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NPCA

ECOWAP/CAADP Process



**Business Meeting on the financing of National
and Regional Investment Plans
Dakar (Senegal), 14–17 June 2010**

Presentation Note

1 Background and justification of the Meeting

- 1 As a result of a process involving all stakeholders in the region, the Economic Community of West African States has developed an Agricultural Policy (ECOWAP) whose guidelines were adopted on 19 January 2005 in Accra by the Heads of State and Government of the region. This policy is the instrument for implementing the Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP/NEPAD) in West Africa.
- 2 ECOWAP/CAADP is meant to be the common framework for all national and regional initiatives aimed at promoting West Africa's agricultural sector. Therefore, it is based on a vision which reads: to build "a modern and sustainable agriculture, founded on effective and efficient family farms and the promotion of agricultural enterprises through private sector involvement. It aims at ensuring that agriculture is not only productive and competitive within markets in the Community and internationally, but also guarantees food security and serves as a source of decent income for its operators".
- 3 Its operationalization which started in 2006 with the adoption of its first action plan is taking shape with the development of Regional (RAIP) and National (NAIP) Agricultural Investment Programmes. It is fundamentally characterized by the synergy between the ECOWAP process and CAADP/NEPAD.
- 4 These programmes have been developed based on a thorough analysis of economic growth rate in general and that of the agricultural sector in particular, and have endeavoured to define the essential development options to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. In concrete terms, for the NAIPs, these include the formulation of agricultural development options which will help to halve poverty at country level. The NAIP baseline scenario consists of a translation into figures of various agricultural development options that a country should implement to ensure a 6% growth rate in the agricultural sector and envisage halving poverty by 2015.
- 5 Regional and National Agricultural Investment Programmes were designed with focus on six thematic areas that combine three ECOWAP thematic areas and the four pillars of CAADP:
 - improved water management;
 - sustainable farm development;
 - improved management of the other natural resources;
 - development of agricultural chains and market promotion;
 - prevention and management of food crises and other natural disasters;
 - institution building.
- 6 The outcomes have been validated and the modalities governing their implementation are contained in the compact binding the State, the technical and financial partners, civil society stakeholders and socio-professional farmers' organizations signed at national conferences on the financing of agriculture.

- 7 The six regional components of RAIP were synthesized in three developmental programmes (*pump priming*), which combine national and regional priorities that can contribute in a decisive manner to sustainable transformation of regional agriculture: (i) *Promotion of strategic products for food sovereignty*; (ii) *Promotion of an overall environment conducive to regional agricultural development*; and (iii) *Food vulnerability reduction and promotion of sustainable access to food*.
- 8 To better anticipate the outcomes expected from ECOWAP/CAADP, the three developmental programmes include incentive or regulatory policy instruments in three areas: (i) sustainable intensification of production; (ii) agricultural market management; and (iii) access to food by vulnerable populations.
- 9 The institutional framework for ECOWAP/CAADP implementation is the subject of consensus. In addition to strengthening the capacity of the Directorate of Agriculture, it also consists of creating an Inter-departmental Committee at the ECOWAS Commission, operationalizing the Advisory Committee on Agriculture and Food, creating a technical agency to implement programmes and establishing a financing facility with clear implementation mechanisms.

From the Abuja Conference...

- 10 All these outcomes were discussed with all players who are the interface for agricultural issues at regional level (Member states, socio-professional farmers' organizations, civil society and the private sector, TFPs) and were the subject of a compact signed at the International Conference held in Abuja in November 2009.
- 11 The International Conference on the financing of the regional policy was a turning point in the implementation of the regional agricultural policy of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAP/CAADP) agreed upon by ECOWAS and the International Community. It resulted from the political will of Member States and technical development partners to make the most of the region's resources and potential to transform the agricultural sector and take up the many challenges facing the region.
- 12 The International Conference also helped to combine responses to temporary situations like those resulting from the 2007-2008 price increases, and more structural ones aimed at identifying agricultural strategies to cope with the many changes underwent by the region. Beyond these general achievements, the Conference helped the stakeholders to recognize and consider ECOWAP/CAADP as the relevant framework for the promotion of agricultural development strategies in West Africa with a view to achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).
- 13 Lastly, the conference helped reach a consensus on the modality of ECOWAP/CAADP implementation at regional and national levels. It was agreed to rely on developmental programmes and NAIPs, which will be translated into investment plans, to design the system for coordinating actions and monitoring and evaluation mechanisms.

