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Report of Committee of Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources on the 3rd EAC peoples agriculture budget summit, held on 31st May 2018 at County Hall, Parliament of Kenya, Nairobi Kenya

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EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY
EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, TOURISM AND NATURAL RESOURCES

REPORT ON THE 3RD EAC PEOPLES AGRICULTURE BUDGET SUMMIT, HELD ON
31ST MAY 2018 AT COUNTY HALL, PARLIAMENT OF KENYA, NAIROBI, KENYA

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ON 02/10/2018

Clerk's Chambers
EALA Headquarters, 3rd Floor
EAC Headquarters
Arusha – TANZANIA

2nd October 2018



1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In June 2014, the African Union (AU) Heads of State and Governments adopted the Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea. This followed the expiry of the Maputo Declaration on the Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) which had broad targets of 6% annual growth in agricultural GDP and allocation of at least 10% of public expenditure on the agriculture sector.

The East African Community's regional agricultural investment plan for 2017-2025 seeks to position the region to feed itself and become exporter of agricultural products, based on its potential and comparative advantages. Investments in the sector promise to have a high multiplier effects particularly in terms of employment creation and food security.

Notwithstanding the region's good performance amongst the 47 countries which implements the CAADP targets, a concern is expressed on areas where EAC countries are below target. Underperformance by the EAC Partner States affects their citizens especially the smallholder farmers, women and the young people. Improving the quantity and quality of financing for agriculture is critically important for a pro-poor pattern of growth because most of the active populations in the region engages with agriculture.

2. THE 3RD EAC PEOPLE'S AGRICULTURE BUDGET SUMMIT

The Non-State actors who are involved with the agriculture sector in collaboration with the East African Assembly (EALA) in particular the Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources (ATNR) organized the 3rd EAC People's Agriculture Budget Summit, held on 31st May, 2018 at County Hall, the Parliament of Kenya. The Summit aimed at strengthening stakeholders' participation in the national and EAC Budget Process with specific reference to agriculture investment plans as guided by the Malabo Declarations. This was a continuation to the 1st and 2nd Summits held in 2015 and 2016 respectively. The theme of the 3rd Summit was ***"Promoting an Inclusive, People Centred EAC Budget Process: Incentives for Prudent Public and Private Investment in Agriculture"***.

The Non-State actors who collaborated with EALA in the preparation of this Summit were the Eastern and Southern Africa Small Scale Farmers Forum (ESAFF), the Trust Africa, Agriculture Non-State Actors Forum (ANSAF), the ActionAid, the Civil Society Budget Advocacy Group (CSBAG), the Food Rights Alliance and like-minded organisations.

3. OBJECTIVES OF THE SUMMIT

The overall objective of the Summit was to catalyse participation and inclusion in public financing, policy making and enhance mutual accountability to benefit smallholder farmers, including women in the EAC region. Specific objectives of the Summit were:-

- a) To re-orient Partners (both State and Non-State Actors) on the key opportunities of engagement in the regional budget process (timeframes and process holders);
- b) To orient Partners (both State and Non-State Actors) on the key spaces and responsibilities around the implementation and reporting mechanism of the Malabo commitments;
- c) To define key stakeholder roles and responsibilities in organizing the annual regional EAC People's Budget Summit;
- d) To reflect on the inaugural Biennial Report and identify key messages to the Heads of State in the respective Partner States; and
- e) To generate and endorse a statement to the heads of states in the respective EAC Partner States prior to the reading of the budget FY 2018/2019 and state national addresses.

4. PARTICIPANTS

The Summit was attended by Members of the Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources of EALA, Chairpersons of Committees on Agriculture from National Parliaments, CAADP Focal points from EAC Partner States, Civil Society Organization (CSOs), Kenya Small Scale Farmers' Forum (KESSFF), Rural Women Farmer Forum (RWFF), OXFAM, Security Water For Food (SWFF), Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), Coffee Development Academy, Green Peace Africa and Media. Other Partners included Trust Africa, ActionAid International, Agriculture Non-State Actors Forum (ANSAF), Food Rights Alliance (FRA), Civil Society Budget Advocacy Group (CSBAG) and Eastern and Southern Africa Small Scale Farmers Forum (ESAFF). The list of participants is attached to this Report as **Annex I**.

5. METHODOLOGY

The Summit was conducted in a participatory approach which included:

- Remarks by key speakers;
- Presentations by resource persons; and
- Interactive/plenary sessions.

