



**Final programme for the FAO Regional Meeting on Agricultural Biotechnologies in Sustainable Food Systems and Nutrition in Sub-Saharan Africa, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 22-24 November 2017**  
(<http://www.fao.org/africa/events/detail-events/en/c/1035227/>). The meeting took place in the African Union Conference Center (AUCC), in the Nelson Mandela Hall (ground floor) and Small Conference Hall 4 (third floor).

Session and Time	Nelson Mandela Hall	Small Conference Hall 4
<b><u>22 NOVEMBER</u></b>		
Plenary Session 1 10.00-10.30	Opening session	
Plenary Session 2 10.30-12.30	High-level segment	
12.30-13.30	<i>Lunch</i>	
Plenary Session 3 13.30-15.30	The state of application, capacities and the enabling environment for agricultural biotechnologies in Sub-Saharan Africa	
15.30-16.00	<i>Coffee break</i>	
Parallel Session 1&2 16.00-18.00	Biotechnologies for the characterisation, conservation and sustainable use of genetic resources for food and agriculture	Capacity, knowledge and reaching farmers regarding agricultural biotechnologies
18.00-20.00	Social mixing event (at AUCC)	
<b><u>23 NOVEMBER</u></b>		
Plenary Session 4 09.00-10.30	The role of agricultural biotechnologies in addressing the food security and nutrition challenges in the region	
10.30-11.00	<i>Coffee break</i>	
Parallel Session 3&4 11.00-13.00	Improving productivity and resource use efficiency using biotechnologies	Food safety, post-harvest and agro-processing: The role of biotechnologies
13.00-14.00	<i>Lunch</i>	
Parallel Session 5&6 14.00-16.00	Biotechnologies to enable smallholders to adapt to climate change	Resourcing for agriculture and agricultural biotechnologies
16.00-16.30	<i>Coffee break</i>	
Parallel Session 8&7 16.30-18.30	Governance, policy and regulatory processes regarding agricultural biotechnologies	Public-private partnerships and south-south cooperation involving biotechnologies
<b><u>24 NOVEMBER</u></b>		
Plenary Session 5 9.30-10.30	Reporting from parallel and plenary sessions	
10.30-11.00	<i>Coffee break</i>	
Plenary Session 6 11.00-12.30	‘The way ahead’	
Plenary Session 7 12.30-13.00	Closing session	

**Detailed programme for the FAO Regional Meeting on Agricultural Biotechnologies in Sustainable Food Systems and Nutrition in Sub-Saharan Africa (<http://www.fao.org/africa/events/detail-events/en/c/1035227/>)**

Time	Sessions
<b><u>22 NOV</u></b>	<b><u>Plenary Session 1: Opening session</u></b>
10.00-10.30	<p><b>Chair: Abebe Haile Gabriel</b>, FAO Regional Office for Africa, Accra, Ghana</p> <p>Welcome addresses:</p> <p><b>H.E. Josefa Leonel Correia Sacko</b>, Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture, African Union Commission, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia</p> <p><b>H.E. Eyasu Abraha</b>, Minister for Agriculture and Natural Resources Development, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia</p> <p><b>Ren Wang</b>, Assistant Director-General, Agriculture and Consumer Protection Department, FAO, Rome, Italy</p>
10.30-12.30	<p><b><u>Plenary Session 2: High-level segment</u></b></p> <p><b>Chair: Abebe Haile Gabriel</b>, FAO Regional Office for Africa, Accra, Ghana</p> <p>Keynote addresses:</p> <p><b>H.E. Mahen Kumar Seeruttun</b>, Minister of Agro Industry and Food Security, Port Louis, Mauritius</p> <p><b>Rabelais Yankam Njonou</b>, Inspecteur Général du Développement de l'Agriculture, Ministère de l'Agriculture et du Développement Rural, Yaoundé, Cameroon <i>Policies and programmes regarding agricultural biotechnologies in Cameroon</i></p> <p><b>Adama Ngum-Njie</b>, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Banjul, The Gambia <i>Policies and programmes regarding agricultural biotechnologies in The Gambia</i></p> <p><b>Kassahun Tesfaye</b>, Director, Ethiopian Biotechnology Institute, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia</p> <p><b>Janet Edeme</b>, Head, Rural Economy Division, Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture, Africa Union Commission, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia</p> <p><b>Malu Ndavi</b>, Lead Technical Specialist, Programme Management Department, International Fund for Agricultural Development, Rome, Italy</p>

