composted material to increase acceptability among smallholder farmers.

CURRENT ACTIVITY:

- **Developing a framework for fertilizer quality control in COMESA** – A TCP was prepared in collaboration with IFDC and has been submitted to the FAO for funding.

3. Key Achievements of Rural Economy Division

Establishment of Institutional arrangements, resource mobilization strategy and action plan for the AU Policy Framework on Pastoralism.

Pastoralists number in the millions, accounting for a substantial part of many African nations. Across Africa, pastoralists account for the use of approximately 40% of the land. However, given the transnational character of pastoralism and the extreme and worsening levels of food insecurity and vulnerability within African pastoral communities, a pan-African policy on pastoralism was long overdue.

Available information indicates that pastoralists are among the most politically and economically marginalized communities. They have decreasing access to the natural resources on which their livelihoods depend, and very limited access to basic socio-economic services and infrastructure. In addition, pastoralist areas continue to be affected by violent conflict, which in some regions is protracted and hinders opportunities for long-term economic growth. The development challenges of pastoral areas in Africa are multi-dimensional and complex but nevertheless, needed urgent attention.

Consequently, 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 the 16th Ordinary Session of the AU Heads of State and Government endorsed the AU Policy Framework on Pastoralism in January 2011.

In August 2012, following up on the adoption of this framework, the Dept. in consultation with various Pastoral Networks and other relevant stakeholders put in place an action plan, institutional arrangements with clearly identified roles and responsibilities of key stakeholders in the Policy implementation process and a resource mobilization strategy for the operationalization of the framework.

Production of advocacy materials (flyers, leaflets and pamphlets) popularising the AU Policy Framework on Pastoralism.

The division in collaboration with other stakeholders has produced leaflets and flyers not only in the four AU working languages but also in Kiswahili, Oromia and Somali to raise awareness at the grass roots level of the existence of the framework and how it can be used by the pastoralists in ensuring that their concerns are taken on board and effectively addressed in national development plans and processes.

Efforts are presently underway to have these advocacy materials also translated into other local languages.

The Department is presently in the process of developing a monitoring and evaluation tool for effectively tracking the progress of implementation of the framework at national and regional levels and also building the capacity of pastoral networks in order for them to effectively engage in national dialogue processes impacting on their livelihood. Policy Dialogue sessions on emerging issues impacting on Pastoralists are also being organized to sustain awareness



Working Group sessions during the validation workshop for the Institutional arrangements, resource mobilization and action plan for the AU Policy Framework for Pastoralism.

and keep in focus the challenges, contribution and importance of pastoralism national development.

Implementation of the AU Framework and Guidelines and Declaration on Land Issues and Challenges in Africa.

The Framework and Guidelines including the Declaration were adopted at the 13th Ordinary session of the AU Heads of State and Government. In order to fast track their operationalization and implementation, the Land Policy Initiative (LPI) was established as a consortium of the African Union Commission, African Development Bank and the UN Economic Commission for Africa.

Within this reporting period, the following achievements were made.

- Improved the capacity of AU Member States in Land Policy Development, Implementation and Monitoring.
- Training of 40 experts (Anglophone and Francophone) at national level on land policy development, implementation and monitoring.
- Providing technical assistance to ECOWAS' Regional Land Initiative on convergence framework on land policy in Africa.

- Enhanced the capacity of stakeholders to track progress on land policy formulation and implementation.
- Framework has been developed to track progress in land policy formulation and implementation in Africa (publication in progress). Once published, this document would be made available to RECS, AU Member States and other relevant stakeholders.
- Production of a Capacity Development Framework for Land Policy in Africa
- Mobilization of resources to support land policy development and implementation
- Developed Strategy on building partnerships and mobilizing resources and within this context received assistance from the SDC to support the implementation of the AU Declaration and the Framework and Guidelines.
- Resource mobilized from UN-HABITAT for the capacity building training programmes.

CURRENT ACTIVITIES:

Studies are on-going on mainstreaming Land issues into the CAADP developed agricultural and food security investment plans of AU Member States as part of efforts in mainstreaming land in the agenda for Africa's Development.



Expert group meeting on capacity development for land policy in Africa 27-28 June 2012, AUCC, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

The report on the study on improving Access to Land and Strengthening Land Rights of Women in Africa is being finalized for publication.

Studies are underway on the establishment of an appropriate institutional framework that can support Member States in their efforts towards reviewing, developing and implementing land policies including mechanisms for progress tracking and reporting, as well as for the establishment of an African Fund for Land Policy in response to the AU Declaration on Land Issues and Challenges in Africa.

Strengthening Linkages and support to the Pan Africa Farmers Forum and Regional Farmer Organizations.

- The division raised the profile of the critical role of Farmer Organizations in the development of agriculture in Africa especially during the Farmer's Africa CAADP Forum which was jointly organized with the Maghrebian Farmers' Union and PAFO;
- Development of Strategy to ensure representative inclusion of women at National and Regional levels of farmers' organizations.
- Finalization and submission of a USD 400,000 TCP Project to FAO for implementation of the Programmes and activities of PAFO.

CURRENT ACTIVITIES:

Studies are presently on-going in:

- How Regional Farmer Organizations engage to influence agricultural research and development policy especially as it impacts on women small-holder farmers, and
- How RFOs engage to influence market and rural access policy in order to ensure that women small-holder farmers become active participants in agricultural value chains.

Production of inception report and work plan for studies on the State of Rural Infrastructure in Africa:

- As part of the steps in the preparatory process towards the development of a Rural Infrastructure Policy Framework expected to be adopted by the Conference of African Union Ministers responsible for that sector, in the last quarter of 2013, the department has produced an inception report and work plan for conducting regional studies.

- Finalization of the Continental Agribusiness and Trade Promotion Strategy.
- Establishment of the Joint Action Group on Regional Trade and Infrastructure (JAGs RTI) as part of the outcomes of the 7th and 8th CAADP-PP.

Support to regional capacity building to reduce Post Harvest Losses (PHL)

- Training of Senior Official of Regional Institutions and AU Member States in the design of policies, strategies and investment programmes in order to sustainably reduce post-harvest losses.
- Identification of investment priorities in PHL reduction at national and regional levels in the context of CAADP developed Agricultural and Food Security Investment Plans.

CURRENT ACTIVITIES:

Regional Studies are presently on-going and the outcome of the studies are to be presented at a stakeholder's workshop for validation and endorsement as part of the highly consultative and inclusive process being undertaken in developing the Policy Framework document.

4. Key Achievements of the Environment, Climate Change, Water and Land Management Division (ECCWLM)

Rio+20

The AU Commission, RECs, AMCEN, UNECA, the AfDB and other Partners collaborated to draft the African Consensus Statement that was approved by the AU Summit in January 2012. The Consensus Statement served as the African common position at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in June 2012.

The Rio+20 conference concluded with the adoption of the outcome document, called The "Future We Want" which sets out a broad range of issues for ensuring sustainable development for the global community.

