

March 2014



منظمة الأغذية
والزراعة للأمم
المتحدة

联合国
粮食及
农业组织

Food and
Agriculture
Organization
of the
United Nations

Organisation des
Nations Unies
pour
l'alimentation
et l'agriculture

Продовольственная и
сельскохозяйственная
организация
Объединенных
Наций

Organización
de las
Naciones Unidas
para la
Alimentación y la
Agricultura

FAO Regional Conference for Africa

TWENTY-EIGHTH SESSION

Tunis, Tunisia, 24-28 March 2014

Side Event – Summary Report and Recommendations

Ministerial Roundtable on the Follow up to the High-Level Meeting of African and International Leaders on Ending Hunger in Africa by 2015

The roundtable of Ministers and representatives from partner organizations discussed the challenges that Africa faces to meet its commitment to end hunger in the continent by 2015. The discussion acknowledged that most developed countries achieved this status through the development of their agriculture sector. It recognised the centrality of agriculture to Africa's development and that the 10% allocation required by the Maputo Decision may not enough to meet the zero hunger target of 2025.

The round table therefore concluded that:

- There is need to sustain the current apparent high level of political commitment to own and address the problems of development in the agriculture in Africa;
- Members need to implement good governance in the agriculture sector, which requires implementation of the decisions reached at Heads of State level;
- Africa needs to be more assertive in international negotiations to be able to influence decisions in its favour;
- There is need to do a rapid and autonomous evaluation of what has been achieved since Maputo, including through the AU/NEPAD peer review process, to advise the way forward;
- There is need to strengthen the centrality of the implementation of CAADP to economic and social development in African countries and to assert the same for its role in partnership building;
- Africa needs to focus on the improvement of family farming and to this end direct efforts of financing to its modernization;
- Through CAADP, promote and strengthen south-south cooperation and exchange of experiences for the replication of successful success stories in agriculture, such the 3N initiative of Niger;
- Given the aging farming population and the unattractiveness of agriculture to its burgeoning youth population, Africa needs to modernize its agriculture, develop the value chain and establish necessary infrastructure and facilitate market access to attract the youth to the sector and to keep them in the rural areas.

- Africa needs to promote and strengthen public private partnership to enable access to financing by the farmers to develop the agriculture sector.
- Ensure that the first initiative to mobilize resources is at national and local levels, through the establishment of national trust funds and other innovative funding mechanisms, that are easy to access and service.
- All African countries should contribute to ASTF even if in a symbolic way. To this end, Ministries of Finance should be involved in the process.
- Secure access to resources, such as land, for women and youth need greater attention.
- Need to establish a balance between family farming, agro-industry development, and large-scale land acquisition.
- There is need for robust policy reforms and national agricultural investment plans that will engender positive, strengthened inclusive transformation of the agriculture sector;
- Attention needs to be paid to capacity and skills development of youth and women for the effective transformation of agriculture in Africa.

28 March 2014