



**EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY
EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, TOURISM AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

REPORT ON THE EAC AGRICULTURE BUDGET SUMMIT, 2016

Arusha International Conference Centre

June 4th 2016

**Clerks Chambers
EAC Headquarters, 3rd floor
EALA Wing,
Arusha
United Republic of Tanzania**

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Abbreviations

AGT	Agriculture Growth and Transformation
ASDS	Agriculture Sector Development Strategy
ASSP	Agriculture Sector Development Strategic Plan
ATNR	Agriculture Tourism and Natural Resources
AU	African Union
CAADP	Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
EAC	East Africa Community
EALA	East Africa Legislative Assembly
ESAFF	Eastern and Southern Africa Small Scale Farmers Forum
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
KESSFF	Kenya Small Scale Farmers' Forum
MP	Member of Parliament
NPCA	NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency
NSA	Non – State Actors
RAAC	Regional Agriculture Advisory Council
SADC	Southern Africa Development Community
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goal
SHF	Smallholder Farmers
SSFs	Small Scale Farmers

I.0. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In June 2014, the Heads of State and Government of the African Union came together in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea and made some bold declaration on “Accelerated African Agricultural Growth and Transformation (AGT)” for shared prosperity and improved livelihoods reaffirming earlier commitments made in Maputo Declaration (2003) and its core principles and values.

Connecting with the broader Africa Agenda 2063 vision towards a broad-based development and economic transformation and growth, African Union/Nepad Planning and Coordinating Agency developed clear results area and expected impact within the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) implementation framework. It highlighted the contribution of agricultural transformation to attaining Agenda 2063 goals, which would also contribute to the realization of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The programme of operationalizing the Malabo Declaration and CAADP implementation strategy underlined the importance of the collective national and regional complementarities in achieving set targets and commitments.

It is within this context that the East African Legislative Assembly Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources in collaboration with the Eastern and Southern Africa Small Scale Farmers and other Partners, organized the Second EAC Agriculture Budget Summit whose theme was “Increasing Public Investment in Agriculture towards Ending Hunger and Poverty by 2025 in the EAC” on June 4th, 2016.

1.1. Objectives of the Summit

The overall objective of the Summit was to support the implementation of the Malabo Declaration (MD) 2014-2025 in order to avoid the failure of the Maputo Declaration 2003 -2008.

Specific objectives of the summit were the following:

- (i) To build synergy for partnership and collaboration between smallholder farmers, EALA Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources, Civil Society Organizations and government Officials for enhanced CAADP implementation within the region;
- (ii) To build evidence-based case and galvanize stakeholders own voices for increased financing for Agriculture in East African region;
- (iii) To increase public awareness on the CAADP Result framework and importance of Public financing of agriculture that supports smallholders as catalyst for improved private sector investment;
- (iv) To enhance Civil Society Organizations, small scale farmers' involvement in agriculture financing policy processes for improved public financing for agriculture at national and the East African Community level;
- (v) To identify challenges and opportunities in realization of the Malabo Declaration and in particular the role that East African Legislative Assembly and National Parliaments can play through enacting appropriate legislations, exercising oversight and ensure representation of farmers and citizens voices towards the realization of Malabo commitments at the EAC Heads of State Summit in November 2016; and
- (vi) To develop a set of recommendations to the East African Legislative Assembly through Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources Committee as input to the Heads of State Summit in November 2016.

1.2. Participants

The Summit was attended by Members of the East Africa Legislative Assembly from the Standing Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources and its staff, Agriculture Committee Chairpersons from EAC National Parliaments and CAADP Focal points from EAC Partner States. Other Partners included Trust Africa, ActionAid International, Agriculture Non-State Actors Forum (ANSAF) and the Coalition of Non-

State Actors on Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP). Other present partners were media and civil society organizations representatives.