While falling short of expectations, the Rio+ 20 outcome document set the stage for future goals and targets of post 2015, at the expiration of the MDGs as well as for a reformed institutional framework for sustainable development.

Africa's expectations from Rio+20 are contained in the "Africa Consensus Statement to Rio+20", adopted as Africa's common position. The Africa Consensus Statement was developed in a participative manner involving the African Ministerial Conference on Environment and other relevant ministerial bodies.

Worthy of note is that Africa is the only region of the world to which the outcome document dedicates a specific section.

Climate Change

The goal of the Commission is to support Member States to reaffirm the African common position in the negotiations at the UNFCCC, supported by the AGN and to continue to speak with a united strong voice for Africa's interests. The Commission also facilitated the development of relevant strategies and policies. In 2012, African Members States supported by the Commission, RECs, AfDB, UNECA and other partners supported the AGN at the Eighteenth Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC and the Eighth Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties (COP18 / CMP 8) held in Doha, Qatar with a reinforced common position regarding matters of relevance to the continent. The AGN was coordinated under the leadership of AMCEN at the ministerial level and under the guidance of CAHOSCC.

Water and Sanitation

The Commission, in collaboration with AMCOW and the RECs continued to promote and coordinate the implementation of the the 2008 Sharma El-Sheikh Declaration for Accelerating the achievement of Water and Sanitation Goals in Africa [Assembly/AU/Decl.1(XI)] in partial fulfilment of which a member states led framework for monitoring, evaluation and regular reporting on progress in implementing commitments on water and sanitation to the Assembly has been established.

In 2012, a second phase of support from the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany worth Euro 2.7 million was successfully negotiated for continued implementation

of the Sharm el-Sheikh Declaration and related activities leading to the actualisation of the Africa Water Vision 2025. In addition, Euro 2 million was mobilised from AWF towards the development of a pan-African Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting System and capacity building of AU Member States to track progress towards the pursuit of agreed water and sanitation goals in Africa.

Success was also registered in activities to implement commitments from:

- the 2004 Sirte Declaration on integrated development of agriculture and water [Ex/Assembly/AU/Decl. 1(II)] for which the "2012 Status Report on Integrated Approaches to Water Resources Management in Africa" was launched at the 11th Session of the AMCOW General Assembly in Cairo Egypt in May 2012. The report constituted Africa's distinctive reporting at the Rio+20 UN UNCSO on its progress in implementing Chapter 18¹ of Agenda 21; and,
- the 2007 Addis Ababa Declaration on Climate Change and Development in Africa [Assembly/AU/Decl.4 (VIII)], producing a strategic framework for Water Security and Climate Resilient Development was launched together with the WACDEP for Africa currently being piloted in eight countries and five basins/aquifers.

The African Monitoring of the Environment for Sustainable Development – (AMESD and MESA)

The AU Commission collaborated with the participating RECs and regional organizations on the implementation of AMESD from inception in 2008 till 2012 to support the decision making process in the field of the environment in water, environment, land degradation and habitat conservation. Through implementation of AMESD, the AUC continued the inception of MESA. All result areas were fulfilled and they include:

- Improving the access by African users to existing basic Earth Observation (EO), field and ancillary data;
- Establishing operational information services to improve decision-making processes;
- Strengthening political and policy development frameworks to ensure active and sustainable participation of African governments in the global environmental surveillance initiatives; and

¹ Protection of the quality and supply of freshwater resources: application of integrated approaches to the development, management and use of water resources.

- Ensuring an adequate technical level of AMESD African stakeholders. The Commission's engagement of the partners (notably the EU and RECs) on options to continue to cater for such significant capacity needs on a sustainable basis has resulted in an agreement for continuation of the support during a second phase in terms of financing MESA project.

The AMESD programme came to an end in December 2012, and has been succeeded by a new programme, the Monitoring of Environment and Security in Africa (MESA). The Technical Assistance team will take office in early 2013. The two programmes are supported by the European Union through the ACP Programme.

Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)

Cognizant of the need to mainstream disaster risk reduction and management into climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies, the Commission in partnership with the UN International Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction provided technical and financial support to:

- About 45 media professionals and journalists were trained on reporting on DRR issues;
- Provided support to establish and strengthen a regional platform on DRR for the East Africa Community;
- Supported Member States in mainstreaming DRR into climate change strategies;
- On resource mobilization, discussions were underway to secure funding from the EU/ACP under the Tenth EDF. Partnership with UNDP is being explored to support the implementation for the Africa DRR Strategy and Programme of Action.

The Great Green Wall for the Sahara and the Sahel Initiative (GGWSSI)

The Commission, AU Member States, RECS with partners continued to pursue the implementation of the Great Green Wall for the Sahara and Sahel Initiative with renewed vigour. This initiative aims to promote integrated natural resources management built around the objectives of adaptation to climate change, combating desertification, reduce poverty and enhance rural development. Significant achievements include:

ENABLING ENVIRONMENT:

- Action plans are in place in Burkina Faso, Chad, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, The Gambia, Mali, Niger,



Remembering the past

Fatou Seye lives in the village of Thiékene Ndiaye in Senegal's dry lands. Now 50 years old, Fatou remembers how different the land looked during her own childhood. "The land was so much greener," she recalls. Acacia feeds the soil by capturing nitrogen that restores fertility. It produces gum Arabic, which can be sold on the international market, bringing in good returns to local economies. Acacia is also a source of fodder for livestock and food for local communities. The Great Green Wall agency of Senegal has supported the restoration of more than 27,000 hectare since 2008 and supported the establishment of farmer multi-purpose gardens benefiting women for crop production and animal husbandry for self-consumption and income generation.

Nigeria and Senegal, while those of Algeria, Egypt, Mauritania and Sudan will be finalized by end of 2013.

- Resources mobilization strategy at regional level and in five countries (Chad, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Mali and Niger) are in place.
- Regional harmonised strategy in place since April 2012 to ensure that all stakeholders have the same vision of the initiative and the way forward for its implementation. This will facilitate and enhance implementation of the Initiative for all the countries involved in the GGWSSI.
- Communication strategy and plan in place since October 2012.

ACTION ON THE GROUND:

- The planting of 11 million trees contributed to the restoration of 27 000 hectares of degraded land in Senegal.
- Dune fixation is being successfully rolled out in Mauritania.
- Mali, Burkina Faso and Niger work together on the production of the most suitable trees, shrubs and herbs to turn degraded land into productive areas.

Capacity building project on Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs)

- The MEAs project was launched in 2009 with the support of the EU, ACP Secretariat and UNEP. The project is supporting activities in the areas of enhancing the negotiation skills of African negotiators on climate change, desertification, and Mercury.
- In 2012, the Project continued to contribute towards awareness raising and information exchange through mounting effective advocacy tools and strategies to enhance visibility; and towards promotion of regional conventions (Maputo, Nairobi and Abidjan) and development of adequate regulatory and legislative frameworks, and institutional strengthening, both at national and regional levels.
- Member States collaborated to develop bio-safety laws, persistent organic pollutants regulations (POPs) to better control the entry and use of genetically modified organisms and POPs into these countries.



