

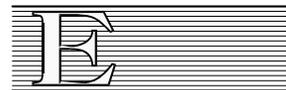


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Eighth Session of the Committee on Food Security and Sustainable Development and the Africa Regional Implementation Meeting for the Twentieth Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Eighth Session of the Committee on Food Security and Sustainable Development (CFSSD-8) took place from 19 to 21 November 2012 at the headquarters of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The session provided a platform for the Africa Regional Implementation Meeting (Africa-RIM) for the Twentieth Session of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) to be held in New York, USA in May 2013.

2. The Africa-RIM was organized by ECA in collaboration with the African Union Commission (AUC), African Development Bank (AfDB) and the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA). Furthermore, UNDESA and ECA organized two side events for major groups. The objective was to share information related to CSD-20 and its Rio+20 follow-up processes in order to improve the understanding of participants on how to engage effectively and identify priorities of regional major groups for effective actions.

3. The objectives of CFSSD-8 were twofold:

- i. To provide a platform for the Africa RIM for CSD-20 which deliberated on the main outcomes of Rio+20 and adopted an outcome document to serve as Africa's collective input to CSD-20; and
- ii. To review progress in the implementation of the 2012/2013 work programme of ECA Subprogramme on Food Security and Sustainable Development (FSSDD), and provide guidance on further work during 2013. The CFSSD-8 also provided guidance on priorities for the 2014/2015 workprogramme in the context of the ECA strategic framework for the 2014/2015 biennium

II. ATTENDANCE

4. The meeting was attended by representatives of 47 member States, from Capitals, Addis Ababa and New York missions, namely: Algeria, Angola, Benin,

Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Republic of the Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, the Gambia, Ghana, Republic of Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, South Sudan, the Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

5. The AUC, AfDB, Arab Maghrib Union (AMU), the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), East African Community (EAC), Economic Community for West African States (ECOWAS), the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and Southern African Development Community (SADC) participated actively in the deliberations. The following major groups were also represented and engaged actively in the discussions; Business and Industry, Children and Youth, women, media, Farmers, Indigenous Peoples, Local Authorities, NGOs, Scientific and Technological Community, as well as Workers and Trade Unions engaged actively in the discussions.

6. Observers from the following member States of the United Nations were present: Brazil, Spain and United Arab Emirates.

7. In addition to UNDESA, observers from the following United Nations Agencies were present: the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the United Nation Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) were present.

8. The agenda and complete list of participants can be accessed at http://new.uneca.org/cfssd6/home_cfssd.aspx

III. OPENING OF THE MEETING

9. Opening statements were made by His Excellency, Lazare Makauat Safouesse, Ambassador of the Republic of Congo to Ethiopia, and Chairperson of the Bureau of the Seventh Session of the Committee on Food Security and Sustainable Development (CFSSD-7); Mr. Josué Dioné, in his capacity as Officer-In-Charge of ECA, and on behalf of Mr. Carlos Lopes, United Nations (UN) Under Secretary General and Executive Secretary of the Commission; Ms. Federica Pietracci, on behalf of Mr. Nekhil Seth, Director of the Division for Sustainable Division (DSD) of UNDESA; Mr. Lamin Barrow, AfDB Resident Representation to Ethiopia, on behalf of AfDB President Mr. Donald Kaberuka; and His Excellency, Mr. Antonio Tete, the African Union (AU) Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the United Nations (UN), on behalf of Her Excellency, Mrs. Tumusiime Rhoda Peace, Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture of the AUC. Mr. Admasu Nebebe, Director of UN Agencies and Regional Economic Cooperation Directorate delivered the opening address on behalf of His Excellency Mr. Ahmed Shide, State Minister of Finance and Economic Development, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia.

10. In his opening remarks, His Excellency, Lazare Makauat Safouesse, the Chairperson of the Bureau of CFSSD-7, welcomed participants to the meeting. He then introduced the speakers at the opening session and presented the Provisional Programme of Work. He thanked ECA for the support received in delivering on the outcomes of CFSSD-7. He acknowledged the fruitful collaboration with the AUC, AfDB, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), who collaborated with ECA in ensuring an effective Africa Regional Preparatory Process for Rio+20.

11. He extended a special welcome to Africa's Chief negotiator at Rio + 20, highlighting the successful work done by the African Group in New York under the leadership of the Ambassador of the Republic of Kenya. He expressed satisfaction that Africa's priorities and aspirations for sustainable development contained in its Africa

Consensus Statement to Rio+20 was adequately reflected in the outcome document of that Conference titled “The Future we want”. This, he declared, was a milestone success.

12. He concluded his remarks by urging all African countries to be effectively engaged in the follow-up to the Rio+20 outcomes and to remain united in their pursuit for the effective implementation of the outcomes in Africa. This, he asserted, would ensure the realization of the continent’s sustainable development aspirations. He wished the meeting successful outcomes.

