



Press Release

African Union launches the second Biennial Review Report detailing Africa's agricultural implementation status; 36 countries have made tremendous progress from the first cycle



February 10, 2020, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia -The African Union today launched the second Biennial Review Report on the implementation of the June 2014 Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods.

Out of the forty-nine (49) Member States that reported on progress in implementing the Malabo Declaration during this 2019 biennial review cycle, four countries are on-track

towards achieving the Malabo commitments by 2025. While this number is significantly less than the 20 Member States that were on-track in 2017 during the inaugural biennial review cycle, it is cardinal to note that 36 countries have made significant improvement in their score from the 1st BR to the 2nd BR.

The benchmark for the 2019 cycle 6.66, is much higher than that of the 2017 cycle which was 3.94.

In the Malabo Declaration, AU Member States committed to report on a biennial basis, the progress in achieving the 7 commitments of the Declaration which were translated into seven thematic areas of performance:

- i. Re-committing to the principles and values of the CAADP process;
- ii. Enhancing investment finance in agriculture;
- iii. Ending Hunger in Africa by 2025;
- iv. Reducing poverty at least by half, by 2025, through inclusive agricultural growth and transformation;
- v. Boosting intra-African trade in agricultural commodities and services;
- vi. Enhancing resilience of livelihoods and production systems to climate variability and other related risks; and
- vii. Strengthening mutual accountability to actions and results.

The four Member States, which obtained or surpassed the benchmark of 6.66 to be on-track toward achieving the commitments of the Malabo Declaration by 2025 are: Rwanda (7.24), Morocco (6.96), Mali (6.82) and Ghana (6.67).

H.E Abiy Ahmed Ali, Ethiopian Prime Minister and AU Leader of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP), presented the Biennial Review Report to the AU Assembly of Heads of State and Government.

The document captures the continent's agricultural progress based on a pan-African data collection exercise led by the African Union Commission's Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture (DREA), AUDA-NEPAD and Regional Economic Communities in collaboration with technical and development partners. Member States were assessed on the seven commitments in the Malabo Declaration, across 47 indicators.

Analysis of the reports shows that the continent remains off-track in achieving the overall Malabo Declaration commitments, obtaining an overall score of 4.03 compared to the benchmark of 6.66 to be on-track.

The continent lost its traction in Recommitment to the CAADP Process, Halving Poverty through Agriculture, and Mutual Accountability for Action and Results.

Regarding Commitment 5 on Boosting Intra-African Trade in Agriculture Commodities, 29 countries are on track even though the continent as a whole is not on track.

Only four countries Burkina Faso, Burundi, Mali and Mauritania met the target of spending at least 10 percent of the total national expenditure on agriculture.

The report tracks progress in commitments made by AU Heads of State and Government through CAADP and the Malabo Declaration to increase prosperity and improved livelihoods for transforming agriculture. The indicators chosen to track the performance categories were defined on the basis of the strategic objectives derived from the Malabo Declaration.

AUC Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture, H.E Josefa Sacko, said, “The BR Report is a performance assessment tool as well an advocacy tool to guide planning and decision making for Africa’s Agricultural Transformation.”

#

For more information, please contact:
Ms. Carol Jilombo
CAADP Communications
AUC
Jilomboc@africa-union.org