

AFRICAN UNION
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CONCEPT NOTE

High Level Event

Closure of the 2014 AU Year of Agriculture and Food Security
and

Launch of the AU Strategy and Roadmap for facilitating the
Realisation of 2014 Malabo Commitments on Agriculture

Multipurpose Hall,
AU Conference Centre
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

JANUARY 27, 2015

1. Introduction

The African Union launched “the 2014 Year of Agriculture and Food Security: marking the 10th anniversary of the Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP)” on January 30, 2014 during the 22nd Assembly of the African Union in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia under the theme “Transforming Africa’s Agriculture for shared prosperity and improved livelihoods: Harnessing Opportunities for Inclusive Growth and Sustainable Development”.

Following the formal launch of the Year of Agriculture and Food Security, a broad-based and inclusive consultations and dialogue based on a rigorous analysis of the situation and trends, were conducted involving Member States, RECs, civil society organizations (CSO), farmers’ organizations, the private sector, women groups, youth groups, knowledge institutions, and development partners on what should constitute the vision and goal of Africa’s agricultural development agenda in the next decade. The broad-based consultations have led to renewed commitment to CAADP that it will continue to be Africa-led preferred framework for African leaders and international development partners in a “we can do” spirit to overcome the challenges facing our continent and realization of our dream.

The outcomes of such an analysis and stakeholders consultation were validated by the Joint AU Conference of Ministers of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development who met in May 2014 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, and adopted Resolutions and recommendations for the African leadership to send strong signals on renewing their commitments to dynamic agricultural and rural sectors in Africa that will contribute to achievement of targets on growth, poverty reduction, eradication of hunger and malnutrition, enhancing intra-African trade and building resilience of production and livelihoods to shocks such as weather and climate induced.

The climax of the 2014 AU Year of Agriculture and Food Security was marked during the Twenty Third Ordinary Session of the AU Assembly in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, on 26-27 June 2014 during which the Heads of State and Government (HS&G) of the African Union adopted a Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth And

Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods (Doc. Assembly/AU/2(XXIII) (hereinafter the “Malabo Declaration”). The Malabo Declaration adopted seven key commitments comprising the 2025 vision and goals of Africa Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation (3AGT);

- i. Recommitment to the Principles and Values of the CAADP Process
- ii. Commitment to Enhancing Investment Finance in Agriculture
- iii. Commitment to Ending Hunger in Africa by the year 2025
- iv. Commitment to agriculture contributing to poverty reduction at least by half by the year 2025, through Inclusive Agricultural Growth and Transformation
- v. Commitment to tripling Intra-African Trade in Agricultural commodities and services, by the year 2025
- vi. Commitment to Enhancing Resilience of Livelihoods and Production Systems to Climate Variability and other related risks
- vii. Commitment to Mutual Accountability to Actions and Results

African leaders have committed not only to the realisation of these goals, but also to Mutual Accountability to Actions and Results through institutionalizing a system and practice of regular monitoring and tracking of progress as well as a biennial reporting to the Assembly by the Commission on results achieved starting 2017.

The AU Commission and NPCA have, through a rigorous analysis, consultation and validation process formulated the draft **Implementation Strategy and Roadmap** to achieve the 2014 Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Africa Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods. This is in response to the Assembly’s request to develop an implementation strategy and roadmap that facilitates translation of the provisions of the Declaration into concrete results and impacts and report to the January 2015 Ordinary Session of the Executive Council for its consideration.

Accordingly, the Strategy and Roadmap has been submitted to the Executive Council for its consideration during the January 2015 Summit. A CAADP Results Framework, designed to facilitate and expedite implementation and track progress towards achieving the 2025 CAADP vision, was endorsed by the AU Assembly of Heads of State and Government during its 23rd Ordinary Session. The CAADP Results

Framework serves as a tool to enhance evidence-based planning, monitoring and learning by Member States in the pursuit of agriculture-led and inclusive economic growth and development.

2. The High Level Event

The High Level Event is organised to mark the formal Closure of the 2014 AU Year of Agriculture and Food Security, and official Launch of the AU Strategy and Roadmap for facilitating the 2014 Malabo Commitments on agriculture, heralding the commencement of actions in advancing the African vision on Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods 2015-2025.

The event itself is organised on the 27th of January 2015, from 19h00-22h30 on the margins of the AU Summit and will bring together about 300 participants, specifically Members of the AU Executive Council (Ministers of Foreign Affairs), the Permanent Representative Committee (Ambassadors), AU Senior Officials, Regional Economic Communities (RECs); Chief Executives of key stakeholders (the private sector in the agri-food industry, farmer organizations; CSOs, Youth and Women organisations, technical and Development Partners; and the media.

The High Level Event will be held in the Multipurpose Hall of the AU Conference Centre in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The Ceremony will be marked by an Official Banquet (Dinner) and featuring remarks by the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, the Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture of the African Union Commission, and the CEO of the NEPAD Agency to be followed by interventions by invited guests. Finally the IS&R will be formally launched by the Chairperson of the AU Executive Council.

For further information and enquiries about the High Level Event on the Closure of the 2014 AU Year of Agriculture and Food Security and Launch of the AU Strategy and Roadmap for facilitating the translation of 2025 Vision on Agriculture (Maputo Commitments); please contact: Komla Bissi at Bissik@africa-union.org.



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Multipurpose Hall, AU Conference Centre,
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
January 27, 2015

Time	Activity
19:00	Introduction of the High Level Event, Dr. Abebe Haile Gabriel, Director, Rural Economy and Agriculture, AU Commission
19:05	Short Video on 2014 Year of Agriculture and the Malabo Commitments
19:15	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Welcome Remarks by H. E. Rhoda Peace TUMUSIIME.(Mrs.), Commissioner, Rural Economy and Agriculture, African Union Commission (AUC)Remarks by H. E. Dr. Ibrahim Assane MAYAKI, Chief Executive Officer, NEPAD Agency
19:30	Short Musical Interlude
19:40	Statement by H.E. Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, Chairperson of the African Union Commission
19:50	Official Launching of the IS&R by the Chairperson of the Executive Council
19:55	Short interventions from the floor
20:00	Gala Dinner and Entertainment
22:30	Vote of thanks