Participants at the AUC Parliamentarian Colloquium in Entebbe, 4-6 June 2012.

- RECs collaborated to develop trans-boundary ecosystem laws and regional strategies on pesticide management respectively to jointly manage natural resources and control hazardous chemicals better.
- The Project held a colloquium for Parliamentarians in Entebbe, Uganda in June 2012, training for journalists in Congo Brazzaville in June 2012, and biomedical waste management training in Senegal in January 2012; so that environmental issues would be better managed and also mainstreamed into developmental plans and policies.
- A network of African Parliamentarians on environment and sustainable development called "Green Bird Africa" was established; a source book on MEAs for Parliamentarians developed and a 20 minute video (in English and French) was developed to raise awareness on the issues addressed by the major MEAs. In recognition of its contribution to Mercury negotiations ENR through the MEAs Project received a bronze award in Uruguay in June 2012.

The African Ministerial Conference on Environment (AMCEN)

In 2012, the Division played an important role in the preparation of the 14th session of the AMCEN that was held in September 2012 in Arusha, Tanzania. Several decisions were adopted regarding Africa's post Rio+20 strategy for sustainable development, Climate Change COP 18 in Doha Qatar, Strengthening and upgrading the United Nations Environment Programme, the action plan for the environment initiative of the NEPAD Agency Sustainable

consumption and production in Africa. Others were the Great Green Wall for the Sahara and the Sahel Initiative, Management of biodiversity in Africa and the Modalities for the coordination mechanism of the African group of negotiators on biodiversity among other activities.

African Ministers Conference on Meteorology (AMCOMET)

The Commission in collaboration with the World Meteorological Organization, held the second Conference of African Ministers responsible for Meteorology in October 2012 in Zimbabwe, where the Integrated Africa Strategy on Meteorology (Weather and Climate Services) and Establishment of a Regional Climate Centre for Central Africa were adopted.

ClimDev Programme for Africa

ClimDev is an African programme to support the RECs and Member States to integrate Climate Risk Management (CRM) into pertinent policy and decision processes throughout the continent. It is implemented under the leadership of the Joint AUC-ECA-AfDB Secretariat with other partners. ClimDev-Africa also aims to enhance economic growth and progress towards the MDGs through mitigating the vagaries of climate variability and climate change, and to ensure that development achievements already gained are climate resilient in the long term.

In 2012, the operationalization of the three arms – UNECA, ACPC, CCDU at the Commission and the Clim-Dev Special Trust Fund (CDSTF) at the AfDB by the Joint Secretariat- and the adoption of 2013 work plan was completed.

Regional Coordination Mechanism/ RCM for Africa

ENR Division continued to serve as Co-Chair of the Cluster 4 for RCM for Africa: Environment, Population and Urbanization with UNFPA in order to enhance support service delivery to the UN System to the AUC and the RECs.

Commemoration of the Africa Environment Day and Wangari Maathai Day

The Africa Environment Day emanated from the decision of the OAU Council of Ministers at their Seventy-Sixth Ordinary Session, which took place in Durban, South Africa in July



DREA staff during the commemoration of the Africa Env't day and Wangari Maathai Day

2002. The ministers adopted the decision and called on all Member States to commemorate March 3rd every year as Africa Environment Day. Furthermore, the AU Assembly, in January 2012 mandated that Wangari Maathai Day be commemorated as well on March 3rd.

The purpose of the Africa Environment Day and Wangari Maathai Day celebrations is to raise awareness on sustainable environmental management among decision makers at national, regional and continental levels.

2012's event was jointly organized by the AUC, UNEP in collaboration with the Government of the Republic of Chad with the theme: **Lake Chad, Our Common Heritage, Our Common Future**. The theme was chosen to raise global awareness on the environmental threats facing Lake Chad and to encourage regional cooperation in safeguarding the Lake.

Key Achievements by DREA TECHNICAL OFFICES

1. The Pan-African Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis Eradication Campaign (PATTEC)

Within the framework of its role and mandate to initiate, organize and coordinate the campaign for the eradication of T&T, the PATTEC Coordination Office undertook various activities in collaboration with affected countries and partners in the year 2012.

- In the area of **capacity building**, activities undertaken included three training workshops (Bobo Dioulasso: February and October 2012; Nairobi in April 2012) and capacitating 42 technicians drawn from 30 affected countries in planning and execution of PATTEC projects. The scope of trainings covered projects' planning, area wide principles and practices of T&T eradication, GIS and Data management, Management of PATTEC projects, Monitoring and Evaluation of PATTEC projects. Further, a PATTEC training manual was developed to facilitate capacity. **Technical support** was given to Kenya and Tanzania in the development of a joint proposal for the elimination of sleeping sickness in the Mara-Serengeti ecosystem that is shared between the two countries. The major outcome of this technical support is that Kenya and Tanzania now have a joint strategy to eliminate

sleeping sickness in the Mara-Serengeti ecosystem. In addition, the PATTEC Coordination Office supported the establishment of the monitoring and evaluation system for SIT operations in Deme Valley of Ethiopia, one of the operational areas of STEP.

- Regarding **monitoring and evaluation**, assessment of progress of implementation of T&T interventions in affected countries was undertaken through review meetings and Monitoring and Evaluation missions to a selected number of countries, including Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana and Uganda. Following these missions, lessons learned and best practices have served to inform the process of revising the PATTEC Strategic Plan.
- As accurate data is an important factor for effective monitoring and evaluation activity, PATTEC Coordination Unit, jointly with AU-IBAR designed and distributed among tsetse affected countries, a Capacity Assessment questionnaire which has permitted to collect baseline data, as well as GIS and project planning and implementation information from countries. A tsetse database was elaborated and will improve in the future PATTEC Coordination Office interventions.
- During the year, **partnerships, advocacy and collaboration** with key partners in the T&T interventions were strengthened through the signing of



MOU Signing ceremony with GALVmed (November 2012).



From left: Dr. Babtist Dungu, Senior Director for Research of GALVmed, Prof. Andrew Peters, CEO of GALVmed, Mrs. Rhoda Peace Tumusiime, Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture (DREA) Dr Hassan PATTEC Coordinator.

MOUs with FAO and GALVmed and participation at various important fora such as the African Livestock (Alive) platform, GF-TADs), IAEA scientific forum on food security and safety, SADC Livestock Technical Committee meeting and the FAO PAAT. Additionally, the PATTEC Coordination Office reached an agreement with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to strengthen collaboration between the two institutions. The OIE also formally recognized the activities of the AU-PATTEC. Finally, H.E. Mr Yukiya Amano, DG of the International Agency for Atomic Energy visited AUC and held a press conference about the usage of atomic energy for SIT technology, in support of PATTEC activities.

