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منظمة
الأغذية والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة

联合国
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Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
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Organización de las
Naciones Unidas para la
Agricultura y la
Alimentación

AFRICAN COMMISSION ON AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

Twenty-Seventh Session

15 – 18 November 2021, Virtual Host – Dakar, Senegal

CONCEPT NOTE

The African Commission on Agricultural Statistics (AFCAS) was established in October 1962 by the FAO Director General to study the status of food and agricultural statistics in the region, advise Member Countries on the development and harmonization of agricultural statistics in the general context of FAO's statistical activities, organize meetings for study groups or other subsidiary bodies made up of national experts to achieve these goals.

Since 1962 the session has been organized every two years.

AFCAS brings together senior statistics officials from FAO member countries in Africa, who are responsible for the development of agricultural statistics in their respective countries. They review and exchange ideas on the state of food and agricultural statistics in the continent and advise member countries on the development of their agricultural statistical systems. The Session helps senior officials of National Statistics Offices (NSOs) and Ministries of Agriculture (MoA) understand their role in improving data collection, quality, comparability and use of their country's indicators.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals comprising 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are new global goals that succeeded the Millennium Developments, 1 January 2016. As agricultural statistics in the SDG era pose challenges and opportunities, the 27th Session of AFCAS will enable the monitoring of the national ownership of the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) indicators.

The Twenty-seventh Session will be held virtually, from 15 to 18 November 2021 due to COVID19. The forthcoming Session of the Commission will discuss the following items: (i) Follow-up actions on the main recommendations of the 26th Session; (ii) FAO's activities in food and agricultural statistics relevant to Africa region since the last 26th Session of the Commission; (iii) Impact of COVID-19 and adaptations of statistical operations; (iv) Challenges and methodological development for collecting SDG indicators in Africa; (v)

50x2030 initiative and statistical innovation in agricultural statistics; (vi) Use of earth observation data for producing agricultural statistics; (vii) Enhancing fishery and aquaculture data to support the monitoring and sustainability of the sector, and contribute to SDGs – achievements and challenges.

At the end of the 26th Session of AFCAS, in order to allow better monitoring of progress on the Sustainable Development Goals, follow-up actions focused on 88 key recommendations for improvement of collection, processing, analysis and dissemination of complete, reliable and up-to-date statistical data, modernization of national agricultural statistics systems by integrating, in particular, new information and communication technologies in the collection, processing, storage in order to facilitate access and better dissemination capacities.

The meeting was effectively relayed on regional and national television channels, online media and social networks, in particular Twitter and LinkedIn through a digital campaign on the hashtag # AFCAS26, as well as dedicated television sets in order to understand information on this activity and reach a wide audience. An appointment was scheduled for November 2021 in Dakar, Senegal, for the 27th Session of AFCAS.