

# CONFERENCE REPORT

## Trade and Economic Development, Focus on Agriculture

REPORT ON REGIONAL SEMINAR: SOUTHERN AFRICA, TRADE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
SPECIAL FOCUS: AGRICULTURE, CAPE TOWN, 18 MARCH 2007



### Championing CAADP: Toward raising budget allocations for agriculture to a minimum of 10% of total public spending

The main topic MPs discussed was parliamentary action in support of the NEPAD Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) P 3

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### Framework for Parliamentary Action on CAADP

After extensive discussions and debates, a regional parliamentary Action Plan for southern Africa "Framework for Parliamentary Action on CAADP" was adopted, which will serve as a basis for discussion in subsequent regional seminars P 10

NO. 7

# Identifying parliamentary action to increase CAADP implementation in the national parliaments

**M**r. Par Granstedt introduced the programme Mobilising Parliamentarians for NEPAD (see below), which is at the base of this Expert Working Group and the Regional Seminar. He explained that his hope was for the discussions during the two days to result in a concrete framework for parliamentary action identifying what parliamentarians can do to raise awareness and ultimately to accelerate national implementation of the AU's CAADP.

**M**r. Granstedt noted that the objective of the seminar was for participants:

- to review the special agricultural development needs for the southern African region
- to finalise and endorse a parliamentary action plan
- to launch the national follow up process, aimed at pushing for national level action planning and implementation.

Addressing the need to also discuss the role European MPs could play in support of NEPAD and CAADP in the framework of the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, he emphasised that

developing countries should be able to protect their markets. He cautioned the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank, and other donors against putting limitations on governments with regard to market growth. Finally, he stressed that agriculture, sustainability, market access and marketing of products needed to be given high priority in Africa, in order to ensure that raw goods as well as the finished products can be marketed (e.g. coco butter and chocolate bars).

The Regional Seminar on Trade and Economic Development with a focus on Agriculture was hosted by the South African Parliament and co-organised by



*Mr. Granstedt, Vice-President of AWEPA*

the NEPAD Secretariat, the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank (PNoWB), the World Bank (WB) and AWEPA, with the support of the SADC Parliamentary Forum (SADC PF) and the Pan-African Parliament (PAP). Mr. Granstedt thanked the partners for their commitment, as well as SIDA and DBSA, who generously contributed to the realisation of this activity.

## MOBILISING PARLIAMENTARIANS AROUND NEPAD

**T**he Regional Seminar was hosted by the South African Parliament and co-organised by the NEPAD Secretariat, the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank (PNoWB), the World Bank and AWEPA, with the support of the SADC Parliamentary Forum and the Pan-African Parliament. Regional seminars on agriculture are also planned for East and West Africa, in September and October 2007 respectively.



All relevant documents, including the presentations made during the Seminar, can be downloaded from AWEPA's web site under Projects, Expert Workshop and Regional Seminar 17-18 March.

This activity is part of a larger process, which started with a NEPAD Secretariat/AWEPA Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to mobilise action around NEPAD from national and Pan-African parliamentarians. As a result, the parliamentary support programme "Mobilising Parliaments for NEPAD" (MPN), was developed with the support of SIDA.

The programme aims at facilitating a greater involvement in the NEPAD process for African and European parliaments, by raising awareness and promoting parliamentary action in various areas of development relating to the NEPAD initiative and was endorsed by main African parliamentary fora: the Pan-African Parliament, the African Parliamentarians Forum on NEPAD, the

East African Legislative Assembly (EALA), the ECOWAS Parliament, the NEPAD Contact Group of African parliamentarians (NCGAP), and SADC-Parliamentary Forum.

For 2007, the main cross-cutting themes are:

- Conflict Management, Peacebuilding and Regional Cooperation
- Trade and Development: Special Focus Agriculture and Private Sector Development

For 2008:

- Health and Development: Special Focus HIV and AIDS as well as Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC)
- Sustainable Development: Special Focus Climate

*Regional seminars on agriculture are also planned for the East Africa (27-28 September 2007, Kenya) and West Africa (3-4 October 2007, Benin).*

## Championing CAADP: Toward raising budget allocations for agriculture to a minimum of 10% of total public spending

The main topic discussed was parliamentary action in support of the NEPAD Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP), setting budget allocations for agriculture to a minimum of 10% of total public spending agriculture by 2008.

On Saturday 17 March 2007, 15 experts met in the framework of an Expert Group meeting to exchange expertise and prepare the content of the Regional Seminar on Trade and Economic Development with a focus on agriculture, planned for the day after, at which 35 experts and members of Parliaments from 10 southern African countries addressed acceleration of CAADP implementation at the national level.

The following results can be reported: During the Expert Working Group, experts on agriculture:

- shared information, identified and analysed the main paradigms around agriculture in Africa and assisted in streamlining the discussion around agriculture on the subsequent day
- identified measures to be integrated into parliamentary work
- reviewed and endorsed a draft Action Plan to serve as a basis for discussion for the regional seminars planned to take place in Eastern and Western Africa as part of the programme “Mobilising Parliaments for NEPAD (MPN)”

The discussion arrived at positive results, which will feed into and guide the programmes and agendas of the subsequent regional seminars on



agriculture organised in the framework of the MPN programme.