13. Mr. Josué Dioné, in his capacity as Officer-in-Charge of the Commission,, on behalf of Mr. Carlos Lopez, UN Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of ECA, welcomed participants to the meeting. He recalled the main objectives of the meeting as indicated in the introduction to this report. He noted that the meeting was timely, as it was taking place barely five months after Rio+20. In that regard, the Session provided an opportunity for Africa to deliberate on key outcomes of the conference.

14. He further noted that the meeting had brought together policy makers and experts from all dimensions of sustainable development (economic, social, environmental and governance), including representatives of governments, parliamentarians, major groups, regional and sub-regional organisations. The participation of African permanent missions to the UN in New York, he observed, would strengthen the interaction among policy makers and experts from Capitals, Addis Ababa, and New York. He informed participants that the Outcome Document of the Africa-RIM was expected to be presented to the AU Summit of January 2013, as well as the Sixth Joint Meetings of the AUC/ECA Conference of Ministers of Economy, Finance and Planning, scheduled for March 2013. This, he said, would ensure the high level political guidance needed for the effective articulation of Africa’s priorities and aspirations at CSD-20, and in relevant processes of the UN General Assembly (GA) regarding the implementation of the Rio+20 outcomes.

15. Mr Dioné stressed that the implementation of the Rio+20 outcomes would be one of the flagship initiatives of *ECA delivering-as-one*. In this context, he highlighted the role that ECA and partners could play in supporting member States in the implementation process. These included support in the following areas: Convergence of Africa's deliberations on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Post-2015 Development Agenda; comprehensive assessment of Africa's sustainable development financing needs: assessment of technological and capacity development needs and updating relevant regional frameworks; engagement in the programme of work on measures to complement GDP; conducting case studies on inclusive green growth to inform policies; and as appropriate, the revision of relevant regional frameworks to integrate thematic and cross-cutting issues identified in the Rio+20 Outcome Document. He urged countries to support the upgrading of the Africa- RIM to a Regional High-Level Forum on Sustainable Development to serve as the Africa regional equivalent of the Global High-Level Political Forum (HLPF).

16. Furthermore, he urged countries and all partners to effectively engage in the intergovernmental processes established at Rio in order to ensure that Africa's sustainable development priorities and aspirations were adequately taken into account. He reaffirmed ECA's commitment to supporting member States in implementing the outcomes of Rio+20, building on the valuable experience gained in the Africa Regional Preparatory Process for Rio+20. In this regard, he acknowledged all partners for their effective collaboration during said process. He concluded by wishing the meeting fruitful deliberations.

17. Ms. Federica Pietracci, in the statement made on behalf on Mr. Nekhil Seth, Director of DSD/DESA underlined that the Rio outcomes signified a renewed political commitment for long-term sustainable development by placing emphasis on issues of integration, coherence and implementation. She said that green economy policies were presented as a tool for sustainable development, and in this context, a virtual knowledge platform for member States and other stakeholders would be put in place with a view to disseminating related toolboxes and best practices. She described several unfolding or

completed processes, including the establishment of HLPF on sustainable development, the approval of a ten-year framework of programmes for sustainable consumption and production (10-YFP-SCP), the strengthening of UNEP, and the launching of 740 voluntary commitments valued over 500 billion dollars.

18. She informed the meeting about the imminent creation of a 30-member Intergovernmental Open Working Group on SDGs under the GA, whose work would be supported by a UN inter-agency technical support team. She further informed the meeting that the group was expected to complete its work in 2014, and in this regard, she called on participants to use the opportunity offered by the meeting to provide inputs to the work of the committee. On the Technology Facilitation Mechanism, she informed the meeting that the Secretary General had presented to the 67th General Assembly a report on options for a facilitation mechanism for transfer and dissemination of clean and environmentally sound technologies. The current session of the General Assembly was expected to adopt a resolution on the basis of that report.

19. Ms. Pietracci updated the meeting on the Rio+20 request to the UN to maintain a registry of voluntary commitments. The commitments had reached a total of 870 as at the time of the meeting and the registry had been made available on the Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform, to which member States and other stakeholders were encouraged to register. She further informed the meeting that the Secretary General (SG) would soon appoint a Secretary General of the Conference on Small Island Developing States (SIDS) to be convened in 2014. The modalities of this conference would be determined by the current session of the GA. Regarding the UN system follow-up to Rio+20 outcomes, she informed the meeting that sustainable development would be mainstreamed throughout the UN system and the SG would regularly report on this. In this context, she reiterated the continued commitment of the UN to supporting member States in their sustainable development efforts. In concluding, she called on all relevant stakeholders at all levels to participate and work together in order to achieve sustainable development.

