

AGENDA

GLOBAL FORUM ON AGRICULTURE

CONSTRAINTS TO DEVELOPMENT OF SUB-SAHARAN AGRICULTURE

16-17 May 2006, Paris

To be held at the OECD, Tour Europe, 33 Place des Corolles, 92049, Paris La Défense 2

Background

The OECD Global Forum on Agriculture is a regular event, bringing together OECD countries and non-member economies to share experiences on how policies can more effectively achieve stated government objectives. Themes for the Global Forum on Agriculture have revolved around the linkages between domestic policy reform, trade liberalisation, economic growth and poverty reduction, but the focus has been on agricultural policy. More recently the issue of policy coherence for development has been addressed, in particular the kinds of policy reforms required in both developed and developing countries to enhance global agricultural trade and to reduce poverty and alleviate hunger.

The Forum usually takes a global view but in this case the focus is on Sub-Saharan Africa. In recent decades, the productivity of agriculture has improved markedly in virtually all developing regions with the exception of Sub-Saharan Africa where, except for some specific cases, output has stagnated. Large proportions of the rural population exist on the threshold of poverty and suffer from chronic food insecurity. Sub-Saharan Africa has important natural and human resources but this potential has not been harnessed. To date, the efforts undertaken by African governments have not resulted in strong and sustainable growth in the agriculture sector. However, there is renewed commitment to agriculture both by African governments through the NEPAD-inspired Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) and by donors who are gradually reversing years of declining aid to the sector.

The main objective of this Global Forum on Agriculture is to identify and evaluate the importance of the main constraints to the development of Sub-Saharan African agriculture. Ongoing analytical work will be examined with respect to the “real world” needs of policy makers. Participants will include senior level government representatives from most OECD countries, West and Central Africa, intergovernmental organisations, international and African NGOs, African regional research organisations and selected academics. Participants from other developing regions will be encouraged to contribute their experiences.

All of the information for this meeting will be posted on the following website: www.oecd.org/agr/meet/apnme

*Login: meetings
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Tuesday, 16 May 2006

10:00-10:30	<p><i>Introduction</i></p> <p><i>Welcome and opening remarks</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neil Fraser, Global Forum Chair • Kiyoko Akasaka, Deputy Secretary-General, OECD 	AGR/CA/GF/A(2006)1
<p><u>SESSION I: Stocktaking - Performance and Potential</u></p> <p><i>This session will identify the key trends and current situation with respect to the performance of Sub-Saharan agriculture. The main objective would be to reach a common understanding about the performance of the sector relative to other developing regions and relative to stated development goals. One issue is to what extent are the problems regional or country-specific in nature. The session will also examine the potential for improving agricultural productivity and food security.</i></p>		
10:30-11:20	<p>The performance of Sub-Saharan agriculture</p> <p>An examination of the recent trends and current situation in terms of various sector performance measures – growth levels of production and value-added processing, productivity measures, level and distribution of farm household incomes, structural change, agro-environmental performance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Presentation:</i> Daniel Eklu, Director, Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment, CEDEAO/ECOWAS • <i>Discussion:</i> All participants 	
11:20-12:10	<p>The achievement of Sub-Saharan development goals</p> <p>An assessment of the recent progress towards stated development goals for Sub-Saharan Africa related to poverty reduction, hunger alleviation and rural development, and the importance of the agricultural sector in the achievement, or lack of achievement, of these goals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Presentation:</i> Alioune Sall, Executive Director, African Futures Institute • <i>Discussion:</i> All participants 	
12:10-13:00	<p>The potential of Sub-Saharan agriculture</p> <p>A review of how science and technology can improve agricultural production in Africa and of what broader economic, social and political conditions are necessary to take full advantage of the natural and human resources available.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Presentation:</i> Huub Löffler, Team Leader, InterAcademy Council • <i>Discussion:</i> All participants 	
13:00-15:00	<i>Lunch Break</i>	

SESSION II: Assessment - Identifying the Constraints

Two keynote presentations will identify the major external and internal constraints to Sub-Saharan African development – the main causes of the unrealised potential. A panel of experts, representing a wide variety of stakeholders, will then respond with their views on the relative importance of these and any other constraints. The objective will be to reach a consensus on major constraints and what we know and don't know.

