



SWAC 2010 GLOBAL FORUM

7-8 December 2010
Accra, Ghana

REGIONAL SOLIDARITY TO ADDRESS FOOD CRISES: SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION AND REGIONAL AID EFFECTIVENESS

Background and objectives

The series of SWAC Forums has been set up to disseminate work undertaken around the world on key challenges emerging at the crossroads of agriculture, trade and development topics relevant to Sahel and West African countries. It also aims at improving mutual understanding through an exchange of experiences among representatives of the public and the private sectors, donors and the civil society in OECD and non-OECD countries.

The SWAC 2010 Forum is the second of the series, following a first event organised in December 2009 in Bamako about land investment issues. In the light of the global commodity price spike and subsequent food riots observed all around the world in 2007-08, the Board of the OECD/SWAC decided to dedicate the 2010 event to regional cooperation on emergency food stocks¹. This event is hoping to contribute to inform the debate taking place among Sahel and West African countries on regional solidarity for food security and stimulate progress in the creation of a regional food stock. In this respect it gives voice to similar initiatives experienced in other regions of the world to share lessons and foster debates on a number of critical challenges for various stakeholders in the Sahel and West Africa. Eventually, the event serves the final objective of supporting South-South cooperation on regional policy for food stocks and enhancing effectiveness and co-ordination of aid for food security at regional level.

Format

The day event will be organised as to combine formal presentations and panel debates. It will focus on lessons learnt from experiences of regional food stocks conducted in South regions and critical roadblocks faced by the Sahel and West African countries. It will save plenty of time for discussion, enlarged to participants from the audience.

¹ Emergency food stocks herein refer to food reserves held at regional level to respond to emergencies. They distinguish from strategic food stocks in the sense they do not intend to stabilise the market price of a commodity. Rather, they are implemented to ensure timely and efficient delivery of food in case of ad hoc crises. They function as an insurance against shortages.

First session:

Giving voice to representatives from various regions in the South, it consists of plenary presentations aimed at sharing lessons from experiences on regional food stock management and identifying good practices and conditions for success.

→ What to expect from this session?

- Learn about lessons from various experiences in different regions from the South
- List ingredients of success
- Identify conditions for replicability

Second session:

It is divided into three panel sets allowing in-depth debates among various stakeholders on critical aspects that may hamper the establishment of a regional food stock dynamics. Debate in the first panel revolves around the policy and institutional challenges for regional organisations, whereas the second panel focuses on the practical arrangements for ensuring harmonization and co-operation between national food stocks. The third panel session deals with the role of private sector in the constitution and the functioning of regional food stocks.

→ What to expect from this session?

- Identify roadblocks for regional cooperation at stakeholder level
- Examine a range of solutions
- Discuss a roadmap for follow-up

Participants

A broad cross-section of stakeholders will be invited to include policy makers, practitioners, researchers, civil society and private sector representatives from OECD member states and non-OECD economies, regional economic organisations, international institutions, etc. (list of participants is confined in a separate sheet).

Outcomes of the Forum

- One or two pages of political recommendations/conclusions (the way forward)
- A website with contacts of all participants and posted interventions for speakers and facilitators
- A publication including the proceedings of the Forum, series of one-pagers from speakers and facilitators, as well as a number of external contributions related to economic background or other specific topics that may not be explored further during the Forum.

Draft Agenda

07 DECEMBER 2010

16:30 – 17:00 Registration

17:00-19:15: Political Introductory Session to the Forum

Chair: Honorable Alhaji Muhammad Mumuni, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration of Ghana

Objective: This session, for which all participants are invited, is dedicated to the high-level political officials. It aims at allowing them to express their visions, strategic and political expectations towards the theme of the forum.

- Objectives and expected results from the Forum – *Mr. François Xavier de Donnea, President of SWAC/OCDE (10 mn)*
- Policy addresses from the authorities of West African and Northern countries
 - Regional economic organisations (ECOWAS, UEMOA, CILSS) *(30 mn)*
 - Ministers and officials from West Africa countries in charge of agriculture and food security (Burkina Faso, Ghana, Mali, Togo...) *(40 mn)*
 - Ministers and officials from OECD countries and emerging economies non-OECD members (Germany, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, France, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Switzerland, USA...) *(40 mn)*
- Welcome address – Honorable Alhaji Muhammad Mumuni, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration, Ghana *(10 mn)*
- Wrap – Up *(The Chair)(5 mn)*

08 DECEMBER 2010

08:30 – 09:00 Registration

09:00-11:00: Session 1: Lessons from world experiences and conditions for success

Chair: Salifou Ousseini, Commissioner Agric. Environment and Water Resources, ECOWAS

Objective of the session: This session aims at sharing the lessons learnt from experiences of regional food stock establishment, from various regions in the South. In order to focus on lessons and allow time for debate, details on the modalities of each experiences (optimal level of the stock, product composition, stocking/destocking rules, financing strategies, etc) will not be presented during the session but will be consigned in a background paper. Presentations will therefore elaborate on the lessons learnt, sketch the determining factors for success and propose conditions for replicability – in the light of the Sahel and West Africa dynamics.