6. OFFICIAL OPENING REMARKS

The 3rd EAC people's Agriculture Budget Summit was opened officially by Hon. Gai Deng (the Chairperson of the Committee on Communication, Trade and Investment of EALA) who represented the Speaker of EALA, Rt. Hon. Martin K. Ngoga. In her opening remarks, Hon. Deng commended the Committee on ATNR, the EAC Secretariat and the Non-State Actors for organizing the Summit, which brought together stakeholders dealing with agriculture from the region and beyond to discuss issues related to agriculture.

Hon. Deng noted that agriculture is essential in positioning the region to be able to feed itself and it is critical in leveraging the region to be a food basket. She explained that analysts still consider agriculture to be the backbone of several economies. At EAC, agriculture accounts for 43% of the total GDP in the region, as indicated by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Bank development indicators.

Hon. Deng listed the following Bills enacted by EALA for the purpose of improving the agriculture sector:

- i. the EAC Co-operative Societies Bill, 2014;
- ii. the EAC Forest Management and Protection Bill, 2015;
- iii. the EAC Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Bill, 2013; and
- iv. the EAC Polythene Materials Control Bill, 2016.

She promised that EALA will continue to support the development of the agriculture sector by conducting on-spot assessment and oversight activities on projects, programs and activities of the Community and Partner States.

7. REMARKS BY HON. MATHIAS KASAMBA

Hon. Mathias Kasamba, the Chairperson of the Committee on ATNR of EALA thanked the organizers for bringing together the key stakeholders who are concerned with the improvement of the agriculture sector. He also noted the following:

- i. EALA needs to ensure the Cooperative Bill and other agriculture sector related Bills are assented to and becomes operational;
- ii. EALA should support the formation of the EAC Agriculture Advisory Council. This Council should have linkages to national levels;
- iii. EALA need to undertake oversight activities to fast track the the finalization, implementation and monitoring of the EAC Regional Agriculture Investment Plan (RAIP) and the Zanzibar Resolution on Malabo with issues related to smallholder farmers; and
- iv. EALA to support the organization of the East Africa Budget Summit 2018/2019.

8. REMARKS BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

The Chairperson of the Council of Ministers, Hon. Dr. Kirunda Kivejinja, made the closing remarks of the Summit. He informed the meeting that the Council of Ministers supports and considers the deliberations and recommendations made by relevant stakeholders including the EAC Agriculture People's Summits.

He noted that Articles 105 - 110 of the Treaty provides for the overall objectives under the Agriculture Sector in the Community. The EAC Agricultural and Rural Development Policy (EAC-ARDP) was developed to serve as the initial step in implementing the objectives of the Treaty of ensuring sustainable agriculture development and food security in the EAC region. Likewise, the EAC Vision 2025 underscores agriculture as the driver of industrial transformation and economic prosperity in the EAC.

Hon. Dr. Kivejina noted with concern that EAC have all the required instruments for the promotion and improvement of the agriculture sector, however the sector is still underdeveloped and the region is still facing hunger. He also mentioned the following factors as some of the hindrances to the development of this sector:

- i. Low investment in agriculture;
- ii. Non-modernization of our agriculture;
- iii. Lack of developed human resources;
- iv. Effects of climate change including global warming;
- v. Poor policies and legal framework that could promote agriculture and Food Security;
- vi. Poor infrastructure; and
- vii. Lack of processing industries.

The Hon. Chairperson of the Council of Minister concluded his remarks by emphasizing that the implementation of the Malabo Declaration is one of the key answers to challenges affecting agriculture in the region. He called upon the EAC to develop a regional monitoring and evaluation systems.

9. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

Participants engaged into a plenary discussion to make their observations, present their challenges and recommendations on what should be done in order to promote the agriculture sector in the region. The following are some of the key observations:

- i. Commended EALA and the EAC Secretariat for recognizing the importance of Agriculture in eradication of poverty and employment creation. This was

substantiated by the remarks by the Rt. Hon. Speaker, that agriculture employs over 80% of our population, especially youth and women.