20. In the statement read on behalf of Mr. Donald Kaberuka, Mr Lamin Barrow recalled that although the growth of the African continent was around five per cent in recent years, the benefits in terms of reducing poverty and achieving the MDGs had been limited due to the non-inclusiveness of the growth. It was therefore necessary to develop strategies that ensured growth for the benefit of all categories of society, particularly in face of rapid population growth and high youth unemployment. Mr. Barrow said that more than ever before, achieving sustainable development remains Africa' foremost challenge, particularly given the existing vulnerabilities and the adverse impacts of climate change that were already being manifested in the form of more frequent occurrences of climate extremes such as floods, droughts and heat waves.

21. He disclosed that AfDB was in the process of preparing a strategy for long-term development that focused on sustainable development and green growth. In this context, the Bank would continue to financially support, and provide guidance to member States in the areas of natural resource management, food security, energy security and sustainable transition to a green economy. Mr Barrow reiterated that the meeting was an opportunity for the AfDB Group to identify priority areas for actions to be taken into account in its development strategy. In concluding, he reiterated the commitment of the AfDB to strengthening its partnerships with the AUC and ECA to effectively support African countries in implementing the Rio+20 outcomes, including agreements reached at the Africa-RIM for CSD-20.

22. In the statement made on behalf of Her Excellency, Mrs. Tumusiime Rhoda Peace, His Excellency, Mr. Antonio Tete began by reminding the meeting that the outcomes of Rio+ 20 were not only to engender strong political will and international commitment to the goals and ideals of sustainable development, but also to move the sustainable development agenda forward. The conference aimed to raise the level of commitment by countries, regions and the international community to a common cause for sustainable development, including the need to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, such as the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

23. Other important outcomes, he said, related to the setting of meaningful and measurable commitments to combat climate change and its effects across Africa and other developing regions, and the adoption of concrete measures supported by adequate means of implementation that would ensure accelerated implementation of food security and sustainable development decisions and commitments. The other main outcome of Rio+20, he added, was to secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assess progress to date and the remaining gaps in the implementation of commitments, decisions on sustainable development, and address new and emerging challenges.

24. He emphasized that the African Union Commission (AUC) was Africa's premier institution and principal organization for the promotion of accelerated food security, sustainable development, socio-economic integration of the continent, which would lead to greater unity and solidarity between African countries and peoples. In that regard, the AUC, within the framework of sustainable development and regional integration was committed to supporting Member States, Regional Economic Communities (REC's), as well as its specialized institutions to direct their efforts towards sustainable development, bearing in mind their priorities and the need to safeguard and improve the environment.

25. Furthermore, he asserted that food security would be achieved when all people, at all times, had physical, social and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life. Therefore, the challenges posed by food insecurity required a holistic and strategic approach of linking knowledge with action. The key element of this approach included increased collaboration among development specialists, agricultural experts and food producing communities. It also called for greater interactions among policy or decision makers and researchers in all sectors. It was by exchanging ideas and viewpoints that collective understanding on issues and positions related to sustainable development and food security would be reached, he concluded.

26. In the opening address he delivered on behalf of His Excellency Mr. Ahmed Shide State Minister of Finance and Economic Development, Federal Democratic

Republic of Ethiopia, Mr. Admasu Nebebe said that the meeting was timely, as it presented an opportunity to deliberate on Africa's expectations and priorities with regard to the implementation of key Rio+20 outcomes; and agree on an outcome document that would serve as Africa's collective input to the CSD-20 and relevant GA processes and deliberations.

27. He recalled the successful bottom-up regional preparatory process that was instrumental in adequately preparing Africa to effectively participate in Rio+20, thereby ensuring a favourable outcome for the region, and called for the translation of the conference outcomes into actionable programmes with meaningful impact on the livelihoods and well-being of people. He underscored the need for African countries to organize themselves to effectively participate in various intergovernmental processes under the UN General Assembly that had either been launched or would soon be launched towards the effective realization of Rio+20 outcomes. In this regard he called for the following:

- i. Launch of bottom up and inclusive consultations that would ensure that the final outcomes to be adopted by the UN General Assembly were responsive to Africa's sustainable development priorities and aspirations;
- ii. Establishment or strengthening of mechanisms at regional, sub-regional and national levels that would ensure that African countries remained actively engaged, and provided relevant inputs to the global processes;
- iii. Integration of the process for the elaboration of sustainable development goals into the post-2015 Development Agenda process; and
- iv. Domestication of Rio+20 outcomes by African countries as well as regional and subregional organisations through effectively integrating them into national, and regional and subregional development policies, strategies, plans and programmes.