- Within the framework of its mandate and role in initiating action, providing technical support and monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the PATTEC initiative in affected countries, PATTEC organised two National Coordinators and Focal Points meeting during the year (**Accra, Ghana in June; and Hawassa, Ethiopia in December 2012**) These meetings permitted to periodically evaluate achievements to date, review the balance of work to be done and reshape the work plans to ensure completion of activities on schedule.
- During the year, the PATTEC Steering Committee was constituted with its inaugural meeting that was held on 12 December 2012 in Hawassa, Ethiopia. During this meeting, members of the Steering Committee adopted the revised 5 year PATTEC Strategic and Action Plans. The Steering Committee meeting was held back to back with the PATTEC Coordinators' meeting at the same venue. In total, two National PATTEC Coordinators' meetings were held during 2012, one in Accra, Ghana

and the second in Ethiopia. The meetings brought together all AfDB supported countries and those that are using their own resources to contribute to the PATTEC initiative to present their progress reports and share lessons learned with others.

- During the 11th PATTEC Coordinators' meeting held in Hawassa, Ethiopia, the AU-PATTEC Coordination Office supported STEP to demonstrate the successful use of Sequential Aerosol Technique (SAT) and Sterile Insect Technique (SIT) in tsetse eradication.
- The PATTEC Coordination Office is currently reviewing its resource mobilization strategy and seeks the indulgence of the AUC top leadership to identify sustainable funding mechanisms to support T&T interventions.

2. Pan-African Vaccine Centre (PANVAC)

PANVAC is promoting the availability of safe, effective and affordable veterinary vaccines and diagnostic reagents, to facilitate the development and the introduction of improved or new vaccines and strengthen Africa's capacity building in veterinary vaccine development production and quality assurance.

PANVAC registered the following achievements in 2012:

- The number of vaccine batches received increased from 120 batches tested in year 2011 to 153 batches tested in year 2012. The types of vaccines received also increased. Rabies vaccine and fowl typhoid vaccine batches were received for the first time at PANVAC. Training was provided to laboratory technicians of AU Member States. Also technical assistance was provided regularly to Vaccine Laboratories and other stakeholders in the field of vaccine production and vaccine quality control. The Process Development Laboratory jointly established by GALVmed, the National Veterinary Institute of Ethiopia and PANVAC for research in the field of vaccine production has become fully functional. Good results were obtained in the research aiming at improving the production of CBPP and CCPP vaccines. The production of CCPP also improved 10 fold.



H.E. Mr Yukiya Amano, AIEA DG; H.E. Dr. Dlamini-Zuma, AUC Chairperson; and Dr Hassan Mahamat H. PATTEC Coordinator.

- Two New Projects were launched; (i) "Supporting food security and capacity building in African Union Member States through the sustainable control of Newcastle Disease in village chickens," with a funds amounting to \$US 986,000 supported by AusAid through KYEEMA foundation and (ii) "Strengthening the AU/PANVAC capacities to guarantee the quality PPR vaccines produced in Africa" with funds amounting to \$US 1 million supported by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation through OIE.
- The essential biotechnologies for reagent production & Analysis namely, Recombinant protein expression and Monoclonal antibodies were established. Four (4) PPR Monoclonal Antibodies, nine (9) CCPP Monoclonal Antibodies and antigen for PPR ELISA were produced. The parameters of the two ELISA (Indirect and blocking) for specific PPR antibodies detection were established.
- Harmonization of registration of veterinary vaccines was facilitated in the Central African Region.
- AU/PANVAC submitted two separate applications: the first was submitted to the FAO for recognition of PANVAC as FAO Reference Laboratory for the quality control of veterinary vaccines in Africa; while the second was submitted to the OIE for recognition of PANVAC as OIE Collaborative Centre in quality control of veterinary vaccines.
- Going forward, AU/PANVAC wishes to work towards the implementation of the following important items:
 - i. Establishment of PAMA in order to regulate the production and use of medicine in Africa; and
 - ii. Development of a strategy for the destruction of quality control for failed veterinary vaccine batches in Africa.

3. The Inter-Africa Phytosanitary Council (IAPSC)

IAPSC as an African Regional Plant Protection Organization according to the IPPC coordinates actions of AU Member States towards analyzing risks to their respective national plant resources and applying measures that conform to international standards to safeguard their cultivated and wild plants. IAPSC's activities are scrutinized during its Steering Committee composed of Regional Economic Communities and partners that holds its meeting every year and validated by its General Assembly whose membership is composed of the NPPOs of AU Members States.

IN 2012 IAPSC REGISTERED THE FOLLOWING ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Workshop on biosafety and plant germplasm exchange in Africa

IAPSC organized a workshop on biosafety and plant germplasm exchange in Africa from the 2nd to 3rd July 2012 in Douala, Cameroon. During the meeting a summary of findings from the survey in Burkina Faso, Egypt, Kenya and Zambia were highlighted. Participants were provided with the information on the basic concepts of plant protection Act, Biosafety, CPB and CBD. The potential of biotechnology was recognized as essential to increase crop production and productivity, with the proviso that it is imperative to strengthen the human, legislative and facility capacities in Africa.

Policy for the harmonization of pesticides registration

There are many pesticide companies that promote their products and encourage farmers and agro-industries to use pesticides to protect their crops against pests (insect pests, weeds and diseases). Often, farmers mix different products in an effort to increase their effectiveness. The widespread use of highly toxic products coupled with lack of protective measures frequently results in poisonings and environmental damage. Action is also required to meet international obligations under various treaties such as the Rotterdam, Stockholm and Basel Conventions and the Montreal Protocol.

IAPSC organised a meeting of experts that led to a development of a draft guideline for harmonizing pesticide registration among Southern, Eastern and North African countries. This guideline aims to facilitate the harmonization of pesticide management among African countries, so that pesticides data accepted in one country can be considered for registration of the same product in another country. It will also facilitate quick but efficient introduction of safer pesticide products and replacement of the more hazardous ones in the market.

African regional workshop for the review of 2012 draft International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs)

IAPSC organized a regional workshop with a view to reviewing the 2012 draft international standards for phytosanitary measures, during which three draft ISPMs were reviewed and comments submitted to the IPPC secretariat in due time. These are:

- Draft Appendix to ISPM12: Electronic certification, information on standard XML schemes and exchange mechanisms;
- Protocol to determine host status of fruits and vegetables to fruit Fly (Tephritidae) infestations and
- Draft Annex to ISPM 26: Establishment of Fruit fly quarantine areas within a pest free area in the event of an outbreak.

The meeting contributed towards strengthening of the capacity of AU Member States on how to review standards using the OCS which was the unique tool option available, and towards the enhancement of the African Common approach mechanism for phytosanitary standards setting. The recommendations arrived at by participants, upon discussing and commenting on the three draft ISPMs are believed to help improving future consultations.