During the Regional Seminar, Members of Parliament in the southern African region:

- were briefed on the NEPAD CAADP agenda, with special focus on the role that parliament can possibly play in achieving the goals of the CAADP and while giving fair consideration to gender issues;
- were provided with a forum for championing the CAADP agenda, and the special needs for agricultural development in the southern African region, including gender issues;
- identified measures to integrate more support to agricultural development into their parliamentary work and developed an Action Plan on the topics discussed, to be tabled in their national parliaments.

After extensive discussions and debates, a regional parliamentary Action Plan for southern Africa “Framework for

Parliamentary Action on CAADP” was adopted (see page 10). This document will serve as a basis for discussion in similar regional seminars, which will take place in East and West Africa (27-28 September, Nairobi, Kenya and 3-4 October Cotonou, Benin respectively). The objective of this series of regional parliamentary seminars on agriculture is to develop regional and eventually national parliamentary action plans to ensure parliamentary efforts in support of CAADP are maximised.

It is expected that the following mid to long-term outcomes will be achieved:

- the national parliaments will be in a position to have better informed debates on progress on NEPAD and CAADP agendas during Committee meetings and plenary sessions;
- the discussions during this seminar and the seminar outputs, especially the tabling of the Action Plan within the national parliaments, will lead to better awareness on NEPAD and CAADP, including gender issues, within the national parliaments in the Southern African region;
- the increased information on NEPAD will assist the national parliaments to initiate the monitoring of parliamentary action nationally;
- the participants are capacitated to integrate the measures identified for increased CAADP implementation into parliamentary work.

In 2008, national follow up will track the national measures taken in support of the CAADP agenda since this regional seminar to ensure a vigorous national CAADP implementation process.





## What is CAADP?

**T**he Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) was developed by the FAO and the NEPAD Steering Committee, endorsed at the Conference of African Ministers of Agriculture, held at the FAO in Rome in June 2002, and has been given very high priority by the African Union and NEPAD.

The CAADP has been prepared to promote interventions that best respond to the widely recognised crisis situation of African agriculture and focuses on investments into four “pillars” that can make a difference to Africa’s Agricultural crisis:

- extending the area under sustainable land management and reliable water control systems;

- improving rural infrastructure and trade-related capacities for market access;
- increasing food supply and reducing hunger;
- and engaging in agricultural research, technology dissemination and adoption.

During the Africa Union Food Summit (July 2003), African Heads of State and Government adopted the so called “Maputo Declaration on Agriculture and Food Security in Africa,” and agreed to implement CAADP by making agriculture a top priority and to raise budget allocations for agriculture to a minimum of 10% of their individual countries’ total public spending by 2008.

The Abuja Declaration, adopted at the Abuja Food Security Summit, the Fish for All Summit, the Africa Fertilizer Summit and the Cocoa Summit, convened by African Union Ministers of Agriculture in Abuja, Nigeria, on 12 June 2006, is the most recent one, and can be seen as a synthesis of all prior declarations. The five-point action plan outlined must therefore receive concerted attention:

- develop agrodealers (rural stockists) across rural Africa;
- establish national agricultural input credit guarantee facilities;
- set up “smart” subsidies for the poor and vulnerable;
- organise regional fertiliser procurement and distribution centres, remove trade barriers, promote local fertilizer manufacturing.

## Parliamentary Action around CAADP

**T**he Pan-African conference “Championing Agricultural Success for Africa’s Future in Support of CAADP”, which took place in Cape Town 16-18 May 2006, noted the paramount importance of agriculture for African development, including general economic growth, sustainability, poverty eradication and the Millennium Goals, and set general principles for parliamentary engagement.

The conference highlighted the need of African governments and parliaments, as well as international partners, to give agriculture higher priority in the development efforts. The outcome of the conference was the “Cape Town Proclamation: Parliamentarians’ Recommendations Supporting CAADP Goals in Championing Agricultural Successes for Africa’s Future”, in which a number of recommendations were given to achieve the goals of the CAADP at different levels: AU/NEPAD level, national level, development partners and parliamentarians.

The following actions were recommended by the participants concerning the role of parliamentarians:

- designate the agriculture and associated committees of parliament to monitor progress towards the CAADP goals;
- annually verify the implementation of the CAADP programme, including

progress towards the Maputo Declaration by reviewing annual budget allocations and actual expenditure;

- engage in sub-regional dialogues;
- alert constituencies to the importance of agriculture and increased investment in agriculture;
- require briefings by the executive to parliament on all initiatives related to agriculture;
- monitor governments progress in achieving the Maputo Declaration;
- introduce private member resolutions advocating achievement of the Maputo Declaration;
- parliamentarians should take a leading role in fighting HIV/AIDS;
- encourage exchanges of experience and mutual learning with other parliamentarians and technical experts.

The parliamentary support programme “Mobilising Parliaments for NEPAD” (MPN), builds on the “Cape Town Proclamation”. This Regional Seminar followed up on the PAP conference to identify parliamentary action for Southern Africa around CAADP in more detail. The same is planned for East and West Africa. ●

## Gender and CAADP

**A**mong frequent criticisms of the first version (2002) of the CAADP is the lack of explicit reference to gender. As indicated in Chapter 5, “special attention must be given to the vital food-producing and entrepreneurial roles of women in rural and urban African communities. African women account for substantial amounts of production in both the informal and formal sectors.” It is clearly essential that gender be a core consideration in operationalising the CAADP; at this stage, the broad pillars are important for both men and women.