- 14 Following the Abuja Conference, two regional meetings were held with Member States, stakeholders and TFPs to clarify the approach to follow. The first technical meeting held in Lomé made it possible to present the status of feasibility studies on various public policy instruments, the status of proposals on the institutional arrangement and financial mechanism, discuss the contribution of regional partners to the development and implementation of regional development programmes. The second meeting, that is, the ECOWAS Technical Ministerial Committee on Agriculture, Environment and Water Resources held in Cotonou on 2 April, 2010, focused on the post-compact approach to the definition and implementation of agricultural investment plans in West Africa.

... to the Dakar Business Meeting

- 15 The ECOWAS Ministerial Committee adopted the post-compact approach, with a common structure for the design and presentation of the investment plan and a roadmap with development and validation stages.
- 16 The approach adopted is based on the development of investment plans at national and regional levels, which should ensure shifting from the present project approaches to the sectoral approach.
- 17 It has two major requirements: (i) the need to include the programming of national investment plans in an adequately harmonised approach at regional level to take into account the complementarities between the various national agriculture, and to maximize synergies on the one hand; and (ii) the need to pragmatically take into account national peculiarities and processes underway in each country, on the other.
- 18 Lastly, the post-compact approach is characterised by progressiveness and pragmatism insofar as the shift to the sectoral approach will require more time to come up with a perfect proposal for a comprehensive and coherent programme for the entire agricultural sector.
- 19 The resources pledged for global food security made by the International Community at the G8 Summit of Aquila (Italy) in 2009 represent a portion of the resources to be aligned with and support country and regional investment plans. They represent ongoing and expanded commitments to support agriculture and food security. The G8/G20 meetings scheduled for 25 to 27 June 2010 in Muskoka and Toronto (Canada) should be an opportunity to discuss progress on implementation of the L'Aquila commitments.
- 20 In this vein, the ECOWAS Commission and the main technical and financial partners supporting the ECOWAP/CAADP process, undertook to quickly finalize the first part of investment plans so as to enable the technical and financial partners to contribute to financing strategies in the context of the L'Aquila Food Security Initiative.
- 21 At national level, considering the progressive approach agreed upon, the June 2010 stage could be tied to some finalised components. It appears that several countries

will be in a position to submit their agricultural investment plans or failing that priority investment programmes.

- 22 The ECOWAS Commission has accelerated the formulation of the regional investment plan and will be in a position to present a comprehensive regional programme.
- 23 To that end, regional preparatory steps for the Dakar meeting of 14–17 June 2010 are as follows:
 - May 13–14: planning meeting in Washington to support the Dakar Business Meeting;
 - May 21–22: planning meeting in Dakar —ECOWAS, USAID, Spain, African Union/NEPAD, World Bank, IFPRI, CAADP pillars institutions leaders;
 - May 23–30: Retreat on the formulation of the regional investment plan bringing together ECOWAS, IFPRI, ReSAKSS, experts (Dakar);
 - May 26–29: IFPRI modelling workshop and preparations for technical reviews (in Dakar) —ECOWAS, USAID, AU/NEPAD, WB, IFPRI, CAADP pillars institutions leaders, and experts;
 - June 2: Preliminary Review of national investment plans —ECOWAS, AU, NPCA, representatives of donors group (Spain, WB, France, USAID and EU), ReSAKSS and IFPRI (Dakar);
 - June 4–6: Technical Review of the Regional Investment Plan, Dakar —country representatives (ECOWAS unit, Department of Planning of the Ministries of Agriculture), ECOWAS, regional institutions, AU/NEPAD, technical and financial partners and regional actors, ReSAKSS and IFPRI (Dakar).