Plant Health Management System workshop

IAPSC organized the Plant Health Management System Workshop in which nineteen AU Member States were represented (Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, DRC, Egypt, Gabon, Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar, Mozambique, Nigeria, South Africa, Seychelles, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Zambia and Zimbabwe). The workshop provided opportunities for the participants to exchange information and experiences on the structure of their respective NPPOs, the

legislative framework, infrastructure, status of equipment, standards Operational Procedures, as well as the constraints and challenges they are faced with.

During the workshop, the phytosanitary systems with its goals, performance, components, actors, functions and linkages were highlighted. The eight points of IAPSC phytosanitary capacity building strategy were reviewed. The trade in plant seeds in Africa was analysed and its challenges addressed. Different threats to crops production and trade as well as loopholes in appropriate implementation of plant health systems in Africa were highlighted in details. The problems raised were prioritized; action plan and timeframe for finding solutions at different levels of interventions were suggested.

4. The Semi-Arid Food Grain Research and Development (SAFGRAD)

SAFGRAD's mandate is to lead, coordinate and facilitate the formulation of appropriate policies and programmes that would build resilience of rural livelihoods in semi-arid Africa through strengthening of institutional capacities aimed at advancing agricultural research, technology transfer and adoption; enhancement of value chains; management of natural resources; and mitigation and adaptation to climate change and combating desertification.

DURING 2012 SAFGRAD REGISTERED THE FOLLOWING KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Contributing towards Strengthening of National Agricultural Research Capacities:

In 2012, young researchers from 14 AU Member States (Botswana, Cape Verde, Egypt, Eritrea, Ghana, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda and Zimbabwe) were trained on the *"The impact of Climate change and desertification on agriculture and food security in the semi-arid zone."*

Advocacy through Maintaining Networks:

SAFGRAD contributed to building the knowledge base on Semi-Arid Agriculture through organization of conferences,

seminars, networking activities and production/dissemination of publications.

The recent publications disseminated to relevant institutions and farmers organisations included: *A Comparative study on large scale extension methods used in Ghana; Comparative study on large scale extension methods used in Burkina Faso; Agricultural technologies in Burkina Faso; and West African Agriculture: Current Status, Challenges and Opportunities - Focus on Semi-Arid Zone.*

c) SAFGRAD strategic plan 2014-2018:

As part of recommendations of CAMA held from 26-29 October 2010 in Lilongwe, Malawi, SAFGRAD prepared its Strategic Plan and the validation workshop was held in October 2012.

The 5 strategic intervention areas of the SAFGRAD strategic plan include:

- Policy dialogue on key issues affecting resilience of rural livelihoods in semi-arid zones of Africa;
- Policy analysis and training focusing on building resilience;
- Support programme design, review and monitoring and evaluation in semi-arid zones as part of CAADP-based NAFSIPs;
- Support institutional development of producer (agricultural livelihood-based) organisations and their engagement with CAADP;
- Support the promotion of strategic agricultural value chains in semi-arid zones.



H.E. Ambassador of Algeria to Burkina Faso with Dr. Abebe H. Gabriel Director, DREA and Dr. Ahmed Elmekass Coordinator, AU-SAFGRAD in the opening Session of AU-SAFGRAD's workshops.



Group Photo of the validation workshop of AU-SAFGRAD's Strategic Plan



H.E. Commissioner, REA with AU-SAFGRAD staff



H.E. Prof Gnissa KONATE, Minister of Scientific Research and Innovation, Burkina Faso with Excellences African Ambassadors to Burkina Faso and Coordinator of AU-SAFGRAD in the closing session of the training of African Young Researchers

5. Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (IBAR)

The mandate of IBAR to support and coordinate the development and utilization of animals (livestock, fisheries and wildlife) as a resource for human wellbeing in the AU Member States and to contribute to economic development. AU-IBAR through implementation of its strategic plan (2010–2014), accomplished the following achievements in 2012.

In early 2012, AU-IBAR launched new initiatives aimed at supporting Member States in their quest to develop the animal resource sector. Among these were the Reinforcing VETGOV, the Consolidation phase of the Participation of African Nations in PANSPSO. This followed the signing of the financing agreements with the European Union in January 2102.

Programs and coordination mechanisms for the trans-boundary animal diseases and zoonoses developed and implemented.

AU-IBAR carried out a number of interventions aimed at reducing the occurrence and Impacts of trans-boundary animal diseases and zoonoses on livelihoods & public health in Africa. These included activities aimed at supporting policy formulation and analysis, advocacy, with regard to animal health strategies and Veterinary legislation. In this regard a series of workshops were organized for the purpose of carrying out stakeholder consultations and training for Members States and RECs. An inventory of policy tools was done with support of the FAO- VCA, LSIPT, LDPS 2, FAO Easypol and Ex-ante tool for ranking policy



DREA Commissioner, H.E. Tumusiime, The Kenyan Minister for Livestock, Hon. Kuti and Ms. Mosca representing the EU, signing agreements for new projects.

alternatives. The capacity of regional coordinators was built to enable them to effectively carry out policy reviews and formulation. All these initiatives were carried out within the framework of the Reinforcing Veterinary Governance in Africa Project.

Other interventions within this output included enhancement of inter-sectoral collaboration for effective preparedness, prevention and control of TADs and zoonoses and promotion of 'One Health' approach in Africa. The capacity of senior officers from Veterinary, Public health and wildlife departments of Member States on disease investigation in public health, livestock and wild life was enhanced through training. . The development of a continental training module for One Health was also accomplished. These interventions were accomplished under the Integrated Regional Coordination Mechanism for the control of TADs and zoonosis in Africa (IRCM) project.

The capacity to characterize, conserve and sustainably use animal resources and their resource base by MS and RECs is strengthened

In 2012, AU-IBAR continued with initiatives aimed at establishing mechanisms for strengthening sustainable management of natural resources at the livestock, wildlife environment interface. In this regard, community-based fauna management groups were trained on hunting zone management techniques. Peace initiatives were put in place and capacities of the peace building committees were enhanced.

Community Animal Health workers (CAHWs) continued being trained for purposes of enabling them to provide support to the implementation of the prophylactic program for livestock diseases. Women were supported with enhanced capacities in poultry, pig and small ruminant



production. Youth associations were supported to develop ram fattening systems, with the rams provided by the project. All these were achieved under the Livestock for Livelihoods Project.

A Pan African Fisheries policy framework was formulated. A regional fisheries assessment was carried out, validated and adopted by stakeholders. The capacity of Member States on negotiating fair and sustainable fisheries access was strengthened. All these were accomplished under the initiative on Reinforcing Governance in the Fisheries Sector in Africa.

AU-IBAR also embarked on identifying and facilitating exploitation of opportunities for African livestock keepers to benefit from payments for ecological services. Within this initiative, directors of animal production of ECOWAS and Member States were facilitated to validate the cross-border transhumance policy in West Africa and review the ECOWAS transhumance policy. The EAC preparedness and response plan to climate change was finalized and its corresponding draft livestock policy validated. These were accomplished under the Climate Change and Pastoral Production Systems initiative.