- ii. Noted that the Agriculture Sector's contribution to the region GDP is consistently declining in performance and actual value, for instance in 2015, the sector contribution to GDP declined by 34% in Burundi, 29% in Kenya, 32% in Rwanda, 25% in Tanzania and 23% in Uganda.
- iii. Noted that EAC Partner States budgetary allocation to the agriculture sector has for over 5 years not exceeded 7% even with government's commitment to the Malabo Declaration goal to increase public spending to 10%. It was also observed that appropriated budget line items and capital projects have not fully benefited smallholder farmers. None of the EAC Partner States have reached the 10% Agriculture spending as well as the 6% growth of the agriculture GDP.
- iv. Noted the many challenges that smallholder farmers in the region face including hunger, inadequate access to land, seasonal climatic changes, droughts, floods and other related shocks, limited access to credit for investments, poor implementation of agriculture policies in the EAC, lack of linkage between research and smallholder farmers and inadequate extension services.
- v. Noted that there is limited progress in the implementation of the Zanzibar Resolution namely:
 - a. Fast tracking the domestication of the Malabo Declaration;
 - b. Establishment of the EAC Agriculture Advisory Council; and
 - c. Institutionalization of annual dialogue platform between farmers, Non-State Actors, CAADP focal persons and Chairpersons of the committees on Agriculture of National Assemblies.
- vi. Noted the development and the completion of the EAC Regional Agriculture Investment Plan awaiting adoption by EAC Policy Organs.
- vii. On the Biennial Review Report, commended that the overall average score for the East African Community is 4.64 as compared to 3.94 benchmark for 2017. The Republics of Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda and Uganda were on track. Moreover, out of the seven-commitment areas, the EAC region was on track in four commitment areas namely: Recommitment to CAADP process; Halving poverty through agriculture by 2025; Boosting intra-African trade in agriculture commodities; and Enhancing Mutual accountability for actions and results.

- viii. Observed that EAC Partner States are not on track on enhancing investment finance in agriculture, ending hunger by 2025, and enhancing resilience to climate variability.
- ix. Observed that there is no reliable data because data was not easily accessible to respond to indicators during the Biennial Review process. For example, there was no reliable data on youth engagement in agricultural commodities or women involvement in Agribusiness in all the EAC Partner States.
- x. Observed that a significant growth in food importation among all Partner States is affecting the potential of regional agricultural growth, the ability to feed itself while addressing undernourishment.
- xi. EAC Partner States have taken significant steps to create an enabling environment for intraregional trade, however none of the EAC Partner States is on track to increase intra-regional trade in agricultural commodities and services by the minimum milestone set of 20% growth rate.
- xii. Observed with concern that increased use of GMOs seeds displaces our traditional seeds and force farmers to depend on imported seeds. Traditional seeds are affordable and can easily be shared among the people.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

The 3RD EAC People's Agriculture Budget Summit made the following recommendations:

- a) EAC Secretariat and Partner States should broaden the space and build the capacity for inclusion of relevant state and non-state actors, especially smallholder farmers, women and youth.
- b) EAC should expedite the establishment of the EAC agriculture Advisory Council.
- c) EAC to institutionalize the EAC People's Agriculture Budget Summit within the EAC budget cycle and in the EALA calendar, allocating a budget line, a focal person and provision for jointly holding the Summit with NSAs.
- d) Improvement of quantity and quality of financing for agriculture is critically important for a pro-poor pattern of growth as most of the active populations in the EAC region are engaged in agriculture.
- e) EAC Secretariat to expedite the adoption of the regional agriculture investment plan and its implementation.

- f) EAC Partner States should pay more attention to the three commitment areas of CAADP which they are not on-track.
- g) EAC Partner States to allocate more resources and strengthen capacity and multisector coordination in data collection and collation to address challenges of inadequacy of data and information to monitor and track CAADP implementation.
- h) EAC Partner States to develop plans and improve resource allocation for disaster preparedness policies and strategies and early warning response mechanisms as well as work towards providing insurance.
- i) EAC should initiate the process of research activities aiming at improving traditional seeds.

11. THE WAY FORWARD

Based on the presentations and discussions, the participants adopted the Resolutions attached to this report as **Annex II**. The Committee also requests this august House to adopt the report with Resolution attached. The Committee also requests National Assemblies to consider the implementation of the adopted resolutions.

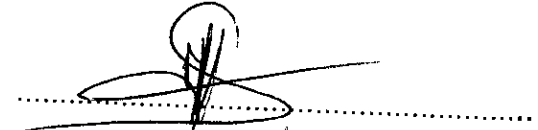
12. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Committee expresses its appreciation to all stakeholders who participated to the 3rd EAC Agriculture People's Budget Summit 2018. Special appreciation goes to the National Assembly of Kenya for hosting the Summit at its premises, the Rt. Hon. Speaker of EALA and the Commission of EALA for allowing this activity to take place. The Committee also appreciates the EAC Secretariat for their engagement with key stakeholders in the agricultural sector.

Finally, but not least, special appreciation and thanks goes to the financers and organizers of this event. These includes Food Rights Alliance, TrustAfrica, ActionAid, Eastern and Southern Africa Small Scale Farmers (ESAFF) and Agriculture Non-State Actors Forum (ANSAF).

