



Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization: A framework for action in Africa

Sheikh Zayed Centre

5 October 2018

10:30 – 12:15

Light refreshments will be served before the side event

The African Union Commission (AUC) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) view agricultural mechanization in Africa as an indispensable pillar for attaining the zero Hunger Vision by 2025, as stated in the Malabo Declaration of 2014, Aspiration 1 of the AU's Agenda 2063, and Goal 2 of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Doubling agricultural productivity and eliminating hunger and malnutrition in Africa by 2025 can only be possible if mechanization is accorded utmost importance. This includes enhancing access to mechanization services, improving access to quality and affordable inputs, such as seed and fertilizer, and delivering efficient water resources management systems including irrigation.

Mechanization in the twenty first century must follow some core principles. It must be built along the entire agricultural value chain, private sector driven, environmentally competitive and climate smart, and economically viable and affordable, especially to small-scale farmers who constitute the bulk of African farmers. Mechanization must target youth, specifically to make agriculture more attractive for employment and entrepreneurship.

In this regard, the Commission supported by FAO has been developing a Sustainable Mechanization Framework for Africa. The framework is a result of continuous and thorough discussions among high-level policymakers and experts of the AU Members States, the AUC, FAO and other partners in the fields of food and agriculture.

Objectives:

- Launch the report on Sustainable Mechanization Framework for Africa and present its priority elements to be considered when developing national strategies for sustainable agricultural mechanization and implementing mechanization programmes
- Present experiences from Ghana, Chad and Ethiopia, and the views of the private sector machinery industries association

All are welcome to attend

AGENDA

Friday 5 October

Moderator: Robert Gouantoueu Guei, Secretary of the Committee on Agriculture, FAO

Time	Title	Speaker
10:30-10:45	Opening remarks	H.E. Ambassador Josefa Sacko Commissioner African Union Commission
10:45-10:55	The role of Mechanization in contributing to the 2014 AU Malabo Declaration	Mark Kofi Fynn Agribusiness Advisor African Union Commission
10:55-11:15	Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization: A Framework for Africa (SAMA)	Joseph Mpagalile Agricultural Engineer FAO Regional Office for Africa
11:15-12:00	Experiences from countries and private sector and Panel Discussion	H.E. Zenebu Tadesse, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary and Permanent Representative to FAO, IFAD and WFP, Ethiopia H.E. Phyllis Mends, Alternate Permanent Representative to FAO, IFAD and WFP, Ghana H.E. Cisse Seydou, Ambassador/ Permanent Representative to FAO, IFAD and WFP, Côte d'Ivoire Marco Pezzini European Agricultural Machinery Association
12:00-12:10	Launch of the framework	H.E. Ambassador Josefa Sacko Commissioner African Union Commission H.E. Ambassador Haladou Salha Senior Technical Advisor for AU/NEPAD to the Rome-based Agencies
12:10-12:15	Closing remarks	Maria Helena Semedo Deputy Director-General, FAO

Interpretation to be provided: English and French

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The event will be webcast:

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