13.30-15.30	<p><b><u>Plenary Session 3: The state of application, capacities and the enabling environment for agricultural biotechnologies in Sub-Saharan Africa</u></b></p> <p><b>Chair: Chike Mba</b>, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Rome, Italy</p> <p><b>Edward Rege</b>, PICO-Eastern Africa, Nairobi, Kenya <i>State of agricultural biotechnology applications, capacities and enabling environment in sub-Saharan Africa (20')</i></p> <p>Panellists to present their perspectives on the state of application, capacities and the enabling environment for agricultural biotechnologies in Sub-Saharan Africa (10' each):</p> <p><b>Yebchaye Degefa</b>, Pan African Veterinary Vaccine Center of the African Union (AU-PANVAC), Debre Zeit, Ethiopia <i>The state and application of biotechnology for the production of veterinary vaccines and diagnostic tools</i></p> <p><b>Abdourahamane Sangaré</b>, Centre National de Recherche Agronomique (CNRA), Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire</p> <p><b>Roger Pelle</b>, Biosciences Eastern and Central Africa (BecA) Hub, International Livestock Research Institute, Nairobi, Kenya</p> <p>Panel/audience discussion facilitated by the Chair</p>
15.30-16.00	<i>Coffee break</i>

16.00-18.00	<p><b><u>Parallel Session 1: Biotechnologies for the characterisation, conservation and sustainable use of genetic resources for food and agriculture</u></b></p> <p><b>Chair: Siboniso Moyo</b>, International Livestock Research Institute, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia</p> <p>Speakers (10' each):</p> <p><b>Firew Mekbib</b>, Haramaya University, Dire Dawa, Ethiopia <i>Molecular genetic diversity of African orphan crops: The case of Ethiopia</i></p> <p><b>Marius Ekué</b>, Bioversity International, Yaoundé, Cameroon <i>DNA timber tracking tools and a conservation strategy for African mahogany (Khaya sp.)</i></p> <p><b>Emmanuel Kaunda</b>, Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Lilongwe, Malawi <i>A review of the use of biotechnology in aquaculture and fisheries</i></p> <p>Panel/audience discussion facilitated by the Chair</p> <p>*****</p>
16.00-18.00	<p><b><u>Parallel Session 2: Capacity, knowledge and reaching farmers regarding agricultural biotechnologies</u></b></p> <p><b>Chair: Musa Sowe</b>, National Coordinating Organization for Farmers Associations of The Gambia (NACOFAG), Banjul, The Gambia</p> <p>Speakers (10' each):</p> <p><b>Kassahun Tesfaye</b>, Ethiopian Biotechnology Institute, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia <i>National capacity building initiatives for biotechnology development: The case of Ethiopia</i></p> <p><b>Thomas Munthali</b>, African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF), Harare, Zimbabwe <i>The ACBF and its role in capacity building in science, technology and innovation</i></p> <p><b>Agostinho Bento</b>, African Centre for Biodiversity, Maputo, Mozambique <i>Public access to information and democratic decision making: The case of Water Efficient Maize in Africa (WEMA)</i></p> <p><b>Silim M. Nahdy</b>, African Forum for Agricultural Advisory Services, Kampala, Uganda <i>Strengthening rural advisory services in Africa, with perspectives on agricultural biotechnologies</i></p> <p>Panel/audience discussion facilitated by the Chair</p>

<p><b><u>23 NOV</u></b> 9.00-10.30</p>	<p><b><u>Plenary Session 4: The role of agricultural biotechnologies in addressing the food security and nutrition challenges in the region</u></b></p> <p><b>Chair: Abebe Haile Gabriel</b>, FAO Regional Office for Africa, Accra, Ghana</p> <p>Keynote talks (20' each):</p> <p><b>Margaret Gill</b>, CGIAR Independent Science and Partnership Council, Rome, Italy <i>A global perspective on agri-biotechnology research in Africa</i></p> <p><b>Shadrack Moephuli</b>, Agricultural Research Council, Pretoria, South Africa <i>Role of agricultural biotechnologies in addressing food and nutrition security challenges in Africa: Perspectives from the Agricultural Research Council, South Africa</i></p> <p><b>Musa Sowe</b>, National Coordinating Organization for Farmers Associations of The Gambia (NACOFAG), Banjul, The Gambia</p> <p>Panel/audience discussion facilitated by the Chair</p>
<p>10.30-11.00</p>	<p><i>Coffee break</i></p>