1.3. Official Opening

The EAC Budget Summit 2016 was officially opened by Hon. Chris Opoka Okumu representing the Speaker of EALA. In his opening remarks, he congratulated EALA Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources and ESAFF a well-organized summit bringing diverse stakeholders together to discuss agriculture issues. The presence of organizations and Small Scale Farmers in the Summit was a clear indication that they are important stakeholders in the region. He said that Agriculture is the main source of livelihood for most of the population in EAC and contributes a lot to the GDP though the contribution was in decline. He noted that the summit was taking place when EAC is experiencing El-Niño phenomena, occasioning floods, with about 5 SADC countries having declared drought as national disasters. He challenged the gathering at the summit to take stock.

He also said that agriculture is more effective in eradicating poverty than oil or any other sector hence the need to make countries adopt and implement the CAADP and the Malabo Declaration using a bottom-up approach. He also seconded the creation of an EAC Agricultural Advisory Council as a platform for exchange and learning between EALA and Small Scale Farmers and also speed up harmonization of agriculture development policies in the EAC region. He committed that EALA is ready to work with ESAFF and Small Scale Farmers to ensure that CAADP is implemented by Partner States.

He also discussed the significant contribution EALA has brought in the region including:

1. Formulation of key recommendations to strengthen the agriculture sector, in line with the Maputo Declaration on "Agriculture and Food Security" and Malabo

Declaration on "Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods".

2. Taking up the issues of land rush which is a hindrance to agriculture development in the region and in Africa in general.
3. Advocating for adequate budget allocation for the agriculture sector at regional level;
4. Overseeing development of a regional legal framework on sustainable investment in agriculture.

2.0. METHODOLOGY

The works of the Summit were carried out in a participatory approach which included:

- Opening and closing remarks;
- Presentations;
- Panel discussions; and
- Interactive sessions.

3.0. FINDINGS

3.1. Presentations by Partner States Representatives

The Summit had presentations on the country progress on the implementation of the Malabo Declaration (Progress, challenges, lessons learnt and recommendations). Key analysis and findings on Public Investment in agriculture were presented from the five EAC Partner States. To build momentum for collective action on public financing for agriculture within the East African region, the meeting discussed East African farmers' budget statement.

Farmers' views

The farmers recommendations on what could be done to ensure the region consistently move towards realization of the Malabo Declaration include:

1. The need to allocate 10 percent to the agriculture sector annually;
2. The need to enhance monitoring and mutual accountability in the implementation of the Malabo; and
3. Use of these recommendations by the farmers, media and Civil Society Organisations in the EAC region to engage their Members of Parliaments and relevant sector ministries (Finance, Agriculture, Local government, Livestock, fisheries and Trade) to improve their budgets to fit the demand of smallholder farmers within the new CAADP Result framework.

3.2. Panelists discussions

3.2.1. Panel I : Maputo/Malabo Declarations: Challenges and opportunities to increase public agro-financing

The panelists in the session included the CAADP Focal persons from EAC Partner States and the Chairperson of the EALA Committee of Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources. The following are findings from Partner States representatives:

Burundi

Although there was no CAADP representative from Burundi, it was reported by other present stakeholders from Burundi that there was political will to achieve the Malabo Declaration. The government is allocating 10 percent to agriculture sector already. However, there is a need to create more awareness about the Declaration.

Kenya

- The Agriculture Sector Development Strategy (ASDS) and the vision 2030 take care of agriculture issues in Kenya.
- Implementing process started way back in 2010. After the Malabo Declaration, Kenya was to review the Agriculture Sector Development Strategy that didn't involve devolution.
- The CAADP process has been slow but there was great and measureable progress.
- During the review of the ASDS, it was decided that extension services and budgeting of the sector would be done at the county level rather than national level.
- There will be full participation of communities including farmers in the budget process and the development of different policies.
- On the issue of developing CAADP implementation framework, the government is developing the monitoring and evaluation framework and stakeholders at county level will have their say and their views will be incorporated into the framework. However, a cross section of farmers may not be represented at all levels because of their big numbers. Thus it is paramount for them to be more organized in Small Scale Farmers.
- It was observed that government working through organized farmer networks is very important but it was the responsibility of farmers to decide who represents them. However, farmers need to choose leaders who are able to represent them well when engaging with the government.
- In the present, farmers under KESSFF (ESAFF) are already organized and can work with government.
- On the issue of Small Scale Farmers being involved in developing and implementing policies and budgets, the Kenyan constitution calls for the participation of citizen including Small Scale Farmers. The budget process involves farmers from grassroots to national level.