Another important aspect of the agricultural sector is that the majority of Africa’s poor working in the agricultural sector are women. The basic document used is the “Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People’s Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa” was adopted by African Heads of State during the Summit of the African Union in Maputo in July 2003.

Article 15 of the Protocol states: “State parties shall ensure that women have the right to nutritious and adequate food. In this regard, they shall take appropriate measures to: provide women with access to clean drinking water, sources of domestic fuel, land, and the means of producing nutritious food”. Article 19 contains the following agreement: “State parties shall take all appropriate measures to: facilitate women’s access to land and guarantee their right to property, whatever their marital status”. ●

Expert Workshop 17 March 2007

## Setting the Tone

The aim of the Expert Working Group was to develop a draft parliamentary action plan on the implementation of CAADP in preparation of the regional seminar, taking place a day later. The discussion arrived at positive results, which will guide the programmes and agendas of the subsequent regional seminars planned for East Africa and West Africa.

### “Agricultural development must be a concerted effort led by parliamentarians”

Mr. Granstedt, AWEPA Secretary General and Mr. Augustin Wambo, FAO Associate Agriculture Policy Expert, NEPAD Secretariat both emphasised the importance of seeing this Expert Workshop and the subsequent Regional Seminars to be organised in the framework of the MPN programme as follow up action to the Pan-African conference “Championing Agricultural Success for Africa’s Future in Support of CAADP”, which took place in Cape Town 16-18 May 2006.

This conference resulted in clear recommendations, also for parliamentary action (see section on Background) and stressed the need for parliamentary capacity building. The NEPAD Secretariat contacted AWEPA to see how both institutions could cooperate on the implementation of this consultation process in Africa and together the NEPAD Secretariat and AWEPA plan to work on increasing parliamentarians' knowledge and expertise on agricultural issues and on developing implementable work plans around agricultural policy for parliamentarians. Mr. Wambo noted that all stakeholders needed to participate in these efforts toward developing a more sustainable capacity building concept for parliamentarians and stressed that new ideas and efforts were highly appreciated by the NEPAD Secretariat. Mr. Granstedt

made it very clear that parliamentarians have a central role to play in the implementation of the latest agriculture resolutions, the Maputo Declaration and the Abuja Declaration (June 2006).

Hon. Louis Chimango, Speaker of the Malawi Parliament and Vice-Chair of the PAP Committee on Rural Economy, Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment, was also Chair of the Southern African Development Community Parliamentary Forum (SADC PF) for 5 years. Hon. Chimango was very keen on ensuring a link was made between agriculture and poverty reduction. Mr. Tesfai Teclé, Assistant Director-General, Technical Cooperation Department, Food and Agriculture Organisation, also stressed that agriculture is the key to tackling poverty, growth and natural resource management and that while trade is dependent on agriculture, everything is linked back to it. Therefore parliamentarians need to ensure that adequate resources are allocated for agricultural development. ●

## Strong Discussion Basis for Subsequent Regional Seminars

During a round table discussion, all experts present brought their issues of concern to the table. CAADP 2006 implementation was reviewed in order to identify the key issues to focus on during the discussions leading to a draft parliamentary Action Plan.

### “The Abuja Declaration is a synthesis of all major declarations from the past”



Participants discussing

Mr. Wambo and Mr. Granstedt introduced the session by recalling the existing declarations and their sections most relevant for parliamentary work (Section 4 of the Cape Town Declaration and the Abuja Declaration on Food Security). Mr. Wambo reminded participants that while many meetings have already taken place on food security issues, resulting in many declarations, the most urgent action needed now was to look back at what has made Africa fail, and to identify how the action agenda should be taken forward. Nevertheless, he also recognises that unfortunately a large majority of parliamentarians are just not yet aware of these important treaties and that capacity building measures must be undertaken to ensure they are better informed. Hon. Chimango felt that the main problem was not the parliamentarians' lack of awareness, as he finds them increasingly aware of Maputo, Cape Town and Abuja, rather he stressed the importance of governance structures, as they are very important to the development of agricultural policy and poverty reduction. ●



## “Women need opportunities at all levels”

**Dr. Ruvimbo Mabeza-Chimedza, Agriculture, Food Security and Rural Development Consultant** noted her concern about the lack of gender mainstreaming in the Cape Town Declaration and advised that gender and women’s issues be incorporated across the board in these two day deliberations on agriculture. Economic losses occur because women are not given opportunities at all levels and this needs to be changed. This point was supported by the FAO and NEPAD Secretariat as well. ●

## “Research cannot be side-tracked in the Public Sector”

Most experts stressed the need to allocate more Public Sector resources to research around agricultural issues. **Mr. Mucavele, IFAD**, noted the lack of research resources for a necessary value chain analysis, looking to production as well as to storage and markets. While it is clear that farmers need credit schemes, a link to technology (information about use of fertilisers etc.) is also central. **Mr. Werldeghaber Kidane, FAO**, re-emphasised the interrelation between food security and poverty reduction, with agriculture being the most important, although certainly not the only ingredient. Although it seems that currently most research on agriculture is done by the Private Sector, **Mr. Tesfai Tecele, Assistant Director-General, Technical Cooperation Department, FAO**, urged that the Public Sector needs to be encouraged to continue to be involved. ●