28. On green economy, he said that in accordance with the Rio+20 outcomes, it was incumbent on each country to define green economy taking into account its particular developmental context and aspirations. In this connection Ethiopia had developed,

adopted and launched a Climate-Resilient Green Economy (CRGE) vision and strategy; and had commenced translating it into action. A CRGE facility had also been launched in order to mobilize, access, sequence and blend domestic and international public and private sources of finance to support the CRGE.

29. He urged African countries to be strategic and proactive by domesticating Rio+20 outcomes through effectively integrating them into national development policies, strategies and plans. In this regard, he said that ministries responsible for planning should assume lead responsibility, bring together sectoral ministries, civil society and the private sector, and ensure that effective coordination mechanisms were put in place or strengthened at all levels. That way, African countries would own and be champions of their sustainable development agenda.

30. He said that African countries should also ensure the mobilisation of adequate domestic resources to be complemented by development assistance. This, he said, should be prudently managed and channelled to the implementation of flagship programmes that could accrue optimal sustainable development dividends. In this respect, he shared Ethiopia's experience in the development and implementation of major development plans pertinent to that country's sustainable development, namely: Agricultural Development-led industrialization of 1993; Sustainable development and poverty reduction strategy (SDRPRP) (2002/3-2004/05); Plan for Accelerated and Sustained Development to End Poverty (PASDEP) (2005/06); and Growth and transformation plan (2010/11 -201/15).

31. He stressed that countries should move forward in implementing the Rio+20 outcomes with a strong sense of unity of purpose, and in this regard learn from and build on the Africa regional preparatory process for Rio+20. He called on the meeting to adopt a strong outcome document to serve as Africa's collective input to CSD-20 and other GA processes. He said that Ethiopia would support the presentation of such an outcome document to the AU Summit of January 2013, as well as to relevant ministerial bodies, particularly the Joint AUC-ECA Conference of Ministers of Finance, Planning and

Economic Development. On that note, he declared the Eighth Session of the Committee on Food Security and Sustainable Development opened and wished participants successful deliberations.

IV. ACCOUNT OF PROCEEDINGS

A. Election of the Bureau

32. The Committee elected the following countries to constitute its Bureau on the basis of rotational sub-regional representation:

Chairperson:	Republic of the Congo
First Vice-Chair:	Egypt
Second Vice-Chair:	Liberia
Third Vice-Chair:	Uganda
Rapporteur:	Malawi

33. In view of the very intense and protracted deliberations regarding the re-election of the Republic of Congo as Chair of the Bureau of CFSSD for its subsequent session, the Committee requested the Secretariat to develop and circulate guidelines for the election of CFSSD Bureaus to ensure transparency, consistency and smoothness of the election process.

B. Adoption of the agenda and programme of work

34. In presenting the Provisional Agenda and Programme of Work, the Chairperson of CFSSD-8 suggested that the overview presentation on *The Main Outcomes of Rio +20 and Implications for Africa* be skipped as all the elements contained in that presented were addressed in-depth in the various presentations that followed. He assured them that it would be made available in the flash disk that would be distributed to all participants. The Committee concurred with the Chairperson's suggestion. With this agreed amendment, he invited the Committee to further consider the agenda and programme of

work for adoption. In the absence of any further observations, the agenda and programme of work were adopted.

C. Introduction and objectives of the meeting

35. Under this agenda item, the secretariat made a brief presentation on the introduction and objectives of the meeting. It provided an overview of the meeting format, the expected outcomes and outputs, guided by the objectives of the meeting. The presenter indicated that the meeting would consist of five segments namely: presentation and discussion on the outcomes of Rio+20 and their implications for Africa; open-ended Drafting Group on the Africa RIM Outcome Document for CSD-20; review of the Implementation of the 2012/2013 Work Programme of the ECA Subprogramme on Food Security and Sustainable Development and priority areas for the 2014/2015 Work programme; presentation and discussion on key parliamentary reports and special initiatives; and consideration and adoption of the Africa-RIM Outcome Document for CSD-20, and the Draft Report of CFSSD-8.

36. The presenter urged participants to complete the registration form so that the secretariat could have the full contact details of participants to facilitate effective follow-up, including dissemination of the final meeting reports. The presenter also urged the participants to complete the evaluation form to enable the Secretariat to determine the extent to which the meeting objectives and expected outcomes had been met, in order to improve on the organization and servicing of meetings, and to serve the committee better.

37. The committee thanked the secretariat for its presentation and adopted the objectives and expected outputs without amendment.