Systems for market infrastructure and intelligence for animal products developed for implementation at Member States level and coordinated at RECs level

AU-IBAR also embarked on supporting evidence development for animal resources benefits for economic growth, poverty reduction and food security. The main activity was to facilitate the establishment and functioning of livestock trade networks in Africa. Five (5) regional trade networks were established (in the EAC, ECCAS, SADC, and UMA regions). The Pan African Platform for Livestock Trading Countries (PAFLEC) was launched and a constitution to govern its operations was developed. Stakeholders also prepared a road map of activities for the platform.

IBAR supported the revision of REC's and Member States' animal resources investment plans through gathering of information/evidence and development of appropriate tools. Within this initiative guidelines for monitoring investments and performance of the livestock sector were developed.

The capacity of Member States to participate in ISSO meetings and their compliance to standards is strengthened.

With regard to the promotion of the development of and compliance with standards and regulations, AU-IBAR supported the harmonization of policies, guidelines and modalities for implementing sanitary measures, the enhancement of the capacity among Member States to implement sanitary measures and monitor compliance with regional and international standards and provided support to national SPS coordinating mechanisms. Common African

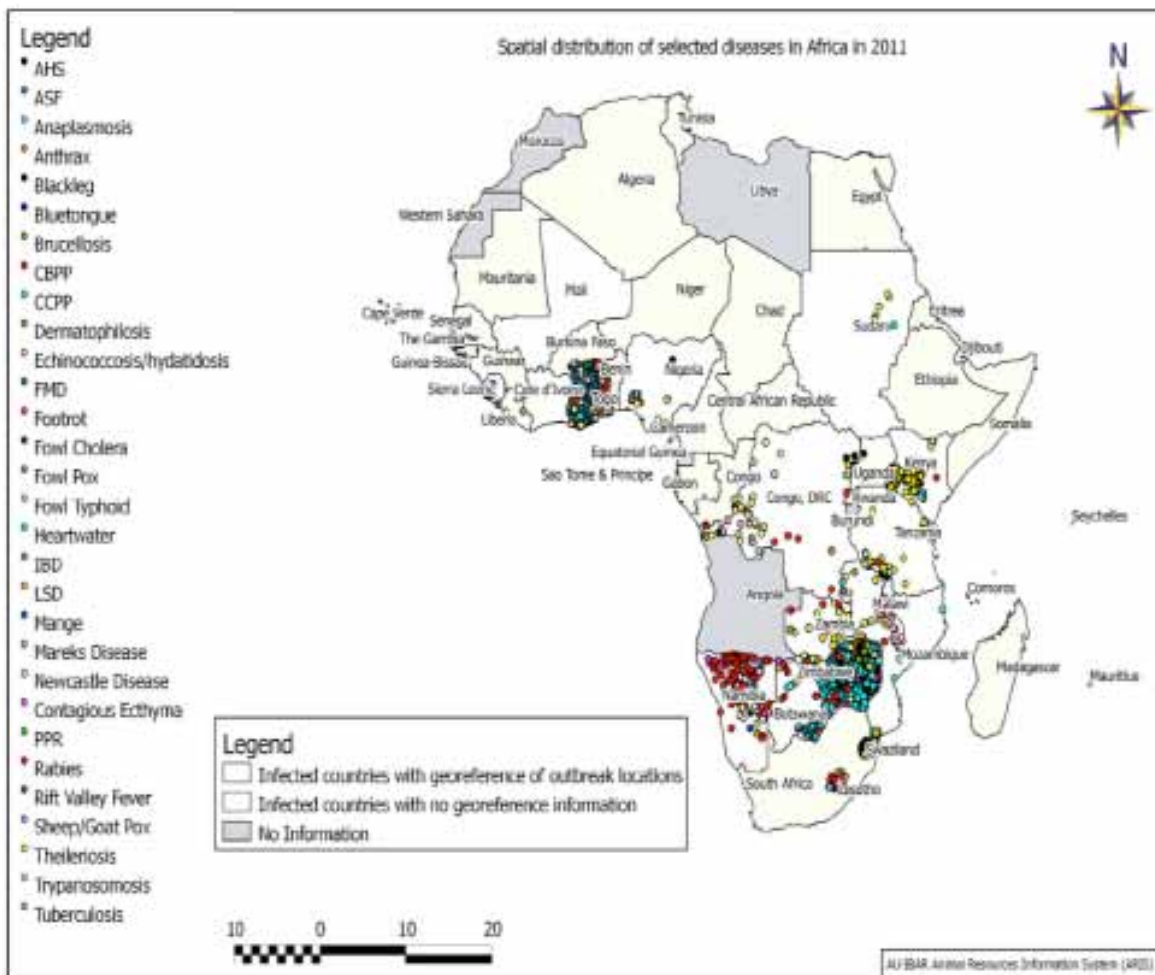


positions on draft international standards in animal health and phyto-sanitary measures were facilitated. In addition, 15 experts from Member States were facilitated to attend the Codex Committee meetings on the formulation of international standards for various aspects of food safety. Most of these interventions were achieved through the Facilitate Participation of African Nations in Sanitary and phyto-sanitary Standards-setting Organizations project.

Under this output appropriate livestock identification and traceability system for use in Africa was also facilitated, with an agreement on guidelines for the development of livestock identification and traceability systems for pastoral areas, while considering existing traditional livestock identification systems.

The capacity of Member States to submit timely Animal Resources Data/ quality information for evidence policy making was enhanced.

AU-IBAR also engaged in receiving, analyzing and sharing of data and information on Africa's livestock and fish resources from Member States. This enabled evidence-based decision and policy making and facilitated advocacy, which was achieved through the upgrading of ARIS II by the creation and development of more modules and enhancing interoperability with other information systems. Training of national and regional ARIS administrators on the operation and management of the system was carried out. Computer hardware was supplied to Member States to enhance their capacity for information management.



The ALive Secretariat continued to facilitate dialogue among stakeholders in the livestock sector in Africa, through the ALive Executive Committee, Caucuses and General Assembly. To enhance its operations a communication strategy was developed and approved. A Cost benefit analysis of the eradication of Rinderpest was also facilitated, as part of the process of facilitating evidence-based decision-making by stakeholders.

AU-IBAR, through the activities of the Secretariat for ISRCT which it hosts, continued to support and organized coordination meetings for T&T research and control. The strategic framework for PAAT was also finalized. Various publications, including the PAHYB and the quarterly Animal Health Digest were published.

Capacity for policy analysis, review/ formulation and institutional development enhanced in Member States and Regional Economic Communities.

AU-IBAR continued to support Member States and Regional Economic Communities in mainstreaming the livestock sector in the CAADP agenda. A tool to assist Member States and RECs to review CAADP investment plans with regard to livestock was developed and its implementation was initiated.

