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**Innovation in Agriculture and Agro-industry: Engine for wealth and growth**

June 2008 \* Rome, Italy

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***“We will have time to reach the Millennium Development Goals – worldwide and in most, or even all, individual countries – but only if we break with business as usual. We cannot win overnight. Success will require sustained action across the entire decade between now and the deadline...”***

***United Nations Secretary-General***

## PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

### 1<sup>ST</sup> DAY

- 09.30 Registration
- 11.00 **Workshop: Innovation Strategy and Regional Innovation Systems**
- 11.30 **Brief presentation of Participants – part I**
- 12.30 Networking Lunch
- 13.45 **Brief presentation of Participants – part II**
- 16.00 **Projects Incubator: Innovative Projects from Africa**  
The best project will be rewarded during the Gala Evening with the EMRC's Award
- 16.30 **Networking place: One-to-One Sectorial Business Meetings**
- 19.30 Networking dinner

### 2<sup>ND</sup> DAY

- 09.00 Official Opening Ceremony  
*In presence of Ministers, dignitaries and high officials*
- 10.00 **Local, multinational and international investments to promote innovative Agriculture**
- How to accelerate the Rural Development
  - Capacity building
  - Innovation and investment in Infrastructure: energy, telecommunications, transportation
  - How to improve the product processing and meet new Markets
  - Case studies Analysis
- 11.00 Coffee Break
- 11.15 **Innovation in Value Chain**
- Innovation improving added value to production and manufacturing processing
  - Innovation improving post harvest, warehousing and transportation of fresh products
  - Improving quality criteria and safety conditions
- 12.15 **Q&A (Questions and Answers)**  
Participants are invited to debate with speakers
- 12.45 Networking Lunch

## 14.00 **Parallel sessions: Innovative solutions in Agribusiness and Agriculture**

**Session I:** Communication technologies: application in Agriculture

**Session II:** Innovation in Agribusiness: from raw materials to post harvest and manufacturing processing

**Session III:** ICT technology for supporting agriculture and forestry - a holistic approach: awareness rising, capacity building, education and implementation with stakeholders integration

15.15 Coffee Break

## 15.30 **Parallel Discussion Groups**

Participants will be divided in 6 discussion groups to debate topics of the Forum and more – conclusions will be reported to the plenary

## 17.00 **Networking place: One-to-One Sectorial Business Meetings**

20.30 **Gala Evening:** Presentation of the **EMRC AWARDS 2008** to selected leaders of business and policy, in the presence of European and African Ministers and the business community and certificates ceremony

## 3<sup>RD</sup> DAY

## 09.30 **PPP in Agriculture as a Platform for Regional Development**

Case study

## 10.30 **Official Closure of the Forum**

*Presentation of the groups' conclusions and recommendations in presence of Ministers, dignitaries and high officials*

12.00 Networking Lunch

13.30 Mini-Tour of Rome