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Food and Agriculture  
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Продовольственная и  
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Organización de las  
Naciones Unidas para la  
Alimentación y la Agricultura

منظمة  
الغذية والزراعة  
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# FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR AFRICA

## Twenty-ninth Session

Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, 4-8 April 2016

### Side Events and Subregional Consultations

6 and 8 April 2016

Wednesday 6 April

#### a) Side Event 1: Successes in Nuclear Applications: African VetLab Network and Sterile Insect Technique

The side event will illustrate selected impact in member countries generated through the FAO/IAEA partnership in achieving national and regional strategic objectives for food security and sustainable agricultural development. Technical outputs, among which selected ones will be presented to inform member countries on their impact and how the collaboration contributes to the results directly in the field and improves efficiency, sustainability and impact of implementation. The side event will offer a field-level view on the type of technical support and technology transfer in the area of animal health and production and the control of major insect pest in crop and livestock production. The side event will provide for knowledge-sharing and highlight recent successes in the application of nuclear techniques in Africa, with special reference to the African VetLab Network and to the use of the Sterile Insect Technique (SIT) as part of area-wide integrated pest management programmes.

#### b) Side Event 2: Development of an Action Programme to Address Food and Nutrition Challenges in SIDS

Heads of State and Government in September 2014 adopted SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (S.A.M.O.A Pathway) inviting FAO to facilitate a meeting on food and nutrition security in Small Island Developing States to develop an action programme to address food and nutrition challenges facing SIDS (Paragraph 61). This side event forms part of consultation meeting towards the Action Plan and involve high level representatives from FAO SIDS members in the Atlantic and Indian Ocean (Cabo Verde, Comoros, Guinea-Bissau, Maldives, Mauritius, Sao Tome and Principe, and

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Seychelles). The objectives are to: (i) provide background on state Food Security and Nutrition in SIDS; (ii) discuss roadmap towards preparation of the action programme and; (iii) identify major elements to be proposed in the action programme to address food and nutrition challenges facing SIDS.

**c) Side Event 3: Fertilizers - Follow-up of the 2006 Abuja Declaration on Fertilizers for an African Green Revolution**

This ministerial event is convened by the African Union and its Department for Rural Economy and Agriculture (DREA) with the assistance of FAO. It aims at revisiting the commitment made by the African Ministers of Agriculture in the 2006 Abuja Declaration on Fertilizers for an African Green Revolution, which pledged to increase fertilizers use from 8 kgs/hectare to 50kgs/per hectare by 2015, the year which happened to correspond with the International Year of Soils. The event, therefore, seeks not only to renew and strengthen the commitment, but to upgrade it to integrate a broader sustainable soil management perspective in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals and to steer countries in assessing their progress towards the declaration.

The side event will also take stock of the African Fertilizers Financing Mechanism (AFFM) and will lead to greater engagement with partners to implement the Abuja Declaration in the context of recent developments from the 2015 International Year of Soils, such as the principles of the World Soil Charter.

**d) Subregional Consultations : Prioritization of Needs of Countries and Subregions**

Discussions on the prioritization of needs of countries and sub regions will be held in order to focus on sub regional and national priority issues and challenges that will be introduced by Subregional Group Representatives to the Ministerial Session. The consultation will be facilitated by the FAO Sub regional Coordinator of each sub region in order to produce statements for the Ministerial Session on the priority needs of countries and sub regions and strategies foreseen.

**Friday 8 April**

**e) Ministerial Roundtable: “Strengthening national and regional capacities to effectively implement commitments and increase investments made at national and continental level for the eradication of hunger and the transformation of food systems in Africa for an inclusive growth and shared prosperity” and “Advocacy and Mobilizing for the Africa Solidarity Trust Fund”.**

In June 2014, Heads of State and Government of the African Union (AU) adopted the Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods. The Declaration made seven specific commitments, including ending in Africa by 2025 within the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) framework. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for 2016-2030 adopted by the UN Summit in September 2015 also include a commitment on ending hunger. Based on the lessons learned from the 10 years of CAADP implementation and 15 of MDG<sup>1</sup> implementation as well as the status of the 10 percent commitment in Malabo, the ministerial round table would discuss how the countries could improve their capacities for coordinating and implementing global and continental commitments on ending hunger in Africa. The roundtable will focus on the above subjects and other strategies for the Regional Conference engagement on policies and programmes needed for concrete implementation as well for more advocacy and a stronger mobilization to boost the Africa Solidarity Trust Fund.

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<sup>1</sup> MDGs: Millennium Development Goals