Annex

AFRICAN UNION



UNION AFRICAINE
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COMMUNIQUE OF THE RETREAT FOR AFRICAN PARLIAMENTARIANS RESPONSIBLE FOR AGRICULTURE, FOOD SECURITY, AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

21 – 22 November 2012
Johannesburg, Republic of South Africa

INTRODUCTION

1. A Retreat for African parliamentarians responsible for agricultural, food security and environmental issues convened by the African Union Commission (AUC), and co-organised with the Pan African Parliament and the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NEPAD Agency) took place at the Pan African Parliament, in Midrand, Republic of South Africa, from 21st to 22nd November 2012.
2. The Retreat was attended by chairpersons and representatives of agriculture and environmental affairs committees of national parliaments from 20 AU Member States as well as members of the Pan African Parliament Committee on Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Environment. The Commissioner of the Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture (DREA) of the AU Commission, H.E. Tumusiime Rhoda Peace and led the AUC delegation. The NEPAD Agency and the Pan African Parliament were represented by respective senior technical staff members. Annex 1 provides the full list of the participants who attended the Retreat.

RETREAT PROGRAMME AND STRUCTURE

3. The Retreat was arranged in three parts: (i) the Opening Session; (ii) paper presentations on key agricultural and natural resource management programme activities undertaken by AUC-DREA and the NEPAD Agency; and (iii) a panel discussion on accelerating implementation of CAADP and sustaining its momentum. Annex 2 provides the Retreat programme.

THE OPENING SESSION

4. Introductory remarks by Hon. Henri Gbone, Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture, Rural Economy, Natural Resources, and Environment, delivered on behalf of the PAP President, highlighted the role parliamentarians play in the development of national laws and regulations as well as in overseeing the implementation of programmes and projects. He also gave particular emphasis on AU Summit Decisions and Declarations pertaining to agriculture and sustainable development. In this respect, he commended the activities of the AU Commission and the NEPAD Agency in providing the necessary leadership in the roll out and implementation

of CAADP. He also underlined the centrality of supporting Summit Decisions and Declarations by effective policies. He concluded his remarks by encouraging the AUC, NPCA and PAP to nurture the partnership between them.

5. In her opening statement, H.E. Tumusiime Rhoda Peace, Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture, underlined the importance of the Retreat as a forum for enhancing mutual understanding between AUC-DREA and Honourable Parliamentarians and as an opportunity for sharing views on how DREA can work better with the Parliamentarians in the interest of advancing the cause of agriculture, food security and natural resources management in Africa. The Commissioner appreciated the critical role parliamentarians play in the enactment of laws, in holding the Executive accountable for resources and results, and in mobilising the African citizenry in the fight against poverty, hunger, and malnutrition in a coordinated and comprehensive manner. In this respect, the Commissioner noted the strategic role Parliamentarians play in helping translate into action the various commitments and decisions (such as those on the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme – CAADP) taken by the AU Assembly. The Commissioner's statement also underscored the diverse portfolio which DREA has been involved in as evidenced by the multitude of activities undertaken by the three headquarter-based Divisions and the six Specialised Technical Agencies spread across Africa under the direct management of the Department. The Commissioner also pointed out the service the Department renders to several Ministerial Committees as well as to pertinent Head of State and Government Committees, such as the Committee on African Heads of State and Government on Climate Change (CAHOSCC). The Commissioner also informed the Retreat about the July 2012 AU Summit Decision on 2014 as a 'Year of Agriculture and Food Security' as well as the commemoration of 10 Years of CAADP. The Commissioner concluded by expressing her confidence that the Retreat would achieve the desired outcomes in the pursuit of the goal of accelerating sustainable agricultural development and environmental management in Africa.
6. Introducing the Retreat Programme and Objectives, Dr. Abebe Haile Gabriel - Director, Rural Economy and Agriculture, AU Commission – noted that the principal objectives of the Retreat were to enhance the awareness of Honourable Parliamentarians on the implementation of the various Summit Decisions and

Declarations in agriculture, food security and natural resource management arenas; create opportunities for African parliamentarians responsible for agriculture and natural resources to interact with the management and staff of AUC-DREA and NPCA on strategic issues of mutual interest and concern; and for AUC-DREA and NPCA to obtain political guidance on the way forward.

THE PAPER PRESENTATIONS

7. A total of five PowerPoint presentations were made focusing on the multitude of programme activities that AUC-DREA has been implementing and which are aimed at implementing the different AU Summit Decisions and Declarations. These presentations focused on challenges, opportunities and AU responses in the following thematic areas: implementation of CAADP; complementary Summit Decisions and Declarations on food security and rural economy; the status of integrated natural resources management programme activities within the purview of AUC-DREA; the performance of the animal resources sub-sector in Africa and AUC-DREA's role in enhancing the development of the sub-sector; and the strategy for sustaining the CAADP momentum.
8. The theme-specific presentations were preceded by a background paper that provided comprehensive information on the state of agriculture and environment in Africa, including the challenges the Continent faces in accelerating broad-based, agriculture-led development and the opportunities and potentials Africa has in its pursuit for a clean, green and sustainable development.
9. The presentation on CAADP provided an account of the different milestones in the CAADP process and achievements registered in this respect both at country and Regional Economic Communities (RECs) levels. The presentation also highlighted the engagement of AUC-DREA and the NEPAD Agency in mobilizing financial and technical resources for an accelerated implementation of CAADP. In this regard, the presentation provided information on progress with the mobilisation of public resources from within Africa and from development partners. The presentation also highlighted the crucial role being played by AUC and NPCA in leveraging private sector investment resources in support of the CAADP agenda.
10. The presentation on Summit Decisions and Declarations on food security and rural economy outlined the salient features of these decisions. These included identification of strategic food commodities and promotion of intra-Africa trade; fertilizer utilization and management; financing for agriculture and food security in Africa; plant protection and food safety; framework and guidelines on land policy in Africa; and policy framework on pastoralism in Africa. The presentation also provided an overview of the activities which AU Member States have been undertaking in translating the respective Summit Decisions and Declarations into action as well as the role AUC-DREA played in these respects.
11. The presentation on the environment thematic area provided a broad overview of environment and sustainable development issues in Africa. It also provided an overview of the relevant Summit Decisions and Declarations that guide the activities of DREA in the area of sustainable development and climate change. In this regard, the presentation focused on progress with the implementation of four sets of programme activities that DREA has coordination and oversight roles. These included climate change, water and sanitation; integrated natural resources management, the Fouta Djallon Programme; and Multilateral Environment Agreements.
12. The presentation on animal resources in Africa informed participants that AUC's role covers the support for the entire gamut of the sub-sector ranging from animal husbandry, genetic pool development, marketing and livelihood enhancement of livestock keepers, and animal health. In this regard, mention was made of the role being played by the three Specialised Technical Agencies of the AU dealing directly with issues of animal resources (namely, IBAR, PATTEC, and PANVAC). The presentation provided an account of the imbalance between the demand for and supply of animal resource products and the need for investing in the sub-sector so as to respond to the growing consumer demand in Africa for a variety of animal products and enhance Africa's competitive edge in international markets for the same.
13. As a prelude to the Panel Discussion, a presentation was made on 'Sustaining the CAADP Momentum' noted. The presentation appreciated the progress achieved with respect to the elaboration of investment plans at country and REC levels. It further noted the need for complementing these efforts by strengthening the policy and institutional environment at country level as vehicles for translating investment plans into desirable outcomes of inclusive growth, food