## “Track agricultural investments”

**Mr. Barney Karuombe, Regional Integration Officer (RIO), SADC PF**, reminded the round table participants of the need to check on agriculture budget expenditure to ensure they increase towards the 10% promised in the Maputo Declaration. ●

**Mr. Lyson Muwila, Development Bank of Southern Africa**, wondered whether in order to increase allocations towards agriculture, it might not also be possible to encourage investment by the private sector. **Dr. Maria Wanzala, Coordinator: Agricultural Input Markets Development Program, Agriculture Unit, NEPAD Secretariat**, noted that the NEPAD Secretariat has been committed to poverty reduction by putting agriculture at the top of its debate and suggested that while it is parliamentarians’ role to track public budget investments around agriculture, it would also be worthwhile to do the same for government involvement in private sector investment. **Mr. Wambo** added that the NEPAD Secretariat is jointly developing an “Agriculture Tracking Mechanism” with the AU Commission, an initiative which should be shared among partners to avoid the redundancy of efforts. ●

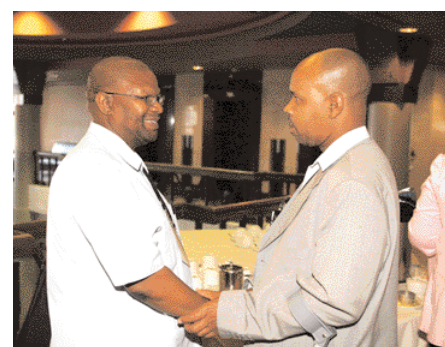
## “We need to look at the role of the IMF and the World Bank in policy development in general, in relation to parliaments.”

**Hon. Professor Ben Turok, NEPAD Contact Group for African Parliamentarians (NCGAP) and MP South Africa** pointed out how overall agriculture was declining as a percentage of GDP, and how not enough attention was being paid to land reform, or subsistence farming. ODA is declining in the areas of infrastructure and production, mining, fishing, in comparison to health and education. While the MDGs

focused attention on the social sector, and poverty reduction, most donors give priority to health and education, yet in the long term this is not helpful. More importantly, he stressed that while this shift is being decided by institutions such as the World Bank, there is no discussion on this in parliaments.

Professor Turok noted that since agriculture is Africa’s main resource, it must be given high priority. An example for necessary change is that while agriculture is taxed, this income is not going back into the agricultural sector. ●

**Ms. Fontaban, UNEP**, also stressed the need for parliamentarians as decision-makers to be fully involved in the implementation of the “Action Plan of the Environment Initiative of the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD)”. When talking about food security, and agriculture, one is necessarily also talking about the environment, therefore comprehensive programmes dealing with both environment and agriculture should be developed. Discussions around agricultural policies must always go hand in hand with sustainable land management discussions. Finally, **Mr. Granstedt**, noted the importance of a follow up on parliamentary influence over development policies. While this process is based in the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, the parliamentary role is not visible enough and this needs to change, as both, donor and recipient countries, need to be involved. ●



## CAADP must happen at the national Level

During the first day, the experts exchanged information, generated on the CAADP agenda over the past five years, to review the progress to date and to work out a draft parliamentary Action Plan to be presented a day later, at the Regional Seminar for Southern Africa. The results of these initial discussions are reflected in the presentations the experts made for the benefit of the MPs. The experts agreed that while policies exist at the regional level, the focus must now be to take CAADP to the country level.



Regional Seminar 18 March 2007

## Parliamentary Action in Support of CAADP

**B**ased on the exchange that took place during the Expert Working Group, experts provided the MPs with comprehensive and functional information on the CAADP agenda over the past five years. This resulted in the identification of parliamentary action in support of CAADP.

### “Support National Efforts around CAADP Implementation”

**Mr. Augustin Wambo, NEPAD Secretariat**, reminded the participants about some recent facts on poverty and food security in Africa, such as the increase of the poverty rate in the 1990s, the increase of the absolute number of people suffering from malnutrition, despite a decrease of malnutrition in terms of the percentage of population. It is expected that fifty percent of African countries will miss the MDGs although the economic performance has indeed improved over the past ten years. The NEPAD Secretariat's response to achieving food security and poverty reduction is the adoption and accelerated implementation of CAADP in the NEPAD framework. Mr. Wambo emphasised the need to streamline the objectives of CAADP at a continental, regional and national level. The principles of the implementation at a national level should avoid setting up new processes. Instead the focus should be to build on ongoing efforts at a national level, and to align these efforts with CAADP growth, budgetary, food and nutrition security objectives.