11.00-13.00	<p><b><u>Parallel Session 3: Improving productivity and resource use efficiency using biotechnologies</u></b></p> <p><b>Chair: Emmanuel Okogbenin</b>, African Agricultural Technology Foundation, Nairobi, Kenya</p> <p>Speakers (10' each):</p> <p><b>Melaku Gedil</b>, International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA), Ibadan, Nigeria <i>Application of biotechnology tools for rapid cultivar development and deployment: The case of cassava and maize</i></p> <p><b>Denis F.N. Mujibi</b>, Nelson Mandela Africa Institute for Science and Technology (NMAIST), Arusha, Tanzania <i>Using biotechnology to bridge the productivity gap: A case study of application in livestock and fish</i></p> <p><b>Ofelia G. Omitogun</b>, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria <i>Case studies on applications of biotechnology to tilapia and catfish in Nigeria</i></p> <p><b>Stephen Omondi</b>, Kenya Forestry Research Institute, Nairobi, Kenya <i>Application of biotechnology in forest tree breeding: A case study of breeding <i>Melia volkensii</i> for drought tolerance in Kenya</i></p> <p>Panel/audience discussion facilitated by the Chair</p> <p>*****</p>
11.00-13.00	<p><b><u>Parallel Session 4: Food safety, post-harvest and agro-processing: The role of biotechnologies</u></b></p> <p><b>Chair: Ali Mohammed</b>, Jimma University, Jimma, Ethiopia</p> <p>Speakers (10' each)</p> <p><b>Silvia Alonso</b>, International Livestock Research Institute, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia <i>Metagenomics in food safety: what's the added value? Case studies from the livestock sector in Tanzania and Uganda</i></p> <p><b>Alejandro Ortega-Beltran</b>, International Institute of Tropical Agriculture, Ibadan, Nigeria <i>The Aflasafe Initiative, developing biocontrol products to reduce aflatoxin contamination in maize and groundnuts across Sub-Saharan Africa</i></p> <p><b>Ruby Asmah</b>, Water Research Institute (CSIR-WRI), Accra, Ghana <i>The use of biotechnologies in post-harvest handling and management in the fishery sector</i></p> <p><b>Ikhide Imumorin</b>, Covenant University, Ota, Nigeria; African Biosciences Ltd, Lagos, Nigeria; and Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, USA. <i>Public and private sector perspectives regarding the role of biotechnologies in food safety, post-harvest and agro-processing</i></p> <p>Panel/audience discussion facilitated by the Chair</p>
13.00-14.00	Lunch

14.00-16.00	<p><b><u>Parallel Session 5: Biotechnologies to enable smallholders to adapt to climate change</u></b></p> <p><b>Chair: Janet Edeme</b>, African Union Commission, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia</p> <p>Speakers (10' each)</p> <p><b>Yoseph Beyene</b>, International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT), Nairobi, Kenya <i>Development and deployment of climate resilient maize in sub-Saharan Africa through integration of novel tools and technologies</i></p> <p><b>Maxwell Barson</b>, University of Zimbabwe, Harare, Zimbabwe <i>Africa in a changing global climate: The need for rapid diagnostic tests to deal with emerging fish disease challenges</i></p> <p><b>Djingdia Lompo</b>, Centre National de Semences Forestières, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso <i>Analysis of genetic diversity of the African Locust Bean (<i>Parkia biglobosa</i>) to improve its strategy of conservation and breeding in the face of climate change</i></p> <p><b>Baptiste Dungu</b>, MCI Santé Animale, Mohammedia, Morocco <i>Use of biotechnology tools to combat Rift Valley fever (RVF) in Africa</i></p> <p>Panel/audience discussion facilitated by the Chair</p> <p>*****</p>
14.00-16.00	<p><b><u>Parallel Session 6: Resourcing for agriculture and agricultural biotechnologies</u></b></p> <p><b>Chair: Margaret Gill</b>, CGIAR Independent Science and Partnership Council, Rome, Italy</p> <p>Speakers (10' each):</p> <p><b>Malu Ndavi</b>, International Fund for Agricultural Development, Rome, Italy <i>Investors in agricultural biotechnologies and priorities</i></p> <p><b>Musa Sowe</b>, National Coordinating Organization for Farmers Associations of The Gambia (NACOFAG), Banjul, The Gambia <i>How to ensure the resources allocated to agricultural biotechnologies are used to meet the needs of farmers</i></p> <p><b>Siyabulela Ntutela</b>, AfricaBio, Pretoria, South Africa <i>The importance of private sector investments in agricultural biotechnologies in Sub-Saharan Africa</i></p> <p>Panel/audience discussion facilitated by the Chair</p>
16.00-16.30	<p><i>Coffee break</i></p>