- On the issue of the role of parliament and CSOs in terms of campaigning for the allocation of 10 percent budget to agriculture, it was noted that they emphasis should also be directed to monitoring what the investment in agriculture are solving at the moment.
- It was also noted that agriculture is connected to other sectors like water and infrastructure among others.
- There was new land law being formulated in Kenya but thinking of land without focusing on its productivity is useless.
- The government was promoting climate smart agriculture, and livestock and produce insurance as well as addressing post-harvest losses.
- The government had also set up funds for youth and women which they can use for business along the agriculture value chain and it is encouraging training in agriculture in schools and institutions.

Uganda

- The CAADP was embraced in Uganda by the government as an approach of developing the agriculture sector.
- Uganda is on track towards full implementation of the CAADP.
- CAADP implementation is being done through Agriculture Sector Development Strategic Plan (ASSP) which is in line with the Development Strategy and Investment Plan (DSIP).
- Agriculture investment in Uganda could be above 10 percent of national budget given the fact that the development of the sector is linked to other sectors like transport and energy among others.
- On development of the CAADP result framework, a draft framework is being developed in alignment with the EAC CAADP result framework which would fit into the African CAADP results framework.
- On the issue of whether it is possible for Small Scale Farmers (SSFs) to take part in the tracking of processes and implementation of the agriculture budget and whether the current approach was working or

needs improvement, it was noted that that the process in Uganda involved all stakeholders and that some improvement to increase the participation of Small Scale Farmers was noted.

- Both recurrent and current budgeting for agriculture should strengthen the stakeholder approach that would lead to more achievements.

Tanzania

- CAADP compact process started in 2014. It involved the President and the Ministries showing their commitment towards increased investment in agriculture and showing political will to make it happen.
- There was the involvement of state and Non-State Agencies in the process but Tanzania was yet to reach 10 percent but great advances have been reached towards the Malabo commitments.
- There was a call for more involvement of women and youth in the process and a standalone framework can't address that; there was therefore need for stakeholders to work together in developing the agriculture sector in the region.
- It was noted that government should use stakeholders like farmers' organizations and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in educating the public about CAADP and Malabo Declaration.
- It was also noted that the private sector, Civil Society and farmers' organizations are very important pillars in the domestication of the Malabo Declaration.
- The trend of agriculture investment is not consistent but SSFs should not only focus on 10 percent but ensure that proper implementation of the budget allocated to the sector is properly utilized.

Rwanda

- Although Rwanda was not represented at the Summit, stakeholders applauded the country to have achieved the 10 per cent allocation to Agriculture and that the CAADP Framework implementation is on track.

3.2.2 Panel 2 : Fulfilment of the Malabo Declaration: *the role of law makers.*

The panelists in the session included Hon. Christopher Bazivamo, Hon. Adolphe Mbonimpa MP Burundi, Hon. Adan Mohamed Nour, MP Kenya, Hon. Mary Nagu (MP Tanzania), Hon. Godfrey Kiwanda (MP Uganda) and Mr. Hakim Baliraine (Farmer from Uganda).

3.2.2.1. Parliamentarians' views

At regional level

- Members wish to see EAC governments allocating 10 percent to agriculture sector as well as fulfilling other commitments in the Malabo Declaration.
- Participation of women and youth in the process is very important as they make the largest percentage of the population;
- National parliamentarians should spearhead the campaign to increase budgetary allocation to the sector;
- EALA should also play its role in the implementation of the CAADP and the Malabo Declaration;
- EALA should follow-up on the implementation of the EAC Agriculture Policy and Food Security Strategy.
- Small Scale Farmers and policy makers should continue to follow-up on the budget allocated to the agriculture sector;
- Parliamentarians should also do more to promote accountability.