### “Trade is not fair”

**Mr. Francisco Reifschneider, Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) and WB Director**, outlined a positive increase in Official Development Assistance (ODA) from nearly 30 billion in the 1980s to nearly 100 billion by 2004, yet coupled with a decrease in agriculture ODA of 7.8 billion

in the 1980s to the lowest level of 3.7 billion in 2002. Encouragingly, in 2004, a slight increase was noted. Market access, being very distorted, is a major issue for the development of African agriculture and discussions around this between the North and the South are very difficult. He emphasised that indeed, trade is not fair, and that unfortunately this has an impact that goes beyond trade, such as for example the knowledge building capacity: 98 percent of published information is published by 30 countries, with only 2.5 percent by 162 countries.

Mr. Reifschneider noted that the 2008 World Bank's Development Report will be on agriculture as the world needs to understand that agriculture is key to development. He stressed that there certainly is an opportunity to address the missed investment of the last two decades. Support from civil society, and governments, provide new opportunities to forward this.

### “NEPAD Secretariat considers agriculture as a priority sector”

**Dr. Maria Wanzala, NEPAD Secretariat**, presented NEPAD's overall goal: “Eradication of poverty and placing African countries, both individually and collectively, on a path of sustainable growth and development while at the same time participating actively in the world economy and body politic”. Agriculture being one of NEPAD's priorities, it accounts for 30-50 percent of the GDP, 60-90 percent of employment and 25-90 percent of export earnings. On average 70 percent of the population live in rural areas and depend on agriculture for their employment and income. CAADP's goal is to “help African countries reach a higher path of economic development through agriculture-led development which eliminates hunger and reduces poverty food insecurity and enables expansion of exports”. Some roles Dr. Wanzala sees for the MPs are to influence policy formulation, decide on the budget allocations of the various ministries, provide a

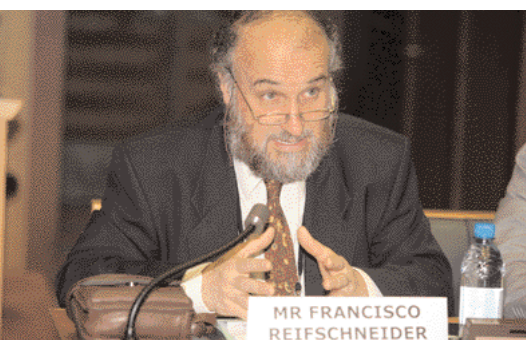


link between policy decisions and people on the ground. She stressed the need to promote parliamentary action in support of CAADP in special capacity building programmes. Proposed roles of African parliamentarians in achieving the goals of CAADP agenda:

- sensitize constituencies about the central role of agriculture for economic growth
- designate the agriculture committees of parliament to monitor progress towards the CAADP goals
- annually verify the implementation of the CAADP program by reviewing annual budget allocations versus actual expenditure
- engage in sub-regional seminars/dialogues on CAADP (exchanges of experience and mutual learning between parliamentarians and technical experts)
- require regular briefings by the executive to parliament on all new commitments related to agriculture
- monitor government progress towards achieving the Maputo Declaration and other commitments

Proposed roles of European parliamentarians in achieving the goals of CAADP agenda:

- raise awareness of the importance of agriculture for increased and sustained economic growth, food security and poverty eradication in Africa
- raise awareness about the CAADP and international commitments to it (Gleneagles, Sea Island etc)
- identify concrete measures to integrate into parliamentary work vis-à-vis support to CAADP and mobilize European action
- monitor European parliamentary action vis-à-vis support to CAADP
- require briefings by executives on all commitments to CAADP and African agriculture and monitor progress in honoring those commitments



## “Perhaps the most devastating mistake made by northern countries and the international financial institutions in the last fifteen years”

Mr. Tony Worthington, Director of African Chapters, Parliamentary Network on the World Bank (PNoWB), quoted Mr. Andrew Natsios, formerly head of USAID, who said in Monterey in 2002 that he regretted that agriculture had been “basically defunded by virtually all of the donor aid agencies and all of the international

banks”. He called this “perhaps the most devastating mistake made by northern countries and the international financial institutions in the last fifteen years”. Indeed, the World Bank had allocated 30 percent of its portfolio to agriculture in the 1980s, yet only 7 percent in 2003. Recent developments, such as e.g. the Maputo Declaration have pushed agriculture higher up on the agenda, and the World Bank now intends to earmark 30 percent of its portfolio to agriculture by 2015. Unfortunately, parliamentarians have been mostly left out of the process, and in the past years they have been working on catching up. ●

## “The success of NEPAD is dependent on the African people and institutions understanding and owning the strategy”

Mr. Lyson Muwila, Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA), presented the DBSA’s vision consisting of the commitment to further the progressive realisation of an empowered and integrated region, free of poverty, inequity and dependency and to be a leading agent for sustainable, socio-economic development in the SADC region and a strategic partner in Africa south of the Sahara. The Bank’s mission is to maximise the Bank’s contribution to development by mobilising and providing human resources and by establishing partnerships for infrastructure development. The Bank’s aim is to improve the quality of the life of Africans and to accelerate the sustainable reduction of poverty, inequality and dependency. The DBSA has been working hard to support NEPAD related initiatives such as:

- **Advocacy:** providing support for activities aimed at mobilization and engagement of key stakeholders
- **Partnerships:** providing support for the establishment of partnerships amongst and/or with National,



Regional, Continental and multinational stakeholders to implement NEPAD

- **Capacity Building:** providing support for the Development of national, regional and continental capacity to implement NEPAD
- **Projects and Programmes Facilitation:** providing support to unlock constraints in the development of NEPAD related investment projects and programmes (feasibility studies, project preparations and appraisals etc.)

