PRESS RELEASE

Restricted meeting of the Food Crises Prevention Network in the Sahel and West Africa

CILSS — SWAC/OECD

OECD Conference Centre, Room CC7
April 08th and 09th, 2010

The Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS) and the Sahel and West Africa Club (SWAC/OECD) have organised a restricted meeting of the Food Crisis Prevention Network (RPCA) in the Sahel and West Africa from **April 8-9, 2010** at the OECD Conference Centre in Paris, (2 rue André Pascal, 75016 Paris, room CC7).

This meeting will provide West-African actors and key partners from OECD member countries with the opportunity to discuss issues related to food security. Participants will aim to agree on the assessment of the food and nutritional situation in the Sahel and West African region as well as to identify measures to be taken in the face of possible food crises as the region reaches its lean period.

The objectives of the meeting include:

- ⇨ Establishing the definitive balance sheet and assessment of the 2009/2010 agricultural campaign as well as the food and nutritional situation at the beginning of the lean period;
- ⇨ Proposing measures and actions to prevent and manage potential food and nutritional crises;
- ⇨ Discussing the capacity for increased networking between companies responsible for inventory control and management of national food security stocks in Western Africa.

Created following the disastrous drought in Sahel in 1984, the Food Crisis Prevention Network in the Sahel and West Africa is a unique forum for discussion and exchange on food security issues, facilitating decision-making to better prevent and manage possible food crises. The network brings together experts from aid agencies, multilateral and international organizations (WFP, FAO, WMO, UN-OCHA, EC, etc.), specialized NGOs and local grass-roots organizations.

The RPCA is managed by the Secretariats of the Sahel and West Africa Club (SWAC/OECD) and the Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS).

Journalists are invited to participate to the meeting as observers. A **press conference** will be held at the end of the meeting on **Friday, April 9 2010 at 12:30** in the OECD Conference Centre (room CC7).

INFORMATION

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For further information, please consult the RPCA website at: http://www.food-security.net

Visit the SWAC/OECD website at: www.westafricaclub.org and the CILSS website at: www.cilss.bf