2 Objectives of the Meeting (14–17 June 2010)

- 24 The objectives of the meeting are as follows:
- To enable ECOWAS member countries, which have completed their work, to submit their respective agricultural investment plans and the budget estimates of required external resources (first group of countries);
 - To enable the ECOWAS Commission to present the regional agricultural investment plan;
 - To discuss these investment plans and come up with a strategy for the mobilization of financial resources, for their presentation at the G8/G20 meetings;
 - To develop a common approach between Member States – ECOWAS – TFPs to finance member countries' investment plans that would not have been finalized in June 2010 (2nd group of countries).

3 Expected outcomes

- 25 Five outcomes are expected from this high-level meeting:
1. Finalised national agricultural investment plans (or finalised components of these investment plans in the event of a progressive approach) are presented and discussed.
 2. The regional agricultural investment plan is submitted and discussed.
 3. Political and financial commitments relating to the plans of the first group of countries are agreed upon.
 4. The approach to the financing of the plans of the second group of countries is defined.
 5. The strategy to present these plans at the G8/G20 meetings is agreed upon and responsibilities are defined.

4 Date and venue

- 26 The meeting will take place from 14 to 17 June 2010 in Dakar (Méridien Président Hotel)

5 Participants

- 27 The following are invited to participate in the deliberations:
- For each ECOWAS Member States:
 - a. The President of the Republic or his/her representative;
 - b. Four Ministers, among those in charge of (i) Economic Affairs and Finance; (ii) Regional Integration; (iii) Agriculture¹; (iv) Livestock; (v) Fisheries; (vi) Water Resources; (vii) Environment; and (viii) Trade;
 - c. Four representatives of non-state actors: farmers' organizations(2), the private sector (1) and civil society (1);
 - d. Four experts involved in the work;
 - The Minister of Agriculture and an expert for each African country non-members of ECOWAS (Burundi, Ethiopia, Malawi, Rwanda, Swaziland, Uganda) which signed their compact;
 - A representative of each of the four other Regional Economic Communities involved in the CAADP exercise: COMESA, SADC, CEEAC, UMA;
 - Representatives of the African Union (President of the Commission, Commissioner in charge of Agriculture and Rural Economy, Commissioner in charge of Economic Affairs, Commissioner in charge of Trade and Industry and 5 experts) and the Agency responsible for coordinating and monitoring NEPAD (Executive Secretary, CAADP Coordinator and 3 experts);
 - UEMOA Representatives (President of the Commission and Commissioner in charge of Agriculture and rural development);
 - Technical cooperation institutions (CILSS, CORAF/WECARD, CMA/AOC and Rural Hub);
 - Farmers: 10 regional, African and international guests;
 - Private sector (10 regional, African and international guests): Pioneer Seed, Yara, WA Agrobusiness Co, Dangot, Olam Nigeria, Shoprite, Unilever West Africa, Standard Chartered, Mars, Novus International, Business Round Table, NEPAD Business Foundation, AECF;
 - Civil Society and NGOs: 20 regional, African and international guests;
 - Technical and financial partners: Canada, Germany, Great-Britain, France, Spain, European Union, United States of America, Japan, China, FAO, WFP, UNHCTF (confirmed);
 - International and Regional Financial Institutions: World Bank, West African Development Bank (WADB), IFAD, private investment fund, Agri business Private equity fund, Rabobank, EcoBank, EBID, BOAD, African Association of Private Banks, IFC/WB, ICD/IDB;
 - Foundations and Alliances: AGRA, BMGF, Hewlett Foundation, ACBF;
 - ECOWAS Parliament, ECOWAS Court of Justice, EBID and WAHO;
 - ECOWAS Commission (President of the Commission, Financial Controller, Departments of Agriculture, Environment and Water Resources, Macroeconomic Policies, Trade, Human Development and Gender, Administration and Finance, Directorates of Agriculture and Rural Development, Environment, Water Resources, External Relations, Finance, Trade, Conference);
 - Experts mobilised to assist the ECOWAS Commission: IFPRI, ReSAKSS and Issala – LARES – IRAM – MSU Group.

1. Or rural development depending on the organisation of the country's government.

6 Sequences

The Dakar Business Meeting is structured around six major sequences. The detailed agenda is provided in a distinct document.