The main challenges around NEPAD implementation as identified by the DBSA are:

- better understanding of expected roles and linkages of NEPAD Secretariat, RECs, countries and other participants
- alignment of National and Regional programmes with NEPAD priorities
- requisite capacity to effectively implement NEPAD at all critical levels
- facilitation and coordination mechanism for National, Regional and Sub-regional projects
- financial resource support
- the increasing spectre of HIV/AIDS, exacerbating dependency and poverty in Africa. Africa comprises 32 of the world’s 48 LDCs.

Mr. Muwila concluded by expressing his hope that parliamentarians, as policy makers, should pro-actively assist NEPAD implementation through advocacy and the internalisation of NEPAD into national development plans. ●

## “Listen to the local needs”

Dr. Lindiwe Majele Sibanda, Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network (FANRPAN) stressed the need for parliamentarians to be supported in their efforts to accelerate the implementation of CAADP at national level. Stock taking and alignment of national efforts, as well as the construction of partnerships and alliances to support dialogues is paramount. Hon. Louis Chimango supported this view. Parliamentarians’ awareness around agriculture has to be raised and as he said “we don’t have to re-invent the wheel, but need to take advantage of partnerships and regional parliamentary groupings, that have the possibility of sharing best practices”. As Chair of the Budget and Finance Committee in Malawi, he recounted how the Malawi Parliament, benefited from the expertise of Civil Society networks.



Dr. Lindiwe Sibanda issued a word of warning: while it is paramount to have as much information and research data available as possible, it is also important to keep in mind that a lot of research is funded by donors and therefore has a defined agenda. It is the responsibility of MPs to listen to local needs and to identify the type of research they need so that policy networks can fill research gaps. The FANRPAN network is keen to produce economic data that can be used in lobby activities. In Zambia e.g., the network meets regularly to produce government advisory notes, ammunition for the MPs in their daily work and this has proven to be very effective. The same should happen in other countries. ●



## Gender Issues and Agricultural Development

Several speakers and participants addressed the importance of keeping gender issues in mind when discussing CAADP throughout the Expert Workshop and the Regional Seminar in order to ensure a timely and inclusive development process.

### “Gender inequality leads to slower development”

**Dr. Ruvimbo Mabeza-Chimedza, Agriculture, Food Security and Rural Development Consultant on Gender Issues,** critically raised the need to minutely define CAADP and NEPAD and the possibilities for gender mainstreaming. The documents developed around NEPAD issues should include gender issues at all levels. Dr. Mabeza-Chimedza emphasised the importance of developing tracking mechanisms including disaggregated data to allow an outcome analysis from a gender perspective. She recommended that parliamentarians should make an economic argument for gender inequality, based on the quantitative studies showing that where there is gender inequality economic development is slow, yet that when equality increases, economic output does too. Dr. Mabeza-Chimedza hoped that the NEPAD Secretariat would be able to facilitate and promote such research needed by policy makers – it is in the interest of countries to do such gender mainstreaming. ●

### “Gender refers to culturally biased expectations of the roles and behaviours of women and men, these relations can change over time”

**Mr. Custodio Mucavele, Field Officer, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)** spoke about IFAD's lessons learnt about the importance of taking gender issues into consideration in agricultural work. Women's social and economic advancement is critical to a reduction of poverty and increase of food security. Recurring gender issues are:

- social indicators are very low for women, and women and girls also have lower education levels than their male counterparts
- women are often poorer and more vulnerable than men
- women share many of the problems of poor rural men, but bring even fewer assets and 'rights' to the challenge of overcoming them

- women's workloads are very heavy
  - women's lack of access to land rights, finance and inputs for agriculture is a limiting factor for enhanced livelihoods
  - women work well in groups and manage external resources such as organic fertiliser and credit effectively
- The potential of women is demonstrated across the full range of economic activities, making their empowerment a key component in overcoming poverty.

Main areas of concern to be addressed in policy changes:

- equitable access to land rights and use
- equitable access to demand driven extension services
- ensure an equitable representation and leadership within relevant associations
- equitable access and control of water for agriculture
- ensure equitable access to post-harvest technologies and management
- ensure equitable links with agricultural markets, both for agricultural inputs and farm outputs
- provide information on HIV prevention mechanisms ●

### “If we are gender sensitive, we are much better off”

**Ms. Rumbidzai Kandawasvika-Nhundu, Gender Advisor, SADC PF,** highlighted the fact that parliamentarians and policy makers have to constantly acknowledge

that women's and men's access and control of resources and marketing facilities is just not the same and that this has serious implications with regard to their ability to produce. World Bank research shows that while women are responsible for more than half of the SADC region's food production, they do not have as much land and capital access. Also, men tend to specialise more in cash crop production, whereas women do more sustainable crops. While women spend 16 hours daily on household and agriculture production, men spend all of that time on agriculture.

