

## SWAC 2010 GLOBAL FORUM

8 December 2010 (TBC)

Accra, Ghana

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### **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 stocks<sup>1</sup>. 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 i) formal presentations aimed at examining the Sahel and West African initiative in the light of the lessons from similar experiences in other regions of the world, and ii) panel discussions among relevant groups of stakeholders from Sahel and West Africa to foster debates and stimulate solutions on critical aspects that may hamper the establishment of stock initiatives.

- **First session:**

Giving voice to representatives of the public or private sector, donors, civil society from regions in the South, it consists of plenary presentations aimed at sharing experiences on regional food stock management among regions 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

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<sup>1</sup> Emergency food stocks herein refer to food stocks held at regional level to respond to food 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 within safety net programmes (food aid, food for work, etc) to ensure timely and efficient delivery of food in case of ad hoc crises. They function as an insurance against shortages.

- **Second session:**

It is divided into three panel sets allowing in-depth debates among various stakeholders on a number of critical topics in order to make South-South cooperation more effective. 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 governance issues in the functioning of regional food stocks and the role of private sector.

→ What to expect from this session?

- Identify roadblocks for regional cooperation at stakeholder level
- Discuss a toolbox of adaptive solutions
- Propose a roadmap for follow-up

## **Participants**

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

## **Logistics**

(to be determined)

## **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

### 7 DECEMBER 2010 (TBC)

16:30 – 17:00 Registration

#### Welcoming drinks

- Objectives and expected results from the Forum - *Mr François Xavier de Donneau, President of SWAC/OCDE*
- Welcome addresses, *Authority of Ghana*

### 8 DECEMBER 2010 (TBC)

8:30 – 09:00 Registration

#### 09:00 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, product composition, stoking/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 – Regional consultant (15mn)

**Background papers:**

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

09:15 – 11:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Opportunities and threats faced by the emerging RESOGEST initiative in Sahel and West Africa countries – <i>El Hadj Dramane COULIBALY, CILSS (15 mn)</i></li><li>• Analysis from the experience of Regional Food Reserve Facility from the SADC - <i>tbd (15 mn)</i></li><li>• Analysis from the experience of Emergency Rice Reserve in Asia – <i>Riza Bernabe, Asian Farmers' Association for sustainable rural development or Ms Nongnooch Deetae, ASEAN(15 mn)</i></li><li>• Analysis from the experience of governments and WFP cooperation through the Latin American and Caribbean Emergency Response Network - <i>tbd (15 mn)</i></li><li>• Open discussion (40mn)</li></ul>
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*Break (20 mn)*

## 11:20 Session 2: Identifying roadblocks and proposing solutions

**Chair:** Mr Ismaïl K. BINGUITCHA-FARE, Commissioner Rural Dev. Natural Ress. & Env. (UEMOA) (TBC)

**Objectives of the session:** Panels will address a number of issues that are critical to emerging regional cooperation dynamics such as the Sahel and West Africa 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 (based on the regional study) – *Regional consultant or Adeline Borot de Battisti (15mn)*

### Background papers:

- Critical analysis of the RESOGEST initiative based on the consultant report (prepared by the regional consultant)

11:35 – 13:00

Panel 1: Policy coherence and institutional arrangements at regional and international level

**Objective:** Panel 1 will discuss issues related to policy coherence and institutional arrangements between national governments and international organisations. Debates will deal with legal aspects of cooperation, coherence of policy tools, and efficiency of food 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 suggestions.

- Moderator: Sophia Murphy, IATP (tbc)
- Panellists : Ministers (Ghana, Niger, Nigeria), OIG (CEDEAO, *Dr Ibrahim Assane Mayaki* (UA/NEPAD), *Ms Milasoa Cherel-Robson* ( UNCTAD), Members of Parliament (*Ms Saran Sereme*, ECOWAS Parliament; ... IPU) ;
- Open discussion

*Lunch break (1h)*

14:00 – 15:30	<p>Panel 2: Harmonization and co-operation among national food stocks:</p> <p><b>Objective:</b> 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"> <li>• Moderator: <i>Ms Nana Yaya Lansry Haidara</i>, CSA Mali</li> <li>• Panellists : Offices (Benin, Burkina Faso, Niger), Members of parliament (Senegal, Mauritania), Regional information system (<i>Mr Salif Diarra</i>, Regional Coordinator RESIMAO; <i>Pr Alhousseini Bretaudeau</i>, Executive Secretary, CILSS)</li> <li>• Open discussion</li> </ul>
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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><b>Objective:</b> 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"> <li>• Moderator: <i>Laurent Bossard</i>, Director a.i. SWAC/OECD</li> <li>• Panellists : Agric. Producers &amp; Interprofessional organisations (<i>Mr Mamadou Cissokho</i>, ROPPA; <i>Mr Soumaila Sanou</i> CIC-B; <i>Mr Mohd Sabo Nanono</i>, AFAN-Nigeria), Marketing associations (Dawanu), Financial system (ECOBANK, BIDC, BOAD)</li> <li>• Open discussion</li> </ul>
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*Break (20mn)*

17:20 – 18:00

***Concluding session***

*Chair: Mr François-Xavier de Donnea, President of SWAC/OECD*

- Key policy messages from the SWAC 2010 Forum – *Dr Ibrahim Assane Mayaki, UA/NEPAD (15mn)*
- The way forward : Next steps – ECOWAS/UEMOA/CILSS (15mn)
- Concluding remarks – *Chair (10mn)*