



African Union



NEPAD Planning and
Coordinating Agency (NPCA)

Preliminary Meeting Notes

Meeting:	The UN Agriculture, Food Security and Rural Development Cluster Meeting
Date of Meeting:	Wednesday, 10 November 2010
Venue:	ECA Conference Hall, Caucus Room 6
Present:	AUC - Boaz Keizire; Yihenew Zebede NPCA - Martin Bwalya FAO - David Phiri; Wuldo Kidane WFP - Menghestab Haile + ILO - Judica Amri-Lawson

Discussion Outcomes:

Discussion Item 1: Capacity building support to the Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture (DREA), NPCA and the RECs in the context of the UN Ten Year Capacity Building Programme (TYCBP);

Outcomes/Decisions:

Meetings reviewed outcomes of the Expert Group Meeting (2-3 Nov, 2010) which reviewed the UN TYCBP. Within this context, the Meeting resolved/Agreed on the following:

- That the AU capacity development needs, in general and AUC, NPCA and RECs capacity needs to provide political, technical and operation leadership on CAADP implementation is the overriding guide for the work of the Cluster
- Agreed to undertake an assessment of capacity situation at AUC, NPCA and RECs in support CAADP implementation including inventorising current related capacity development/support initiatives and determine the gaps
- Important that special capacity development support to AUC and NPCA on CAADP implementation also consider and address complementary capacity development support at RECs
- Align and complement activities that will be defined for AUC, NPCA and RECs capacity development support to the overall CAADP Capacity development framework (under preparation)

Discussion Item 2: Roles of DREA and NPCA in Cluster activities and leadership

Outcomes/Decisions:

- i. agreed as a matter of principle and within the objectives of the RCM, that functioning of the cluster is a joint UN-AU responsibility and therefore recommended that:

- AUC and NPCA will co-chair (on the AU side)
- FAO and WFP will co-chair (on the UN Institutions side)
- ii. It was also agreed that to ensure this is concrete and provide for follow-up, the core functions and responsibilities of the chairs/co-chairs should be defined (also in relation to and within the context of the overall objectives and purpose of the cluster). FAO will develop the first draft
- iii. Noted that NPCA will be central in support information sharing and flow on CAADP activities, status and plans

Discussion Item 3: Feedback and finalisation of the Agriculture Food Security and Rural Development Cluster (AFSRDC) annual report;

Outcomes/Decisions:

- i. Agreed that the Report be endorsed; however, should reflect as a joint cluster Report – was prepared with contribution from cluster members including AUC and NPCA
- ii. Include in the Report main thrust on next steps/planned activities
- iii. The presentation of the Report will also include latest up-dates, e.g. on country implementation status and the GAFSP
- iv. The FAO Assistant Director-General, Mme SEMEDO will most likely present the Agriculture and Rural Development Cluster at the RCM Meeting. The Meeting agreed to investigate possibility of either the Commissioner-DREA or the CEO – NEPAD Agency to give opening statement to this Report including highlighting Africa/AU responsibility to this Report and indeed to the functioning of the cluster (Copy of Report is attached)

Discussion Item 4: Discussion on key Cluster activities for the next 12 months

Outcomes/Decisions:

- i. Agreed to pull together of the action points agreed in above discussion points into a matrix (i.e. a joint work plan) that should also indicate timelines and who is responsible
- ii. Noted that the joint work plan should be simple and focused on few doable activities
- iii. Ultimately this joint work plan should provide for (a) formulation of capacity building support programme for AUC, NPCA and RECs; (b) identification of key joint activities in support of African agriculture, food security and rural development agenda; (c) mobilization of resources for their implementation
- iv. Other areas for collaboration emerging from the meeting
 - 1. Youth and Employment and CAADP/African Agriculture
 - Linked to the discussion Dr. Mayaki had with Mme Amri-Lawson in Dakar, the meeting agreed to explore for concrete mechanisms to integrate and address issue of “Youth and Employment in African Agriculture through CAADP implementation. NPCA and ILO to meet and explore this further (see another note)
 - 2. Inter-cluster Technical Meetings in the margins of CAADP PP
 - Looking at agriculture as more than a sectoral issue, the meeting agreed that the Agriculture cluster should pro-actively engage other clusters. One way to do this will be issue specific meeting AUC-NPCA-REC with UN agencies in the margins of the CAADP PP Meetings