Since being able to spend more time gives the men more opportunities for agricultural prosperity and growth, stimulating prosperity etc., women are at a disadvantage. Parliamentarians represent men's and women's interests (women being 52% of the overall population) and must become gender aware and gender sensitive. The Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa came into force 25 November 2004 and outlines the rights of African women. Article 16 talks about rights of sustainable development. Member States are expected to facilitate women's access to land, property and credit, independent of their marital status. Parliamentarians have to ensure that the budgets reflect and include gender issues to allow gender mainstreaming in all areas. ●



The Framework for Parliamentary Action can be downloaded from AWEPA's website [www.awepa.org](http://www.awepa.org)

## Framework for Parliamentary Action on CAADP

CAPE TOWN, 17-18 March 2007

### PREAMBLE

Agricultural development in Africa is a vital component of poverty reduction, as recognised in the Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP) adopted in 2003. In order to ensure the implementation of CAADP, parliamentarians have a crucial role to play, at national, regional and Pan-African level, in cooperation with initiatives by the Regional Economic Communities.

**Considering** the Maputo Declaration on Agriculture and Food Security in Africa at the African Union Summit (July 2003) where African Heads of State and Government agreed to implement the CAADP by making agriculture a top priority and raising budget allocations for agriculture to a minimum of 10% of their individual countries' total public spending by 2008;

**Convinced** of the importance of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (2003) stating that women have the right to nutritious and adequate food, and that all appropriate measures should be taken to facilitate women's access to land and to guarantee their right to property, whatever their marital status;

**Mindful** of the Action Plan of the Environment Initiative of NEPAD adopted by African Heads of State and Government at the African Union Summit in Maputo (2003) which provides an appropriate framework for the establishment of a strong partnership for the protection of the environment between Africa and its partners, based on the commitments contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration;

**Noting** the important work and recommendations of the Cape Town Proclamation: "Parliamentarians' Recommendations Supporting CAADP Goals in Championing Agricultural Successes for Africa's Future" (May 2006) which identifies actions that should be carried out by various actors, including parliamentarians;

**Recalling** the resolutions of Heads of State and Government of the African Union at the Abuja Food Security Summit, the Fish for All Summit, the Africa Fertilizer Summit and the Cocoa Summit (2006);

It is resolved that:

At the request of the African Union Commission, in keeping with the urgent appeal of the AU Heads of State, and in alignment with the NEPAD and AWEPA commitment to the promotion of parliamentary action on MDGs,

Parliamentarians attending the above meetings commit themselves to undertake one or more of the following actions and to promote the broad participation of fellow parliamentarians in such actions:

### National and Constituency Press Conferences

Immediately upon return from this meeting and after subsequent follow-up actions, interviews will be given with national and local media representatives to inform the people about developments.

### Parliamentary and Public Hearings on CAADP

As soon as scheduling permits, hearings will be held to comprehensively inform parliamentary colleagues in a multi-sectoral and integrated manner, and to listen to the views of civil society, the private sector and the international community on agricultural policy recommendations.

### Debate in Standing Committee on Agriculture and other relevant portfolio Committees

Participants who sit on the Agricultural Committee in parliament will agree with the Chair on adding CAADP as an agenda item.

### Parliamentary Resolution on a White Paper

Where a current White Paper on Agriculture is not yet available, participants will formally request this by parliamentary resolution.

### Capacity Building and Research to support parliamentarians

Continuous capacity building for parliamentarians to provide them with updated information to facilitate informed

debate and decision making is a crucial part of the CAADP implementation process and should be facilitated. Existing research should be used to inform committee work, and priorities should be identified for future research topics related to parliamentary work.

### Monitoring and Evaluation

The programme partners of the Mobilising Parliamentarians for NEPAD (MPN) programme will undertake an ongoing monitoring and evaluation process, in cooperation with existing initiatives such as the NEPAD Secretariat tracking mechanism on agricultural budgets.

### Parliamentary Joint-Initiative on Agriculture

Call for a joint-initiative of Parliamentary Committees on Agriculture, Gender, Environment, Finance (and other committees where appropriate) to come to joint recommendations to provide synergies with regard to implementation on budgetary issues, legislation, poverty reduction strategies, national development plans etc.

### Parliamentary Commission of Inquiry on the implementation of CAADP

As needed, a Commission of Inquiry will be called (see annex for example Terms of Reference).

### ANNEX

Terms of Reference - Parliamentary Inquiry or Public Hearing on CAADP

Given the urgency of the call by AU Heads of State for immediate attention to the CAADP and implementation of the Maputo Declaration (MD), it is hereby proposed that a Parliamentary Inquiry be established with the following objectives:

- Review the National Development Plan and/or Poverty Reduction Strategy in the light of the CAADP and Maputo Declaration provisions, making recommendations for additions and amendments where necessary;
- Review the National Budget from the perspective of CAADP and MD, making recommendations for reallocations where appropriate, and monitor actual government expenditure on CAADP-related programmes;

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- Review the relevant National Legislation and Regulatory Framework from the CAADP and MD perspective, making recommendations for new initiatives, resolutions and legal reform as needed;
- Monitor government progress toward meeting MD objectives, including through public questioning of relevant representatives and officials, and make recommendations for accelerated action where appropriate; Consult with all relevant stakeholders toward the establishment of a National Peer Review Mechanism on CAADP, involving government, parliament, private sector and civil society representatives;
- Initiate and/or support the development of sub-regional parliamentary dialogue on CAADP, and national and regional exchanges of experience and mutual learning among fellow parliamentarians and technical experts;
- Discuss and make proposals on the framework for a public outreach initiative to update and inform constituencies, political parties, relevant stakeholders (including youth and women) of developments around CAADP and MD;
- Enter into parliamentary dialogue with colleagues in developed countries, with a view toward informing and influencing policy-makers with regard to international agricultural policies and related trade policies;
- Ensure ratification of the AU Protocol on the Rights of Women and its domestication in legislation, policies and budgets, and a review of Poverty Reduction Strategies and National Development Plans from a gender perspective.