At National level

Burundi

On what policy makers in specific countries have been doing to contribute towards achieving the Malabo Declaration,

- Burundi had passed major policies for addressing poverty and improving livelihood though some challenges including poor organization of Small Scale Farmers, lack of a bank supporting Small Scale Farmers and poor governance among others were observed.
- 10 percent toward agriculture in Burundi have contributed toward the improvement of livelihood and this percentage will be maintained.
- Members of Parliaments will continue to encourage the government to continue supporting the sector.
- Recommendations from the summit will be shared at the national level.

Kenya

- Different departments are working in collaboration with agriculture sector in Kenya and their linkages with other sectors.
- With the constitutional review of 2014 that gave power and mandate of budget process to the parliament; the Ministry of Finance is vested with the powers to collect revenue.
- There is a high competition among sectors for more budget allocation.
- The public including small Scale Farmers (SSFs) should participate in the budget process due to the shortage of time set for budgeting.
- Kenya is collecting revenue of 50 percent of their national budget. Yet 50 percent of the funds in the different sectors go to wages hence capital investment is low.

- Parliament has passed many laws that will help in managing both the sector as well as different institutions that contribute towards agriculture development.
- Government investments initiatives in developing the sector include investment in irrigation, food and fertilizer subsidies, and value addition.
- There is a need to encourage the youth not only to invest in value addition but also to support the youths to engage in agriculture production.
- MP from Kenya also pledged to support the process and said that government is developing an agriculture bank for farmers in Kenya.

Tanzania

- There is need to domesticate the Malabo declaration because people are still dying of hunger and malnutrition despite that there are nice fertile lands in EAC;
- There are a lot of untapped opportunities in agriculture , for government and other stakeholders;
- MPs need to know the concerns of SSFs during the planning process and these should be given a large portion of the budget so as to address issues of climate change and markets;
- There was emphasis on the need to support women in agriculture as they contribute a lot towards earning from agriculture.
- There was a promise to continue pushing for more investment in agriculture and proposal for the summit to be organized annually;
- There was a commitment from the panelist to meet the committee responsible for Agriculture and also to discuss with relevant Ministries on the matter;
- To advise SSFs to stop considering agriculture as a subsistence farming and instead consider the use of advanced agricultural technology.
- There was a call on SSFs to be organized and be well represented.

Uganda

- Agriculture investment is a cross - cutting issue thus different ministries can also be factored in, such are ministries of energy, water, gender, environment, land and Public works that have a part in modernizing agriculture and its development.
- The government of Uganda has done a lot to develop agriculture, although there is still a need to popularize the Malabo Declaration, and support the development of the sector.

3.3. Interactive Sessions and Emerging Issues

- It was observed that if one invests in health, infrastructure and any other relevant sector, this contributes to agriculture development. They also noted that the 10 percent in the Malabo Declaration is exclusively funds set aside for agriculture.
- They observed that agriculture production mainly involves old generation and they called for more involvement of youth in the production and the whole value chain.
- The issue of corruption and bad governance were seen as hindrances to food security and are the cause of failure to eradicate poverty.
- There was emphasis on the need and the importance to address the linkages, efficiency and effective utilization of the budget allocated.
- There was a commitment to give feedback from the Summit to farmers at the grassroot level.
- They noted that agriculture was the back-bone of the economy and employs over 60%; thus 10 percent allocation to agriculture was not asking too much for such a powerful sector.
- They called on the government to analysis of sectors according to the contribution towards the livelihood of population and then plan accordingly.