16.30-18.30	<p><b><u>Parallel Session 7: Public-private partnerships and south-south cooperation involving biotechnologies</u></b></p> <p><b>Chair: Melaku Gedil</b>, International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA), Ibadan, Nigeria</p> <p>Speakers (10' each):</p> <p><b>Prasad Hendre</b>, World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF), Nairobi, Kenya <i>African Orphan Crops Consortium (AOCC): A public-private partnership for enablement of African plant scientists through development of open source genomics resources for promoting food and nutritional security in Africa through orphan crops</i></p> <p><b>Emmanuel Okogbenin</b>, African Agricultural Technology Foundation, Nairobi, Kenya <i>Public-private partnerships for effective and efficient agricultural technology transfer to smallholders in SSA: The AATF experience</i></p> <p><b>Benjamin D.K. Ahiabor</b>, CSIR-Savanna Agricultural Research Institute, Tamale, Ghana <i>A case study of cooperation between Brazil and Ghana in the development of biofertilisers for grain legumes in northern Ghana</i></p> <p><b>Ndjido A. Kane</b>, Institut Sénégalais de Recherches Agricoles, Dakar, Senegal <i>A regional research and training platform for innovative plant breeding in West Africa</i></p> <p>Panel/audience discussion facilitated by the Chair</p> <p>*****</p>
16.30-18.30	<p><b><u>Parallel Session 8: Governance, policy and regulatory processes regarding agricultural biotechnologies</u></b></p> <p><b>Chair: Shadrack Moephuli</b>, Agricultural Research Council, Pretoria, South Africa</p> <p>Speakers (10' each):</p> <p><b>Linda Opati</b>, International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), Nairobi, Kenya <i>The role of intellectual property rights in enabling or impeding the application of agricultural biotechnologies</i></p> <p><b>Jeremy Ouedraogo</b>, NEPAD Agency African Biosafety Network of Expertise (ABNE), Dakar, Senegal <i>Overview of the work and achievements of the NEPAD-ABNE</i></p> <p><b>Barbara Ntambirweki</b>, Advocates Coalition for Development and Environment (ACODE), Kampala, Uganda <i>Perspectives on intellectual property rights and regulation of agricultural biotechnologies</i></p> <p><b>Tahani Elagib</b>, Biotechnology and Biosafety Research Center, Khartoum, Sudan <i>Status of agricultural biotechnology and biosafety in Sudan</i></p> <p>Panel/audience discussion facilitated by the Chair</p>



<p><b>24 NOV</b> 9.30-10.30</p>	<p><b><u>Plenary Session 5: Reporting from parallel and plenary sessions</u></b></p> <p><b>Chair: Endale Gebre</b>, Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural Research (EIAR), Addis Ababa, Ethiopia</p> <p>Reporting of outcomes by the chairs of the different sessions (5' each)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plenary session 3: <b>Chike Mba</b></li> <li>• Plenary session 4: <b>Abebe Haile Gabriel</b></li> <li>• Parallel session 1: <b>Siboniso Moyo</b></li> <li>• Parallel session 2: <b>Musa Sowe</b></li> <li>• Parallel session 3: <b>Emmanuel Okogbenin</b></li> <li>• Parallel session 4: <b>Ali Mohammed</b></li> <li>• Parallel session 5: <b>Janet Edeme</b></li> <li>• Parallel session 6: <b>Margaret Gill</b></li> <li>• Parallel session 7: <b>Melaku Gedil</b></li> <li>• Parallel session 8: <b>Shadrack Moephuli</b></li> </ul>
<p>10.30-11.00</p>	<p><i>Coffee break</i></p>
<p>11.00-12.30</p>	<p><b><u>Plenary Session 6: 'The way ahead'</u></b></p> <p><b>Co-Chairs:</b> <b>Ren Wang</b>, FAO, Rome, Italy <b>Shadrack Moephuli</b>, Agricultural Research Council, Pretoria, South Africa</p> <p>Discussion with the audience facilitated by the Co-Chairs</p>
<p>12.30-13.00</p>	<p><b><u>Plenary Session 7: Closing session</u></b></p> <p><b>Chair: Abebe Haile Gabriel</b>, FAO Regional Office for Africa, Accra, Ghana</p> <p>Closing remarks:</p> <p><b>Desta Berhe Sbhatu</b>, Associate Professor, Mekelle University, Mekelle, Ethiopia</p> <p><b>Janet Edeme</b>, Head, Rural Economy Division, Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture, Africa Union Commission, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia</p> <p><b>Ren Wang</b>, Assistant Director-General, Agriculture and Consumer Protection Department, FAO, Rome, Italy</p>