

## Lancement officiel du cadre de coopération de la Nouvelle Alliance sur la Sécurité Alimentaire et Nutrition

First of all I would like to apologise on behalf of Justine Greening, the UK Secretary of State for International Development, and co-chair of the New Alliance Leadership Council, who is unfortunately unable to be here today. And I'd like to express my thanks to the Government of Senegal and to the Department for Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development of the Government of Canada for their excellent work in putting the Cooperation Framework together, and for organising this launch event.

I am delighted today to welcome Senegal's adherence to the New Alliance. This is the first Cooperation Framework launch event to take place in Africa. This is significant as it demonstrates the important transition of the New Alliance from a G8 driven initiative to one that is firmly embedded in Africa's own agenda for agricultural transformation.

I am also pleased it has been possible to combine this launch event with the opening session of the ReSAKSS annual conference. A key UK priority for the New Alliance this year has been to embed it firmly within the Africa Union's agenda for agricultural transformation. We made considerable progress this year aligning the New Alliance with CAADP and the ReSAKSS conference provides an opportunity to strengthen these efforts.

### **UK priorities**

Economic development is critical to food security and poverty reduction in Africa. Public investment in agriculture will continue to be important but public investment alone is not enough. Responsible private sector investment, small and large, from African companies and international, is vital to accelerate growth, create jobs and raise incomes of small-scale farmers. This is what the New Alliance is about and it is great to see so many new Letters of Intent from Senegalese and some international companies included in the Cooperation Framework.

As one of three co-chairs of the Leadership Council for the New Alliance and Grow Africa, the UK's priorities for 2013 included: aligning the New Alliance squarely with CAADP; expanding it to new partner countries and stakeholders; and agreeing a simple system to track and account for results.

Together with the Africa Union Commission and other partners we have made good progress:

- I have already mentioned progress in aligning the New Alliance with CAADP.
- With Senegal joining today there are now 10 partner countries in the New Alliance. We are also very pleased many non-G8 development partners have come on board and outlined their commitments in the Senegal Cooperation Framework.
- And lastly, we have been developing an accountability framework for the New Alliance which will enable us to track progress and account for progress against the top-line goal of lifting 50 million out of poverty. At the centre of this

is a commitment to review progress under the planned CAADP Joint Sector Review in each country.

## **Conclusion**

Today's launch of the Cooperation Framework is an important milestone. But we must remind ourselves it is really only the first step. Success will depend on many things and to conclude I would like to highlight three priorities:

- Firstly, the mutual commitments listed in this Cooperation Framework are a fantastic start. But they need to be reviewed each year and strengthened and expanded. We want these Frameworks to become living documents that respond to new challenges and opportunities.
- Secondly, we need to keep our focus on the topline goal of creating wealth and opportunities for poor people. Investment in agriculture will only contribute to this aim where it is responsible, transparent and inclusive. All parties to this Cooperation Framework have made a commitment to adhere to the Voluntary Guidelines on land tenure. We need to make sure we deliver on this.
- Lastly, the main value added of the New Alliance is its ability to facilitate dialogue and negotiate commitments between government, private sector, donors and civil society. All these stakeholders have contributed to this Cooperation Framework and we need to find appropriate space to continue this dialogue as we implement and review these commitments in the future.