Opening ceremony

Chaired by his Excellency the President of the Republic of Senegal, M. Abdoulaye Wade.

Sequence 1: Summary of the post-compact process progress

This sequence aims at reminding the approach adopted by the West Africa region for the elaboration of the national and regional investment plans, in consistency with the continental approach. It will help Ministers of Agriculture from member states to share the assets and difficulties of the national processes.

Sequence 2: Presentation of the regional agricultural investment plan

This sequence is devoted to reviewing the regional agricultural investment plan. The review is divided into five stages: (i) a presentation session by the ECOWAS Commission, of the detailed plan based on the regional developmental and federative programs selected in the regional compact, including the global and specific objectives, the expected results of the program, the direction and the content of the sub-programs, the planned financing costs and modalities, the funding structure (internal resources and needs of external funds); (ii) a restitution of the outcomes of the external and independent technical review. This review identifies the strengths and weaknesses of programming and indicates elements which require reviewing or improvements; (iii) the interventions of the stakeholders of the regional partnership compact (ECOWAS Presidency, Donors' Group, producers' organizations, private sector and civil society); (iv) the answers of the ECOWAS Commission to the questions raised by the review and the stakeholders' interventions; (v) the major conclusions of the roadmap.

Sequence 3: Presentation of the finalized national investment plans

This sequence is dedicated to the presentation of the finalized national investment plans or the priority investments plans of the member states, based on the NAIPs. The presentation is structured into five steps: (i) a summarized presentation of the plan by the country, including the justification of the interventions, in view of the objectives, the institutional arrangements, the policy instruments and measures, the financing plan, (internal resources, external resources, financing gap); (ii) a restitution of the outcomes of the external and independent technical review. This review identifies the strengths and weaknesses of programming and indicates elements which require reviewing or improvements; (iii) the interventions of the stakeholders of the regional partnership compact (ECOWAS Presidency, Donors' Group, producers' organizations, private sector and civil society); (iv) the answers of the ECOWAS Commission to the questions raised by the review and the stakeholders' interventions; (v) the major conclusions of the roadmap.

Sequence 4: Stakeholders forum

This sequence is structured around two panels: (i) the financial partners' panel; and (ii) the regional stakeholders' panel.

- The financial partners' panel will deal with the following question: "How do the bilateral and multilateral partners, as well as the new stakeholders of aid, carry out reforms of their financing instruments for agriculture and food security, in order to align with the principles, provided for in the compact: compliance with the regional and national leadership, alignment, sector-based approach, coordination, mutualization of resources, etc?". This panel will be introduced by the coordinator of the UNHTLE, Mr. David Nabarro.
- The regional stakeholders' panel focuses on the following question: "How do the actors —producers' organizations, civil society and private sector— organize themselves to contribute to the effective implementation of the ECOWAP/CAAPD and its investments plans?".

Sequence 5: Approach for funding of the national and regional agricultural investment plans

This sequence aims at adopting a consensus approach between the signatories of the national and regional compacts, on the modalities for resources mobilization. It will rely on the elements from the financial partners' panel and on the outcomes of the sequence presentation-discussion of the national and regional plans.

The sequence will be organized in the form of a discussion panel, associating the stakeholders' representatives.

Sequence 6: Conclusions and perspectives from Dakar onwards

This sequence consists in submitting the summary of the outcomes of the Business Meeting, together with a roadmap, clearly indicating the responsibilities of the States, the regional community and the international community. It will build on the stakeholders —governments, development partners, stakeholders, ECOWAS and the African Union/NEPAD— in order to reaffirm and elaborate their commitments in the implementation of the investment plans and the follow through of the regional process.

Closing ceremony

The Business Meeting fits in with a process piloted by the ECOWAS Commission. It has the technical support of IFPRI, IITA and ReSAKSS, ISAALA – LARES – IRAM – MSU Group, institutions leaders of the CAAPD pillars mobilised by the African Union and the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (CMA/AOC, CILSS, University of Kwazulu Natal, University of Zambia, FARA) and FAO. It is financed by the resources from the ECOWAS Commission, USAID, France, Spain, the World Bank and the European Union.



