



32ND ANNUAL MEETING

THE FOOD CRISIS PREVENTION NETWORK

ADDRESSING THE FOOD & NUTRITION SITUATION IN NORTH-EASTERN NIGERIA

Members of the Food Crisis Prevention Network (RPCA), who met at the 32nd RPCA Annual Meeting, under the political leadership of the Commission of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA), and hosted by the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria,

CONSIDERING THAT

Hosted by the Federal Republic of Nigeria and under the patronage of the Commissions of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA), the 32nd annual meeting of the RPCA brings together the region's key food and nutrition security stakeholders, including many high-level representatives.

The Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS) and the Sahel and West Africa Club Secretariat (SWAC/OECD) are organising the meeting, with support from the Regional Agency for Agriculture and Food (RAAF/ECOWAS).

- 1** The security crisis in north-eastern Nigeria and in the broader Lake Chad Basin, coupled with the lack of robust development initiatives, is having a significant impact on the food and nutrition situation and consequently on the health and the wellbeing of the affected population.
- 2** The persistence of the security crisis is the root cause of significant numbers of internally displaced populations in north-eastern Nigeria, estimated at some 2.1 million individuals; this situation has also given rise to acute food and nutrition insecurity, most notably in the states of Adamawa, Borno and Yobe, where approximately 4.6 million people are estimated to be severely food insecure, of which 1.8 million are in an emergency situation and 55 000 are in a famine situation.
- 3** The security environment seriously impedes the large-scale expansion of food and nutrition assistance operations for the populations in the affected areas.
- 4** The ongoing food and nutrition crisis, combined with the destruction of livelihoods, limited access to basic social services (health, education, water, sanitation and hygiene) and the lack of protection, constitutes a high risk of weakening, over the long-term, the resilience of the affected displaced populations as well as host communities.
- 5** This humanitarian, food and nutrition crisis has emerged within the context of a particularly unfavourable macro-economic situation featuring plunging oil prices, the depreciation of the naira and a high inflation rate; these factors worsen the already precarious situation of the most vulnerable and limit the government's ability to render assistance commensurate with the scale of needs required.



SAHEL AND
WEST AFRICA



URGE

- 6** ECOWAS and the international community to respond to this food and nutrition emergency in order to save lives and relieve the distress experienced by the affected populations by:
- Providing immediate food and nutrition assistance to the affected households;
 - Providing treatment for cases of severe acute malnutrition and targeted nutritional support to children under the age of 5 as well as pregnant and breastfeeding mothers;
 - Establishing health and psychological care facilities, including other basic social services (education, water, hygiene and sanitation) for the affected populations, most notably women and children and where necessary additional recovery and stabilisation centres.
- 7** The government of Nigeria, with support from its partners, to step up its efforts in providing secure access for aid organisations in the affected zones.
- 8** All ECOWAS Member States and stakeholders to engage in regional solidarity efforts and take into consideration the cross-border nature of the crisis threatening the entire Lake Chad basin.
- 9** ECOWAS and its technical and financial partners to become more involved, and to start, as of now, putting in place medium and long term structural measures through major programmes aimed at rehabilitating and strengthening the resilience of populations in the affected areas.

And in light of the above,

CALL ON

- 10** ECOWAS and the international community, to provide Nigeria with technical and financial support to continue to further evaluate the socio-economic impact of the crisis based on recent assessments and implement a rehabilitation/recovery plan for the affected areas with sufficient financial resources required for such a plan.
- 11** Technical and financial partners to support, on the one hand, the efforts of the inter-ministerial Task Force to co-ordinate the humanitarian measures put in place by the Nigerian government, and, on the other hand, administer their technical and financial support in a co-ordinated manner, through synergies, complementarities, and alignment with the region's priorities, in order to ensure that actions have a more effective, longer term and sustainable impact on the resilience of the most vulnerable populations in north-eastern Nigeria.
- 12** All stakeholders (government of Nigeria, ECOWAS, technical and financial partners, and civil society) to jointly monitor progress and amend the plan based on evidence gathered on the ground. This may lead to setting up a group to monitor the joint action taken in the affected areas of north-eastern Nigeria.

Abuja, 12 December 2016