- The EAC Partner States should commit to full allocation of 10 percent to the agriculture sector.
- Trading in agriculture produce for SSFs is curtailed. Therefore, legislators should find a way to open the borders for trade in agriculture produce.
- There is need to appreciate the contribution of SSFs and the private sector to the development of economies of EAC.
- They observed that it was also paramount to have youths involved in the whole process of planning for agriculture sector. In involving youths, there is need to avail land banks for youth who want to venture into agriculture.
- Climate change should be incorporated in all the other frameworks related to agriculture.
- There was need for political will to make the process a success.
- Need to know how best the laws made at the EAC level can be implemented at grassroots level.
- The need to institutionalize the process that ESAFF has started of organizing EAC Summit.
- Farmers called for CSOs to carry out grassroots research on campaigning for Malabo Declaration and share the results with parliamentarians and the ministries.
- Call on policy- makers to differentiate the budget allocated to SSFs, middle and large scale farmers.
- Concern on the approach of credit facilities that doesn't consider SSFs because of its set-up.
- MPs pledged to work with CSOs like ESAFF to work towards improving financing for agriculture.
- Need for SSFs to start thinking big and stop thinking small thus encouraging them to carry out farming as a business venture.
- Encourage farmers to track and participate in the policy statement presentation in parliament leading to influencing the budget.

- On the issue of accessing markets, there is need for farmers to grade themselves and start planning of adding value to their produce.
- There is need to develop African Standards under African Union.
- The idea of working together with small scale farmers is very important and should be sustained towards better development.

4.0. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

From the interactive sessions with stakeholders, the Committee observed the following:

1. The Budget Summit was appreciated by all the stakeholders who recommended its institutionalization on an annual basis.
2. There is political will to domesticate the Malabo Declaration.
3. There is need to create more awareness on the Malabo Declaration.
4. The small scale farmers demonstrated a firm commitment to invest and transform the agricultural sector
5. There is a need to involve the youth in agriculture production and in the whole value chain.
6. It was noted that other sectors such as transport, trade, education and health have direct linkages to the effective agricultural transformation.
7. All stakeholders, including women and youth should be involved in the planning, implementation and monitoring of the agriculture sector.
8. It was noted that there should be public and stakeholder participation in policy making and budgetary allocation.
9. Commitment to report issues discussed in the summit to the entire Assembly and share the report with National Parliaments.

5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

From the presentations, interactive sessions and the final communique from the Summit the Committee recommends the following:

- i. Urge the EAC Partner States to put in place Legal and Regulatory Frameworks which are responsive to the needs of smallholder farmers, the youths and women and involve them while drafting these instruments.
- ii. Urge EAC Partner States to draft, review and amend national legislations, regulations, standards and policy frameworks addressing agriculture, land, water, environment, infrastructure, energy policies, budgets, and development programmes which are compliant to the Malabo Declaration.
- iii. Urge EAC Partner States Governments to allocate budgets to agriculture that reach the Malabo Declaration target of at least 10% annually or at least progressively. The main focus should be on financing smallholder centered programmes like extension services, research, input support, improving access to finance and market.
- iv. Urge Governments of EAC Partner States to seek to increase the quality of investments through addressing national priorities connected with farmers own priorities, closing leakages, corruption, wastages and increasing absorption rate in the agriculture sector with a correlation between budget allocation, agriculture returns and sectoral growth targets.
- v. Urge EAC Partner States Governments to focus on efficient utilization of budget allocations.

- vi. Urge EAC Partner States governments to use a bottom-up approach, be producer- centered and ensure a trickledown effect to smallholder producers, women and youths during Planning, Budgeting, Implementation and Monitoring of programmes.
- vii. Urge EAC Partner States to ensure budgetary priorities respond to the needs and priorities of the smallholder food producers, youths and women and investment is called for in highly productive value chains enterprises through increasing allocations, capacitating youths and women to utilize opportunities.
- viii. Urge Partner States to raise competitiveness in Agriculture through investing in agri- industries, infrastructure, energy, water, roads, and access to market for smallholders.
- ix. Urge EAC/EALA to expedite the domestication of the Malabo Declaration 2014 -2025 by putting in place regional legally binding protocol or instruments to ensure regional realization of its goals.
- x. Urge the EAC Council of Ministers to transmit these recommendations to the Heads of State Summit scheduled for November 2016 for their endorsement.
- xi. Urge the EAC Secretariat to institutionalise a Regional Agriculture Advisory Council to advise on the harmonization of regional agriculture policy frameworks and programmes; the council could comprise of EAC/EALA Secretariat and Partner States Representatives, Academia, Regional Farmer Organisations and Civil Society as well as Consumers;
- xii. Urge the Council to prioritize regional harmonisation of national laws, policies and strategies on Agriculture and Food Security to ease urgent implementation of Malabo commitments by Partner States.