and nutrition security and increased incomes. The presentation also noted the visible impact of the forces of globalization on African food systems as evidenced by the food price hikes and the renewed international private sector attention to Africa's land and water resources. The presentation informed the Retreat that the NEPAD Agency - in close consultation with the AUC and RECs - has embarked on an initiative called 'Sustaining the CAADP Momentum' so as to inform a longer-term strategy for CAADP implementation in line with the changing domestic and global realities. The presentation outlined key elements of this exercise as being renewed focus on institutions, policy and local leadership; knowledge and learning support; and financing agricultural investment. The presentation concluded by underlining the significance of Member States' buy-in and appreciation of and support for this renewed drive.

14. Each of the presentations emphasised the crucial role Parliamentarians have played and are expected to play in ensuring that Summit Decisions, Declarations and associated programmes which AUC-DREA and NPCA coordinate are given the attention they deserve at the country level so as to enable agriculture play its historic role of propelling national socio-economic development.

THE PANEL DISCUSSION

15. A panel discussion on the role Parliamentarians could play in supporting the agricultural transformation agenda in general and accelerating implementation of CAADP in particular was organised. Panellists included Honourable Parliamentarians from Benin, Egypt, Mozambique, and Zambia. The main issues that were deliberated on revolved around the following: communication between AUC and national parliaments; the role parliamentarians could play in enacting supportive agricultural acts; agriculture as an important aspect of intra-African trade and African unity; the role agricultural development can play in laying the foundation for industrialisation; the need for investing in agricultural value addition; the necessity of enriching Africa's soils through application of high-response inputs such as fertilisers and improved seeds; the importance of technology selection and transfer in support of agricultural development; and the critical role political leadership plays in advancing the CAADP agenda.

SUMMARY OF KEY MESSAGES

16. The Parliamentarians appreciated the organisation of the Retreat and the opportunity it afforded them to understand the broad range of activities that the AU Commission has been engaged with in the areas of agriculture, food security, and natural resources management. In this regard, Parliamentarians recognized the critical role DREA, including the six AU Specialised Technical Agencies under its management, have been playing in coordinating the translation into action of the different AU Summit Decisions and Declarations.
17. The Parliamentarians noted the encouraging progress being made in the implementation of CAADP and the significant role being played by the AU Commission and the NEPAD Agency in ensuring that CAADP is implemented taking due cognizance of the enduring principles of national ownership, inclusiveness and outcome orientation. The Retreat also recognized the current drive towards designing a long-term strategy for enabling CAADP consolidate the gains made so far and meet new challenges affecting agriculture and natural resources in Africa. The Retreat also appreciated the critical role CAADP would play in promoting AU's regional integration agenda. In this respect, the meeting reiterated the added value of national actions in the advancement of regional integration and underlined the need for ensuring complementarities between regional processes and national priorities.
18. The Retreat appreciated the challenges which a rapidly growing economically active population could pose to the development of the Continent. The Retreat at the same time noted that CAADP and the other flagship initiatives which the AU Commission and NPCA coordinate are well-placed to ensure that gainful employment opportunities are created for the growing African workforce.
19. The Retreat recognized the critical role which access to productive land resources could play in increasing the productive capacity of small-holder farmers and livestock keepers and in promoting inclusive agricultural development in a sustainable manner. In this respect, the Retreat appreciated the potentials which AU's Framework and Guidelines on Land Policy in Africa has in informing land policy formulation processes.
20. The Retreat underlined the significance of enhancing the commercialization of smallholder agriculture so as

to benefit from the growing demand for agricultural commodities. In this respect, the Retreat urged the need for focusing attention on the institution of effective market information systems and on the development of pertinent rural infrastructure.

21. The Retreat noted that in order to respond effectively to the growing demands for food and fiber effectively, mindset changes need to be systematically inculcated in the mindset of smallholder farmers.
22. The Retreat recognized that in order for AU Member States to reap the benefits of intra-African trade, effort has to be exerted towards supporting African agriculturalists to explore options for product specialization and standardization which are critical in these era of globalisation.
23. The Retreat appreciated the significant effort that has been exerted in enabling Africa speak with One Voice in global climate change negotiations and sustainable development deliberations. The Retreat also underlined the need for AU Member States enhance their capacity for adapting to climate change and variability through, among others, investing in well-planned irrigation schemes and targeted agricultural research and development activities.
24. The Retreat underlined the centrality of political leadership especially at the national level and the importance of championing the causes of agriculture and food security at the highest political level. In this respect, the Retreat applauded countries that have allocated significant resources to their agricultural sector and encourage others to emulate these experiences.

AGREED ACTIONS:

25. Having appreciated the usefulness of the Retreat, Parliamentarians expressed a desire to have such forms of interactions to be organized on a periodic basis and that AUC explores possibilities for institutionalizing organisation of such Retreats.
27. The Retreat urged that effort has to be made to ensure that pertinent information on Summit Decisions and Declarations and progress with their implementation permeates to national parliamentary committees responsible for agriculture, food security, and natural resources. In this regard, the Retreat urged the AUC to avail the required information on Summit Decisions and Declarations and their implementation status to the PAP Committee on Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Environment so that the latter could disseminate them to the respective national parliamentary committees on the broader agricultural agenda. In this respect, attention was also drawn to the importance of sharing specific CAADP commitments at country level, including results of investment plan reviews and Post-Compact Road Maps with Parliamentarians for the latter's information and follow up with the relevant authorities and stakeholders in their respective countries.
28. In view of the varying experiences of CAADP implementation across AU Member States, the Retreat requested the AUC to facilitate experience sharing among Parliamentarians from different AU Member States on issues of CAADP significance, including processes of budget allocation and approval for the agricultural sector.
29. Parliamentarians affirmed their commitment to the targets set in Maputo in 2003, including the 10 per cent budgetary allocation to agriculture and the 6 per cent annual agricultural growth target.
30. The Retreat called upon the AUC to focus on synergies and complementarities between agriculture and other productive sectors in promoting industrial development.
31. The Retreat urged AUC to reinvigorate their engagement with respect to advancing intra-Africa trade including value addition and agro-processing.
32. The Parliamentarians reaffirmed their commitment to advocate for the development and/or strengthening of legal frameworks in support of CAADP implementation.



African Union Commission

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