The Chairperson will normally be the Chair or a Member of the relevant Committee in parliament, and other Members will represent the main political parties in parliament. Technical assistance may be provided by AWEPA and local and international expert partners.

## Participants

Participant	Institution	Participant	Institution
Dr. Ruvimbo Mabeza-Chimedza	Agriculture, Food Security and Rural Development Consultant	Mr. Tony Worthington	Parliamentary Network on the World Bank (PnoWB)
Ms. Fiona Douglas	Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR)	Ms. Lamia El Bovanani	Parliamentary Network on the World Bank (PnoWB)
Mr. Francisco Reifschneider	CGIAR, World Bank	Mr. Werdeghaber Kidane	Policy Assistance and Resource Mobilisation Division, United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)
Ms. Florencia Tateossian	CGIAR	Ms. Rhumbidzai	SADC PF
Mr. Lyson Muwila	Development Bank of South Africa	Kandawasvika-Nhundu	
Mr. Werdeghaber Kidane	Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO)	Mr. Barney Karuuombe	SADC PF
Mr. Tesfai Teclé	Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO)	Hon. Lourdes Veiga	SADC PF Regional Parliamentary Women's Caucus
Dr. Lindiwe Majele Sibanda	Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network (FANRPAN)	Hon. Ms. Nora Schimming-Chase	SADC PF
Mr. Custodio Esteveo Mucavele	International Fund for Agricultural development (IFAD)	Hon. Jeanson Ratiarinaivo	Senate of Madagascar
Hon. Ms. Christine Mango	Kenyan Parliament	Hon. Mr. Obed Bapela	South African Parliament
Hon. Mr. Vitus Dzoole Mwale	Malawi Parliament	Hon. Mr. D. Dlali	South African Parliament
Hon. Mr. Francisco Bras Muchanga	Mozambican Parliament	Hon. Mr. Obea Dlamini	Swaziland Parliament
Hon. Mr. Casimeo Pedro Huate	Mozambican Parliament	Ms. Estherine Fotabang	United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
Hon. Mr. Abel Mabunda	Mozambican Parliament	Hon. Mr. Request Muntanga	Zambian Parliament
Hon. Mr. Lutero C. Simango	Mozambican Parliament	Mr. Par Granstedt	AWEPA, Vice President
Hon. Ms. Lucia Basson	Namibian Parliament	Dr. Jeff Balch	AWEPA, Director Research and Evaluation
Hon. Mr. Hans Booys	Namibian Parliament	Ms. Jessica Longwe	AWEPA, Head of Office South Africa
Hon. Prof. Ben Turok	NEPAD Contact Group for African Parliamentarians (NCGAP)	Ms. Nomawethu Xali	AWEPA, Project Officer
Hon. Prof. Cimango	NEPAD Contact Group for African Parliamentarians (NCGAP)	Ms. Christine Leibach	AWEPA, Project Officer
Hon. Mr. Schadrack Niyorikuru	NEPAD Contact Group for African Parliamentarians (NCGAP)	Ms. Alexandrina Wonani	AWEPA, Financial Officer
Mr. Augustin Wambo	NEPAD Secretariat	Ms. Pamela Mpama	AWEPA, Logistic Officer
Dr. Maria Wanzala	NEPAD Secretariat	Ms. Zoë Ware	AWEPA, Project and Research Officer
Hon. Mr. Louis J. Chimango	Pan-African Parliament (PAP), Agriculture Committee	Ms. Nathalie Lasslop	AWEPA, Project and Research Officer



# Colophon

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## More Details

The Regional Seminar on Trade and Economic Development with a focus on Agriculture was hosted by the South African Parliament and co-organised by the NEPAD Secretariat, the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank (PNoWB), the World Bank (WB) and AWEPA, with the support of the SADC Parliamentary Forum (SADC PF) and the Pan-African Parliament (PAP). SIDA and DBSA generously contributed to the realisation of this activity.

All relevant documents, including the presentations made during the Seminar, can be downloaded from AWEPA's web site under Projects, Expert Workshop and Regional Seminar 17-18 March.

## Follow-up activities on Agriculture

- 27-28 September Regional Seminar on Private Sector Development, Poverty Reduction and Agriculture, Nairobi, Kenya (follow-up to the September 2006 Arusha Seminar)
- 3-4 October EU Regional Presidency Seminar for West Africa on Oversight and Budget Control, Cotonou, Benin
- In 2008, the national follow up process will be started

For more details on these activities, see the 'Projects' page on the AWEPA website: [www.awepa.org](http://www.awepa.org).