REPORT ON THE 3RD EAC PEOPLES AGRICULTURE BUDGET SUMMIT, HELD ON 31ST MAY 2018 IN NAIROBI, KENYA

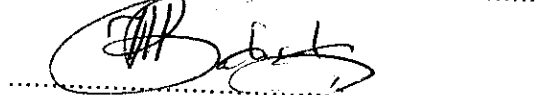
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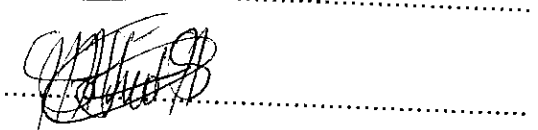
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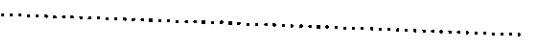
3. Hon. Alex Bahati



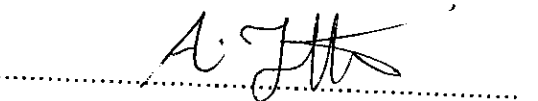
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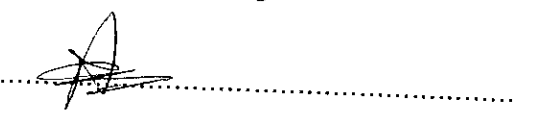
5. Hon. Chris Opoka- Okumu



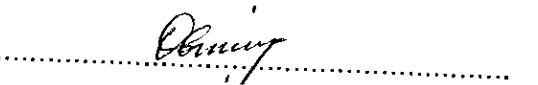
6. Hon. Dr. Anne Itto Leonardo



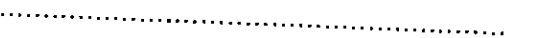
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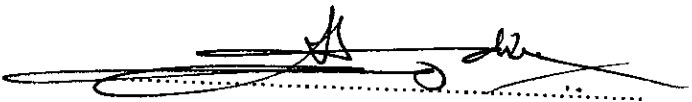
8. Hon. Dr. Oburu Oginga



9. Hon. Dr. Woda Odok Jeremiah



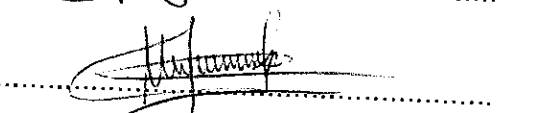
10. Hon. Eng. Mohamed H. Mnyaa




11. Hon. Fatuma Ibrahim Ali



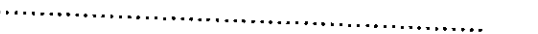
12. Hon. Francoise Uwumukiza



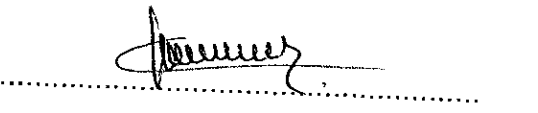
13. Hon. Josephine S. Lemoyan



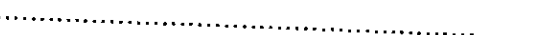
14. Hon. Mary Mugenyi



15. Hon. Mo-Mamo Karerwa



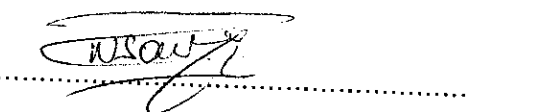
16. Hon. Nooru Adan Mohamed



17. Hon. Pierre Celestin Rwigema



18. Hon. Sophie Nsavyimana





**EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY
EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
THE 3RD EAC PEOPLE'S AGRICULTURE BUDGET SUMMIT
31ST MAY, 2018
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**RESOLUTIONS OF THE 3RD EAC PEOPLE'S AGRICULTURE BUDGET SUMMIT,
31ST MAY, 2018: NAIROBI-KENYA**

1. Linking the regional budget cycle with the national country budget cycle.
2. To institutionalize the EAC Agriculture Peoples Summit within the EALA Budget Cycle i.e. allocating a budget line and a focal person.
3. Expedite the formulation of an EAC agriculture advisory council as resolved by the 3rd EALA in Zanzibar.
4. EALA Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources Committee to strengthen linkages with National Parliaments of Partner States for the harmonization of the Regional Agricultural Investment Plans (RAIPs) and National Agricultural Investment Plans (NAIPs).
5. To enhance inclusiveness by involving all Non-State Actors in monitoring Biennial Report commitments using a simplified monitoring tool.
6. Setting minimum standards on budget allocations for every financial year and beginning by Building regional consensus on the parameters that define the 10% allocation to agriculture.
7. Strengthen and enhance coordination on data management and systems within countries and within the region.
8. The EAC to support Members States to nationalize the Malabo indicators in their national development plans and facilitate the ministries of Agriculture to take up the coordination role.
9. The EAC should open the budget process and create spaces for people's participation in the budget process.