D. African Regional Implementation Meeting for the Twentieth Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development

Presentation and discussion on the institutional framework for sustainable development

38. During this session the Secretariat made a presentation on institutional frameworks for sustainable development at global, regional and national levels. The presentation was drawn from the E/ECA.CFSSD/8/2: Main outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development – Implications for Africa. The presentation highlighted the key outcomes of Rio+20 on institutional frameworks at global, regional and national levels. Based on an analysis of the implications of the outcomes for Africa, the presentation articulated possible areas and messages that the RIM could consider to communicate to the CSD-20, and other UNGA process on the Rio+20 outcomes, as follows:

39. **At global level:** The presentation advanced that Africa should ensure that the form and composition of the High Level Political Forum (HLPF) to be defined adequately caters to its agreed functions. The region should insist on broad-based, transparent and inclusive participatory process involving all relevant stakeholders. Furthermore, countries should decide on establishing a regional consultative process to be supported by its partners and involving African regional and subregional organizations. It suggested that the AUC, ECA, AfDB within the framework of their joint Secretariat could support the consultative process in the region. On Inter-Generational Equity (IGE), the presentation suggested that Africa could call for support for the development and implementation of long-term development visions that foster.

40. **At Regional Level:** The presentation called on the committee to support the strengthening of ECA in view of its principal role in supporting sustainable development actions, including promoting the balanced integration of its three dimensions. It advocated for the transformation of the Africa-RIM into a High- Level Regional Political Forum and the need to ensure that the principle of subsidiarity was applied fully in the HLPF process to be established. The committee was urged to push for the provision of support for the participation of African Least Developed Countries in the Regional Forum and for the strengthening of the RCM-Africa which also plays an important role in furthering the sustainable development agenda on the continent.

41. *At national level:* The presentation highlighted that the mandate, location and organizational structure of national sustainable development bodies should allow for horizontal and vertical linkages, as well as effective integration. It proffered that the composition of these bodies should be broad-based ensuring full and effective involvement of all relevant ministries, and major groups. Furthermore, these bodies should among, others have decentralized structures at local levels, guide the development and implementation of policies and strategies- ensure synergies, avoid overlaps and duplication. It was essential that they adopt or enhance the use and application of approaches and tools, including integrated assessments to promote balanced integration.

42. In the ensuing discussions, participants suggested that Africa needed to agree on important follow-up actions taking into account its priorities, which included poverty eradication as a persistent challenge. In this regard, Africa should build on the MDGs and integrate them into the post-2015 development agenda.

43. On the HLPF replacing the CSD-20, the committee stressed that an institution should not be replaced by a process, but rather another more effective institution; and the HLPF should add value, and bring ministers of finance and planning to its deliberations. Targeting the ministries of environment as focal points for sustainable development, as was currently the case for CSD-session, would not ensure effectiveness in the HLPF process, as they did not have the mandate, or the capacity for integrated planning, which was essential for sustainable development. The HLPF should give thrust to concrete programmes that countries should implement and come with actual funding for these programmes.

44. The committee also underscored that national bodies for sustainable development should draw on the experiences with National Councils for Sustainable Development (NCSDs). Given the multiplicity of planning frameworks at regional and national levels, Africa should take the opportunity provided by the Rio+20 follow-up process to adopt integrated development planning and implementation.

45. A representative of the African Group of negotiators from New York provided the committee with the status of the GA processes on the SDGs, HLPF, strengthening of UNEP and on the means of implementation, and called for the meeting to provide Africa's perspectives on these areas. On the SDGs, the committee felt that there was need to agree on three areas: the principles, priorities for Africa and the relationship of the process with other processes such as the Post-2015 development agenda. And on green economy, the committee was of the view that there was need to discuss this further, and in this regard, countries should explore strengthening exchange of good practices and success stories.

46. On the implementation of thematic and cross-sectoral issues addressed in the Rio+20 outcome document, the committee agreed that there was no the need not to re-invent the wheel, but to build upon existing processes, programmes and development frameworks such as NEPAD.

47. One participant suggested that the Africa-RIM should focus on one theme for each of its sessions.

48. The Secretariat was requested to respond to, and provide additional information on the following: Specific details on what was needed to strengthen ECA and to upgrade the Africa RIM to a Regional High-Level Forum and how the latter would be different from the RIM; Information on detailed evaluation of the functioning of national councils for sustainable development; the expected roles of the HLPF; and the need for the Africa-RIM to adopt one theme for each session.

49. The secretariat responding to the suggestions made and clarifications being sought confirmed that indeed, the Africa-RIMs had routinely adopted one theme for its sessions and the one for CFSSD-8 was follow-up to the Rio+20 outcomes. The secretariat reiterated the need to build on existing frameworks such as NEPAD and pointed out that there would be an inter-cluster meeting of RCM-Africa in 2013, for UN

agencies to agree on concrete actions to support the implementation of the Rio+20 outcomes in the context of the AU programmes.