- xiii. Urge Partner States to put in place/enhance inter- agency collaboration at local, national, regional and continental levels in the implementation of Malabo Commitments.
- xiv. Urge the Council of Ministers to take actions aimed at enforcement of the Recommendations/Resolutions adopted by EALA on Agriculture, Food Security and Climate Change.
- xv. Urge the EAC Secretariat to expedite development of the strategy to strengthen coordination and regional collaboration in the Implementation of Malabo commitments.
- xvi. Urge National Parliaments to use their cardinal roles to popularize the Malabo Declaration to enhance citizens' knowledge and create capacity to put pressure and demand corresponding allocations from governments.
- xvii. Urge National Parliaments to ensure that governments put in place platforms for mutual accountability to urge increased government responsiveness.
- xviii. Urge National Parliaments to put in place Parliamentary Agriculture committees and Districts Councils to institute collaboration and dialogue frameworks with smallholder farmers, Non- State Actors so as to review implementation and performance of the agriculture sector and in particular the Malabo Commitments and ensure that all planned programmes are climate Change compliant to avoid losses in small scale Farmers investments.
- xix. Urge EALA and National Parliaments to carry- out sensitization programmes to reach out policy- makers including ministers responsible for Agriculture to ensure the EAC Food Security Action Plan (2011-2015) and the EAC Climate Change Policy have been properly implemented as directed by the 9th EAC

Heads of State Summit as well as the proper implementation of the Malabo commitments by Partner States.

- xx. Urge EALA to institutionalize an annual dialogue framework between Farmers, Non-State Actors, Partner States CAADP Focal Persons, Agriculture Parliamentary Committee Chairpersons and the EALA Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources (ATNR) Committee, through an annual Conference. The conference should promote dialogue on the implementation of the Malabo commitments so as to enhance mutual accountability within the agriculture sector in the region, as well as fronting new ideas.

6.0. CONCLUSION AND WAY FORWARD

The Committee noted with appreciation the successful organization of the Second EAC Budget Summit and commends all who made it so. They found from the Summit that there is in Partner States political will towards investing in Agriculture and found that it is paramount for Parliamentarians and farmers to work together to make this sector prosperous. They also found that some categories of the society like women and youth should be involved in planning, implementation and monitoring of agriculture programmes.

As a way forward, participants to the Summit formulated and adopted a Communique from which the Committee will blend a Resolution urging Partner States to fast track domestication of the Malabo Declaration and African Union Heads of States Commitments within it.

The Rt. Hon. Speaker of EALA represented by Hon. Chris Opoka Okumu officially closed the Summit. He assured that the issues raised and recommendations made by farmers had been noted by MPs. He requested stakeholders to follow up on commitments made

by both regional and national Parliamentarians. He was emphatic that there is need for follow-up on the commitment to promote small scale farmers involvement in the policy development process and supported institutionalization of the annual EAC Agriculture Budget Summit. He assured of the commitment towards the implementation of the Malabo Declarations at the EAC and national levels.

7.0. Acknowledgements

The Committee wishes to thank all the stakeholders who participated to the Second EAC Budget Summit 2016. These include Partner States CAADP Focal Points Persons, Members of National Parliaments, Small Scale Farmers, Civil Society Organizations and International Organizations representatives.

Specifically, the Committee commends the Rt. Honourable Speaker of the East African Legislative Assembly for officially opening and closing this important Summit through his representative.

The Committee expresses its appreciation to the Eastern and Southern Africa Small Scale Farmers for organizing a very successful event and for their continuous efforts in ensuring the Malabo Declaration is domesticated by EAC Partner States. It expresses its gratitude to Small scale farmers for using the Summit as the starting point to influence investment in agriculture in their respective countries.

The Committee finally appreciates all presenters for their insightful presentations and participants for taking part in the Summit and for their contributions in it. The Committee calls for issues tabled by participants to be acted upon.

Mr. Speaker Sir, I beg to move.