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Travelers

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Date

11 – 16 April 2016

Destination

Accra, Ghana

Purpose

1. Attend the 12th CAADP Partnership Platform
2. Participate in the meeting of the Development Partners Coordination Group (DPCG).
3. Hold bilateral meetings with Platform members and partners present in Accra on CAADP DPCG to discuss the Strategic Plan 2016-2020 of the Platform
4. Attend the workshop on Inclusive agribusiness and trade for ARD by UNDP and Canada

Persons met

Monique Calon (MFA NL), Nikita Eriksen-Hamel (Global Affairs Canada), Odd Arnesen (NORAD), Marie Paviot (MFA France), Tsitsi Choruma (Fairtrade Africa), Larry Attipoe (Fairtrade International), Edward Akapiire (Fairtrade Africa), Anthony Sikpa (Federation of associations of Ghanaian exporters), Heike Ostermann (GIZ DPTT secretariat), Sonja Esche (GIZ CAADP support), Hille Henebry (GIZ CAADP support), Tarquin Meszaros (GIZ CAADP support), Stephane Duval (Embassy of Canada), Kathy Alison (Africa lead), Kosuke Nagino (JICA), Mme Pascale Bonzom (UNDP African Facility for Inclusive Markets), Gerald Makau Masila (EAGC), Christoph Rauh (BMZ), Andrea Friederichs (BMZ), Pierre Belanger (Canada), Aude Sauvaget (EU Commission), Rinn Self (Gates foundation), Patterson Brown and Susan Thompson (USAID), Desirée Ditvorst (NPCA/CAADP consultant)

Secretariat meeting with the GIZ MOAP project at GIZ Accra offices

The Secretariat visited the GIZ Ghana offices on 15th April to meet with Dr. Florent-Dirk Thies, project manager of the Market Oriented Agriculture Programme (MOAP). This project is of special interest because the Platform has recently established an inclusive agribusiness work stream which is aligned to
the MOAP objectives of promoting broad based, income-raising business models to establish competitive agriculture value chains. After exchanging information about the MOAP programme and the Platforms various work streams, it was agreed that experience and knowledge sharing between the two projects would be of mutual significant benefit. The agreed next steps were to share with Dr. Thies the concept notes and work plans of all Platform work streams, so that he can explore opportunities presented by synergies.

**Secretariat meeting with GIZ CAADP support programme**

The Secretariat met with Hille Henebry, Sonja Esche and Tarquin Meszaros of the GIZ support to CAADP programme, all of whom were in Accra for the 12th CAADP PP. The support to CAADP team was especially helpful in elaborating some of the specific challenges faced by African countries and RECs in regard to CAADP implementation. GIZ’s support of CAADP started in 2007 and is currently rendered through 3 areas: policy advice, agricultural vocational training and climate change. The overall aim of the project is to use this multilevel approach to support pan-African agricultural reform in line with the ambitious Malabo commitments. As the CAADP Development Partners Coordination Group (whose secretariat is hosted by the GIZ support programme) has recently revitalised its partnership with the Platform, meeting colleagues from this programme allowed broader perspective on the work being done by Germany in support of CAADP.

**Secretariat meeting with ECDPM on Trade for ARD work at the Platform**

ECDPM continue to play a pivotal role in conceptually contributing to the Platform’s work on Trade and ARD. The Secretariat meeting with Francesco Rampa from ECDPM was set up to discuss the next steps of the Platform’s trade for ARD work. The current draft of the trade work plan was discussed, after which it was agreed that a telco take place in May to pull further suggestions from the trade group with emphasis on implementation. A meeting with ECDPM at their offices in Maastricht was also agreed upon for the 18th of May. At that stage, the work plan and concept note will be finalized by ECDPM together with the Platform Secretariat, signaling a kicking off in rolling out the plan.

**Secretariat meeting with Fair Trade and FAGE (follow up from Platform Annual General Assembly)**

The secretariat met with Larry Attipoe, Tsitsi Choruma and Edward Akapire of Fair Trade International/Africa, together with Anthony Sikpa of the Federation of Associations of Ghanaian Exporters (FAGE). Fair Trade had presented a Ghanaian initiative at the Annual General Assembly of the Platform in January 2016 on a yam production and marketing alliance linking agricultural producers of all scales to market and food value chain actors in a coordinated way. This concept which had been developed in close cooperation with the International Trade Center (ITC) in Geneva has proven to be very successful and will be upscaled on a number of other products.

Fair Trade is interested to continue its cooperation with the Platform under the trade working group. The concept of the working group and the work plan was discussed. Fair Trade showed keen interest in
contribution their experiences and also to display the further development of the concept of producer/market alliance. Virtual briefings and interviews with Fair Trade are envisaged.

**Secretariat meeting with NORAD on engagement in Platform work in 2016**

NORAD is currently decreasing its engagement in agriculture and rural development support at large and in particular has terminated its support to CAADP at least for 2016. Despite this rather negative trend, NORAD would be ready to revitalise its engagement with the Platform, in particular with the regard to the gender work stream and the contributions to climate resilient/smart agriculture under the Global Alliance for Climate-smart Agriculture (GACSA). Details on the latter should be discussed prior to the Annual Forum of GACSA to be held in June in Rome.

**DPTT/DPCG meeting and follow-up**

The report of the meeting is attached. After the handing over of the chairmanship form the EC to BMZ, the role of the Platform supporting the Development Partners Coordination Group (DPCG, formerly DPTT) had been newly defined after discussion during the meeting and in follow-up discussions with the DPCG secretariat (Heike Ostermann). The Platform will provide the members of DPCG with all relevant information on the work streams, support the outreach through the Platforms webpage and communication instruments and will fine-tune the cooperation during 2016.

**The 12th CAADP Partnership Platform**

The 12th CAADP Partnership Platform took place with the objective of “walking the talk” of the CAADP framework, the Malabo declaration and Agenda 2063. Practical implementation was the core focus of the 12th CAADP PP which is the first PP since the Malabo declaration. The expectation was to build a shared understanding of country and regional needs for rolling out the implementation strategy and road maps, including partnerships that can support this implementation.

Seven sub themes were to be addressed, namely (i) Funding the African Agricultural Investment to attain Malabo commitments; (ii) Agricultural Finance Landscape and Policy Environment; (iii) Inclusive access to finance to empower women and youth; (iv) Innovative delivery of financial services, (v) Value chain finance (vi) Agriculture and food insecurity risk management (vii)renewing partnership for accelerated development.

**Key messages**

For coherent linkages across regional markets that ensure coordination but also address the multi-sectoral dimensions of agriculture and rural development. The public sector needs to do the heavy lifting so as to create an attractive environment for the private sector. The Meeting reaffirmed the vital role for agriculture in leading African development and serving as a catalyst for the needs of the youth and women.
It was also further emphasised that the Malabo Declaration is a strong political movement for the industrialisation of African agriculture and the smallholder farmer is a valuable component of the African private sector particularly the Small and Medium Enterprises. Delegates also noted agriculture as a business that is a continuum across various sizes of farms and industries.

Delegates also underscored the need to innovate so as to address the gaps in the financial products and delivery of financial services and further upscale good practices on financial services.

Some of the next steps agreed is that the AUC and NPCA will facilitate technical support for implementation of New Generation of NAIPs through the establishment of Technical Networks. Technical Networks will help identify appropriate policies, programs and practices that can accelerate achievement of the Malabo Declaration goals and target. AUC and NPCA to give an update on the NAIPs Appraisal, the establishment of the Technical Networks in the 13th CAADP PP.

A final communiqué on the meeting can be found here