50. The strengthening of ECA expected by the secretariat was in terms of increased number of regular staff and provision of additional financial resources to effectively deliver on the work of supporting countries in sustainable development, including the balanced integration of the three dimensions on sustainable development. Furthermore, the Africa-RIM would need to be strengthened to elevate it to the level of High-Level Regional Political Forum to enable it interface effectively with the HLPF to be established at the global level. This would ensure representation at ministerial level to enable it take decisions on implementation issues. Currently, the Africa-RIM was a technical forum, with expert level representation.

51. The HLPF was expected to address all the shortcomings of CSD, including the need for a balanced integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development, the need for adequate representation of ministers and policy makers from all dimensions of sustainable development, the need to have an adequate implementation mandate and to be able to respond to new and emerging challenges, as well as to ensure effective linkages with related regional and national bodies, among others.

52. On the issue of NCSDs and NSSDs, ECA had undertaken thorough analytical studies on both and would share these with participants. The secretariat emphasized that whatever the framework that would be adopted, it should embody the balanced integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development. The secretariat agreed that without ministries of planning assuming the lead role in the sustainable development agenda, it would not be possible achieve the balanced integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development into sectoral and national development plans.

53. In view of the interventions related to the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM), the Secretariat provided highlights of the APRM process. In this regard it pointed out that 21 countries had acceded to the mechanism. Out of these, 15 had already subjected to the review and had developed action plans. ECA was working with

countries to ensure that the action plans would be integrated into and national development plans.

Presentation and discussion on the sustainable development goals

54. The presentation of the secretariat on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) highlighted the process that could be adopted for the elaboration of the goals, building on the Africa process on the Post-2015 Development Agenda. It reiterated the importance of achieving the MDGs and the need to take into consideration the principles contained in Agenda21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Action (JPOI) in elaborating the goals. It stressed the need for broad-based, transparent and inclusive consultative process. Poverty eradication was key and so was the principle of *Common But Differentiated Responsibility* (CBDR), means of implementation, science based decisions and setting of clear and measurable targets. The need to avoid duplication and to establish convergence between the SDGs and Post 2015 Agenda was emphasized.

55. The presentation also addressed institutional arrangements and provided a comparative analysis between the principles, key dimensions, goals, objectives and other key attributes with a view to demonstrating very close convergence between the SDGs and the Post-2015 Agenda processes. It identified enablers or pre-requisites for the Post-2015 development agenda as follows; peace and security, good governance, justice, transparency, capacity to measure progress, domestic resource mobilisation and partnership among others. Emerging priorities in the Africa Post-2015 consultations included structural transformation and inclusive growth, innovation and education, and human and social development.

56. In the discussions that followed, the committee noted that while Africa had made appreciable efforts to ensure its voice was heard at Rio, it was important to ensure the same level of preparations for the SDGs. In this regard, it was pertinent for the region to adequately prepare for the global discussions through, inter alia, instituting a broad-based and inclusive consultative process. The committee also emphasized the

need to foster convergence between the Post-2015 Agenda and the SDGs processes from global to national. Thus, the timing of the two processes should be critically reviewed.

57. Furthermore, the Post-2015 Agenda should be informed by experiences and lessons learnt in the MDGs, and the SDGs should build on the findings of the Post-2015 process. Additionally, the SDGs needed to address the issue of qualitative assessment beyond the quantitative approach that underlined the MDGs. They should also be bold and ambitious in terms of defining targets. Once developed, Africa should quantify the financial resources required to meet the SDGs and lobby for developed countries to commit to meeting the financial requirements. The committee agreed that there should be one UN Development Agenda, and the SDGs should be time-bound with clear targets. The participation of civil society in the elaboration of the goals was crucial, and so was the need to ensure coordination among UN agencies supporting the process.

58. The committee urged that while developing the SDGs, Africa should focus on underpinning principles such as taking into account different development levels of countries and building on historical responsibilities. It underlined the need for the SDGs to foster the balanced integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development and to ensure that countries, in particular developing countries, had the policy space to pursue their own development priorities and strategies, thereby fostering national ownership. It also underscored the imperative of defining timelines in mobilizing means of implementation.

59. Moreover, the committee emphasized that the process should be led by African priorities, including poverty eradication, creating job opportunities, inclusive green jobs, in particular for the youth and women. It underscored the importance of economic growth, including through value addition and improving productivity of smallholder farmers. Intra-African trade and infrastructure development, including energy were considered critical to unlocking Africa's potential. Also crucial were technology development and transfer, the creation of an enabling environment conducive to

innovation, including strengthening Africa's science-base to further research and development (R&D).

60. The committee considered as essential, food security, health, education reducing maternal mortality, promoting girls' education, access to safe and adequate water and sanitation, social protection and in general, human development. Emphasis was placed on addressing climate change, strengthening disaster risk reduction, combating land degradation, drought and desertification. Stemming deforestation also considered important particularly in the context of addressing climate change. Key enablers were peace and security and good governance.

