



Rwanda to host CAADP post-compact dialogue

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Rwanda is set to host a Comprehensive Africa Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP) Post-Compact High level Stakeholder Meeting between the 7th and 8th of December 2009 in the country's capital of Kigali.

The high level meeting will bring together national agricultural experts, policymakers, donors and representatives from the African Union (AU), the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), the East African Community (EAC), the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and other regional and international organizations.

The aim of CAADP, which is spearheaded by the AU-NEPAD, is to accelerate agricultural growth and thereby eliminate poverty, which has been steadily increasing throughout the continent over the past two decades. CAADP is based on two major principles: the pursuit of a six percent average annual growth rate at the national level in the agricultural sector, and the allocation of ten percent of national budgets to agriculture.

Rwanda was the first country to sign the CAADP Compact in March 2007. The purpose of this post-CAADP Compact follow-up meeting is to:

- review the achievements registered so far by Rwanda in terms of accelerating the CAADP agenda at the national level;
- analyse and share lessons learned from some of the challenges faced by Rwanda and other African countries in pursuing the CAADP agenda;

- identify opportunities for investment financing from donors, multilateral organizations, the private sector, civil society organizations, farmers and regional economic communities towards Rwanda's agricultural priorities;
- look at the ways in which Rwanda's Agriculture Investment Plan and even the Vision 2020 can act as entry points for support towards agricultural-led development

H.E. President Paul Kagame is expected to open the meeting.

For more information on the meeting and related background documents – please go to the website of Rwanda's Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources <http://www.minagri.gov.rw/> also keep checking on the CAADP website www.nepad-caadp.net for regular updates on the meeting proceedings.