



ReSAKSS

Regional Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System



Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP)

First CAADP ReSAKSS Continental Steering Committee Meeting

**Hyatt Regency Hotel, Johannesburg, South Africa
Tuesday 3 August 2010**

Minutes

Participants

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Keizire Boaz, AUC
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Pius Chilonda, ReSAKSS-SA/IWMI
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Martha Byanyima, COMESA
Babatunde Omilola, ReSAKSS/IFPRI, Secretary

Martin Bwalya, NPCA, co-chair
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Summary of discussion

Terms of Reference of the Committee

The Terms of Reference of the Committee were adopted with significant amendments regarding the roles and responsibilities of the Committee, the frequency of Committee meetings, and the relationships and linkages of various members of the Committee. The amended Terms of Reference can be found in Annex 1.

Main Discussion

Following an introduction of ReSAKSS update and future outlook, the Committee discussed a series of issues.

The outcome of this debate is summarised in the points below:

- ReSAKSS has been generally accepted as a brand name among key partners, stakeholders and collaborators. It will be important to manage expectations of partners and stakeholders. In particular, it is indispensable to communicate Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) implementation at the country-level to different stakeholders at the country, regional and continental levels.
- The relationship of ReSAKSS nodes with the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) in terms of regional capacity building for analysis needs to be further clarified in consultation with relevant partners. This will contribute to the institutionalisation and consolidation of the work undertaken under ReSAKSS.
- For the purpose of focus, the CAADP ReSAKSS Continental Steering Committee should be limited to the full implementation of the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) framework. The key value added of the Committee appears to be on the review and endorsement of ReSAKSS M&E annual workplan and the M&E annual report as well as assisting in raising additional resources for the implementation of the M&E system at the country level. However, the Committee should be limited to oversight and stewardship functions and not monitor the actual implementation of the M&E system.
- To get country buy-in, ReSAKSS should establish strong links with relevant government institutions (line and coordinating ministries) at the highest level possible in order to get a formal political stamp of approval. Links should also be established with other stakeholders such as private sector (including producer organizations).
- Committee members achieved consensus on the following issues:
 - Organogram on relationships and subsidiarities is needed in terms of complementarities and synergies and the relationships and linkages of various members of the Committee
 - There is no need to change names of ReSAKSS Steering Committees at the regional and country levels. Country SAKSS and regional SAKSS nodes should be maintained. However at the continental level, it should be CAADP ReSAKSS Continental Steering Committee.
 - Many institutions have already proposed individuals that will sit on the committee. The names will be communicated to the secretariat by NPCA in consultation with AUC.
 - The Pillar institutions should decide which pillar should be on the Committee on a rotational basis, and the Pillar should decide the individual to sit on the Committee.
 - Balanced representation from all the regions of Africa on the Committee is important.

Annex 1: Amended Terms of Reference

The core function of the CAADP ReSAKSS Continental Steering Committee is three-fold:

- i) To review and approve ReSAKSS Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) work program;
- ii) To review and endorse draft Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) report;
- iii) To provide advice on direction of Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) implementation and propose adjustments when needed.

The CAADP ReSAKSS Continental Steering Committee is not intended to take on day-to-day management responsibilities of ReSAKSS. The main tasks and responsibilities of the Committee Chairs and Secretariat will include:

Role of Chairs:

- i) To call meetings of the Committee;
- ii) To approve draft agenda;
- iii) To sign agreed minutes;
- iv) To sign communications to third parties

Role of Secretariat:

- v) To draft agendas of the Committee;
- vi) To draft minutes of the Committee;
- vii) To send out communications to members;
- viii) To present draft M&E reports to the Committee
- ix) To prepare progress reports against M&E work plan

CAADP Continental Steering Committee Composition

As endorsed by the 6th CAADP Partnership Platform in April 2010, the Steering Committee consists of one representative each from: the AUC and NPCA as co-Chairs, the ReSAKSS Regional Steering Committees (represented by the Chairs), the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM), ReSAKSS (as the Secretariat), Regional Farmers' Organizations, Private Sector at the regional level, Pillar Lead Institutions, a Country SAKSS node per region, and the Development Partners CAADP Task Team.

The Committee will be co-chaired by AUC and NPCA. The ReSAKSS Africa-wide Coordinator will act as Secretary of the Committee.

Meetings

The Steering Committee will meet on a six-monthly basis, through video conference if possible, with additional meetings and exchanges taking place as needed. Work schedule of ReSAKSS should govern the two meetings of the Committee. One of the meetings should coincide with the submission of ReSAKSS M&E annual workplan for review and approval of by the Committee. The other meeting should be around one CAADP pre-PP to review and approve the annual M&E report, which will be presented at the CAADP-PP.

Meetings will be organized by the Secretariat. The roles of the Secretariat are to draft agendas, draft minutes, send out communications to Committee members, present draft M&E reports and prepare progress report against M&E workplan.

Minutes of the meetings will be prepared by the Secretariat and distributed to the members within two weeks following the meetings for feedback before finalization.