Introduction to the session:

- The Sahel and West Africa in movement: food reserve initiatives and lessons learnt from the past 30 years – *Mr. Issa Tankari*, Regional consultant (10mn)
- Challenges and questions from experiences of regional food stocks; *Ms. Adeline Borot de Battisti*, consultant, *OECD/Sahel and West Africa Club* (5mn)

Background papers:

- Review of experiences of regional cooperation for emergency food reserves in developing countries (*prepared by Ms. Adeline Borot de Battisti*)

09:15 – 11:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Opportunities and questions faced by the emerging RESOGEST initiative in Sahel and West Africa countries – <i>El Hadj Dramane COULIBALY, CILSS</i> (15 mn)• Analysis from the experience of Regional Food Reserve Facility from the SADC - <i>tbd</i> (15 mn)• Analysis from the experience of Emergency Rice Reserve in Asia – <i>Riza Bernabe, Asian Farmers' Association for sustainable rural development</i> or <i>Ms. Nongnooch Deetae, ASEAN tbd</i> (15 mn)• Analysis from the experience of governments and WFP cooperation through the Latin American and Caribbean Emergency Response Network - <i>Ms Mirjana Kavelj, Head UNHRD, Panama</i> (15 mn)• Discussions and wrap-up (45mn)
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Coffee-Break (20 mn)

11:20-17:00: Session 2: Identifying roadblocks and proposing solutions

Chair: Mr. Ismaïl K. Binguitcha-Faré, Commissioner Rural Dev. Natural Resources & Environment (UEMOA) (*tb*)

Objectives of the session: Panels will address a number of issues that are critical to emerging regional solidarity dynamics such as the Sahel and West Africa RESOGEST initiative. These unanswered issues require discussions among stakeholders within the region as well as insights from experienced participants from other regions in the South. Three main issues have been selected based on the questions faced by Sahel and West African countries. For each issue, the challenge is to identify possible blockages and propose concrete and adaptive solutions to address these roadblocks.

Introduction to the session: Challenges faced by the RESOGEST initiative – *Mr. Issa Tankari and Ms. Adeline Borot de Battisti (15mn)*

Background papers:

- Critical analysis of the RESOGEST initiative (prepared by *Mr. Issa Tankari*, regional consultant)

11:35 – 13:00	<p>Panel 1: Policy coherence and institutional arrangements at regional and international level</p> <p>Objective: Panel 1 will discuss issues related to policy coherence and institutional arrangements between governments, regional, and international organisations. Debates will deal with legal aspects of cooperation, coherence of policy tools, and efficiency of food security aid. Panel discussants will propose adaptive solutions to address these challenges and suggest options for implementation. Finally, the discussion will be broadened to the audience for sharing views and suggestions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Moderator: Sophia Murphy, IATP• Panellists : Ministers (Burkina Faso, Ghana, Mali, Togo), CEDEAO (Mr. Ousseini Salifou); AU/NEPAD (<i>Dr Ibrahim Assane Mayaki</i>); UNCTAD (<i>Ms. Milasoia Cherel-Robson</i>); ECOWAS Parliament (<i>Ms. Saran Sereme</i>)• Open discussion
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Lunch break (1h)

14:00 – 15:30	<p>Panel 2: Harmonization and co-operation among national food stocks:</p> <p>Objective: Panel 2 will address the challenges of harmonization of management and co-operation among national food stock entities. Debates will revolve around critical dis-functioning and capacity inequalities among countries, which need to be fixed if a regional food stock is to be implemented: stocking-destocking rules, code of conduct for solidarity, requirements re information and transparency, financing, etc. Panel discussants will propose adaptive solutions to address these roadblocks and suggest the way forward for implementation. Finally, the discussion will be broadened to the audience for sharing suggestions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderator: <i>Ms. Nana Yaya Lansry Haidara</i>, CSA Mali • Panellists : Offices (Benin, Burkina Faso, Niger, Nigeria), Members of parliament (Senegal, Mauritania), Regional information system (<i>Mr. Salif Diarra</i>, Regional Coordinator RESIMAO; <i>Pr Alhousseini Bretau</i>, Executive Secretary, CILSS) • Open discussion
15:30 – 17:00	<p>Panel 3: What role for the private sector in the constitution and the functioning of regional food reserves?</p> <p>Objective: Panel 3 will address issues related to the roles and responsibilities of the private sector in the constitution and functioning of regional food stocks, the conditions for implementing public-private partnerships, etc. Panel discussants will propose adaptive solutions to address roadblocks and suggest the way forward for implementation. Finally, the discussion will be broadened to the audience for sharing suggestions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderator: <i>Laurent Bossard</i>, Director a.i. SWAC/OECD • Panellists : Agric. Producers & Interprofessional organisations (<i>Mr. Mamadou Cissokho</i>, ROPPA ; <i>M. Mohd Sabo Nanono</i>, AFAN-Nigeria) ; Market operators (<i>Mr. Imam Hamed</i>, Dawanu market, Nigeria ; <i>Ms. Rosalie Botti</i>, President ROESAO) ; Financial System (<i>Mr Musa Salah</i>, ECOBANK (<i>tbc</i>)); <i>Mr André Beaudouin</i>, UPA-DI, Canada; <i>Mr Mahe Abubakar</i>, Zenith Bank of Nigeria, Kano • Open discussion
<i>Break (20mn)</i>	
17:20 – 18:00	<p>Concluding session</p> <p><i>Chair: Mr. François-Xavier de Donnea, President of SWAC/OECD</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key policy messages from the SWAC 2010 Forum – <i>Dr Ibrahim Assane Mayaki, UA/NEPAD (15mn)</i> • The way forward : Next steps – ECOWAS/UEMOA/CILSS (15mn) • Concluding remarks – <i>Chair (10mn)</i>