Presentation and discussion on means of implementation (financing, capacity and technology)

61. The Secretariat made presentations on means of implementation focusing on financing, capacity building and technology.

Financing

62. The presentation on financing indicated that Rio+20 called on countries to prioritize sustainable development in the allocation of resources and improve democratic governance, transparency and accountability. The conference established an intergovernmental process under the GA to prepare a report proposing options on effective sustainable development financing strategy, with technical support from the UN system. The process should involve open and broad consultation with relevant stakeholders. In this regard, the secretariat made the following suggestions for consideration by the Africa-RIM:

63. Africa should actively engage in the intergovernmental process and explore all possible sources of funding, including exploiting synergies with other means of implementation. To support the Africa process, ECA, with AUC and AfDB could carry out a comprehensive assessment of the financing requirements and provide a platform for broad-based consultations.

64. Countries should adopt a more proactive approach to financing for development, strengthen domestic resource mobilization efforts, enhance revenue from the exploitation of natural resources to be channelled to sustainable development, ensure an enabling environment for investment, accelerate progress to putting in place a regional financial architecture to deal with crises, consolidate existing funds, and explore the possibility of creating an Africa Sustainable Development Fund.

65. Regarding the voluntary commitments, countries should proactively follow up and engage with committing organizations, advocate for commitments in areas pertinent to the region, e.g. poverty eradication, sustainable development economics, finance and trade, natural disasters, land degradation and desertification, as well as gender. ECA could serve as a broker between UNDESA, committing organizations and African member States. ECA and other partners could also promote platforms to share experiences and foster knowledge, and advocate for inclusion of African countries not yet targeted by the voluntary commitments.

Capacity building

66. On capacity building, the presentation focused on the existing regional and UN system frameworks for supporting actions in the area of sustainable development. These were namely, the AU-NEPAD Capacity Development Strategic Framework (CDSF) and the Ten Year Capacity Building Programme (TYCBP) developed in the context of AU-UN Cooperation.

67. The presenter indicated that the Capacity Development Strategic Framework was developed in 2010 as a NEPAD project to guide capacity-building activities in Africa with the objectives of (a) developing processes and systems for empowering country leadership teams with the knowledge, information and values that foster accountability at all levels, especially to the citizens; (b) creating space for stakeholder participation, and influencing critical engagement by improving communication on the use of subregional and regional spaces; (c) developing and continuously reviewing sets of criteria that enable citizens and different stakeholders to challenge leadership on

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accountability and build their critical consciousness; (d) supporting initiatives that foster a culture of commitment and adherence to due process and policies by governments, business and civil society actors; and (e) building networks and constituencies of expertise beyond Africa through a programme for engaging Africans in the Diaspora. The presenter listed the key cornerstones of the CDSF and informed that work was being undertaken in Ghana, Kenya, Rwanda and Uganda to mainstream CDSF in national strategies.

68. The Ten Year Capacity Building Programme signed in November 2006 was aimed at enhancing the capacity of the AU organs (AUC, RECs, NPCA, etc) with special emphasis on (a) institution-building, human resources, development and financial management; (b) peace and security; (c) human rights; (d) political, legal and electoral matters; (e) social, economic, cultural and human development; and (f) food security and environmental protection. The presenter added that a Capacity Building work programme for the AUC based on its priority needs had been developed and handed over in June 2012 for implementation. A similar work programme was being developed for the NEPAD Planning and Coordination Agency (NPCA) to be followed by RECs and other AU organs.

69. The presenter also stated that capacity building was considered as an ill-defined area with limited knowledge and understanding of progress so far. It was a long-term process that required a systemic and systematic approach. In conclusion, she urged African governments and institutions, together with their partners, to undertake an exercise to develop capacity profiles and needs assessments at all levels, with clear and measurable progress indicators to monitor interventions that addressed their specific development needs and challenges.

Technology development and transfer

70. Regarding technology development and transfer, the presentation indicated that Africa had a growing base of research and development (R&D) institutions. In order to promote innovation, the presentation called on the region to address all phases of the process, comprising identification of needs, potential sources, transfer and adaptation.

The secretariat suggested that the UN should establish an independent advisory board on technology and that countries should develop strategies to promote and strengthen technology institutions at all levels.

71. At national level, it was suggested that partnerships needed to be established between governments, businesses and civil society in order to promote coordination and synergies across technology transfer initiatives.

72. At the regional level, the presenter suggested to consider the Cluster on Science and Technology of RCM-Africa as the regional chapter of UN Independent Advisory Board on Technology and establish/strengthen regional and sub-regional networks of centres of excellence and hubs, leveraging on existing networks. Furthermore, the presenter stressed the need for establishing a steering committee to focus on development, dissemination and use of clean technologies. Such a committee would include partners such as the African Technology Development and Transfer Network, the African Agriculture Technology Foundation, the African Renewable Energy Alliance, the African Network for Drugs and Diagnostic Innovation.

