

Summary of Remarks by Dr. Godfrey Bahigwa, Director for Rural Economy and Agriculture, African Union Commission

- African food systems are very vulnerable due to climate change, diseases and conflicts as well as due to external shocks such as COVID-19 and the crisis in Ukraine.
- The findings of the 3rd CAADP Biennial Review Report indicate that the continent is not on track to meet their own commitments by 2025. 20 countries are making progress but that is not enough to build resilient food systems. Only 1 country on track to end hunger by 2025. on the commitment to spend 10% of public expenditure on agriculture development, 4 countries out of the 51 that reported on the thematic area of enhancing investment finance in agriculture, were on-track. on commitment to increase agriculture productivity only 7 out of the 51 countries were in track.
- **Africa is not investing enough in agriculture and so not producing enough food and therefore hunger and undernutrition remain high.** It's imperative to invest more to see better outcomes in terms of nutrition and reducing hunger, creating jobs and building resilience.
- The AU continues to advocate for policies and strategies to implement relevant continental declarations and decisions, including CADDP Malabo commitments, Africa's game changing solutions under each of the five Action Tracks proposed by the UNFSS, and the Ministerial Declaration on the impact of COVID-19.
- Example of the efforts of the AU Commissions to support initiative around boosting investment in agriculture:
 - 1) AU is partnering with the African Development Bank (AfDB) to allocate USD 1.5 billion to boost productivity of key agriculture commodities such as maize, rice, wheat and soya beans
 - 2) The World Bank is supporting the AU to implement CADDP through a USD 1.7 billion facility aimed at building resilient food systems in Eastern and Southern Africa.
 - 3) AU is cooperating with France in the implementation of the "Food and Agriculture Resilience Mission" initiative that will help mobilize resources to support African countries.

- 4) AU is cooperating with Germany in the implementation of its Global Alliance on Food Security initiative.
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