15:00-16:00	Identifying the constraints to development An assessment of the external and internal constraints limiting Sub-Saharan agricultural development. External factors could include developed countries' trade and agricultural policies, plant, animal and food safety regulations, private standards, approaches to development aid, food aid, etc. Internal factors could include the macroeconomic environment, resource availability, domestic trade and agricultural policies, infrastructure and institutional bottlenecks, governance, etc. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• External constraints and development: Lassaad Lachaal, African Development Bank (ADB)• Internal constraints and development: Issoufou Dare, Union Economique & Monétaire Ouest-Africaine (UEMOA)
16:00-18:00	Stakeholder views on the constraints to development Each stakeholder will have 10 minutes to present his reactions to the keynote presentations and propose his ranking of the “top three” constraints to development. Observations on the differences across countries and commodities are encouraged. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Producers: Mamadou Cissokho, President d'Honneur du ROPPA• Agri-business: Daniel Ruegg, Directeur Afrique de Syngenta• Donor: John McIntire, Country Director, World Bank• NGO: Tom Arnold, Chief Executive, Concern Worldwide• Open discussion: All participants
18:00-20:00	Evening Reception

Wednesday, 17 May 2006

SESSION III: Analysis - Finding Solutions

International organisations undertaking new analytical work in support of Sub-Saharan African agricultural development will report on the objectives, approaches and partnerships of their activities. The objective would be to solicit information on, and have a general discussion about, the problems addressed, methodological approaches, analytical results, policy recommendations, policy dialogue and lessons learned.

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| 10:00-12:00 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Agricultural Policy Indicators Project:</i> Jonathan Brooks, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) 2. <i>Support for African Agriculture Project:</i> Joe Dewbre, Directorate for Food, Agriculture and Fisheries, OECD; Johannes Jutting and Juan de Laiglesia, Development Centre, OECD <p><i>Discussant:</i> Shahla Shapouri, USDA</p> <p><i>Open discussion:</i> All participants</p> |
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| 12:00-13:00 | <p><i>Enabling Pro-Poor Growth Through Agriculture:</i> Tim Mahoney, USAID and Chair of POVNET Task Team on Agriculture</p> <p><i>Discussant:</i> Jean Sibiri Zoundi, Sahel and West Africa Club</p> |
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13:00-15:00	<i>Lunch Break</i>
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SESSION IV: Implementation - Making it Work

The objective of this final session is to address the following two questions: Will the new analytical work underway provide the types of information and policy advice required for effective decision-making? How should the process of policy development and implementation be managed (e.g. support by key ministries, stakeholder dialogue, regional strategies, monitoring and evaluation)? Senior decision-makers and policy advisors will have 10 minutes to highlight their experiences, expectations and reservations before turning to an open discussion.

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| 15:00-17:00 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Mr. Tchatat, Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development, Cameroon • H.E. Mr. Ernest Debrah, Minister of Food and Agriculture, Ghana • Adama Coulibaly, Technical Counsellor, Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Mali • Mohamed Beavogui, Director, International Fund for Agricultural Development, West and Central Africa Division (FIDA/IFAD) • Ibrahim Assane Mayaki, Platform on Rural Development and Food Security for West and Central Africa • Jean-Christophe Deberre, Director, Department of Development Policies, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, France • <i>Open discussion</i> |
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| 17:00-17:30 | <p>Wrap-up</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wayne Jones, Head of Agricultural Policies in Non-Member Economies Division, Directorate for Food, Agriculture and Fisheries, OECD • Neil Fraser, Global Forum Chair |
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