73. Subsequent to the presentations, the following emerged from the discussions.

74. On the means of implementation, the committee stressed that the global partnership for development should be strengthened in terms of resource mobilization and technology transfer to unlock Africa's potential. Issues such as external debt management and domestic resources mobilization also needed to be addressed. While most of African economies were growing, most of this growth was not impacting on human development and welfare, particularly in terms of addressing equality and equity issues. It urged the region to take into account women's rights, as well as issues related to the youth. Women participation in the decision making process needed to be promoted, as well as their economic empowerment. The region needed to enhance its capacity in gathering gender disaggregated data in supporting sustainable development. Green jobs and social entrepreneurship for young people should be mobilized to address the question of youth unemployment and promote sustainable development.

75. The committee noted that financing remained a serious challenge to African countries. It called for quantifying the resources required for the implementation of the SDGs and to improve governance in the utilization of funds. It underscored that while Africa acknowledged that it was primarily responsible for its development, developed countries should fulfil previously agreed international commitments and also commit to providing additional means of implementation (finance, technology transfer and capacity building).

76. The committee underscored science and technology as an important means of implementation of the SDGs and Post-2015 Agenda. Science was necessary for mastering technology, but tended to be neglected in Africa. Developing more R&D structures and creating African research networks would have the added benefit of identifying and adapting the technology to be transferred. This would also contribute to improving human capital accumulation and reducing the brain drain. However, there was need to create an enabling environment in countries to stem the brain drain from Africa.

77. On capacity building, the committee noted that given its broad nature, it was necessary to clearly identify capacity requirements in order to ensure well-targeted and coordinated actions.

Presentation and discussion on green economy

78. The secretariat provided information on the main agreements related to green economy at Rio+20. In line with Africa's common position, Rio+20 agreed that the green economy was one of several approaches, visions, models and tools available to each country to achieve sustainable development, and it should contribute to growth and poverty eradication, while respecting planetary boundaries. Further, the green economy should be based on the Rio principles, in particular the principle of common but differentiated responsibility, and respect national sovereignty. It should be inclusive, and help bridge the technology gap. Rio+20 requested the UN systems and other relevant institutions to support countries upon request, in pursuing green economy, including

through the development and implementation of green economy policies, and called on business and industry to develop sustainability strategies.

79. Despite the agreement reached at Rio, the secretariat highlighted that controversies still surrounded the concept, with developing countries in particular fearing that the green economy could constitute a conditionality. In view of this, ECA was among those institutions advocating for a stepwise approach, focusing on inclusive green growth (IGG) in selected sectors. This would allow countries to continue pursuing growth-centred strategies, and from lessons learned, ensure that growth was inclusive and resource efficient.

80. The secretariat put forward several suggestions for the consideration by the Africa-RIM, including: the need for African countries to seek a better understanding of green economy paradigm, and to adopt step-wise approach, considering different stages of development and country specificities; the need for documenting lessons learnt to inform policy choices, and ensuring that IGG fosters job-creation; the identification of key requirements in terms of the means of implementation; and the need to strengthen existing partnerships and build new ones. The secretariat further highlighted support that could be provided by ECA and partners, including on assessing challenges and opportunities of IGG, developing IGG policies, as well as methodologies to assess them; developing guidelines for IGG; and establishing experience sharing and knowledge networking platforms.

81. The secretariat also informed participants that ECA was preparing, together with partners, the Fifth Issue of the Sustainable Development Report on Africa (SDRA-V) under the theme *Achieving Sustainable Development through Inclusive Green Growth*. The report would help in documenting best practices and lessons learnt in key sectors of Africa's economies for scaling-up and scaling-out success stories.

82. In the ensuing discussions, participants expressed support for strengthening ECA towards ensuring that it fully responded to the needs of member States regarding

IGG, including fostering a better understanding of the concepts, opportunities and challenges in Africa. They recommended that actors should go beyond governments and should include the private sector, civil society, local communities and parliamentarians.

83. Participants called for integrating IGG principles into existing frameworks and programmes at all levels, in addition to designing new programmes specifically for IGG. In this regard, they recognized the need to step up efforts to promote sustainable consumption and production patterns in the region.

84. In responding to questions posed, the secretariat concurred on the need to ensure the broadest participation possible in the development and implementation of IGG policies and programmes, as well as the key role that parliamentarians and local authorities could play in ensuring a direct link between government's programmes and people's needs and aspirations. It stressed the important role that governments could play in creating an enabling environment that would stimulate the participation of the private sector, and in directing investments towards sectors that could accelerate IGG.

85. As regards the promotion of sustainable production and consumption, the Secretariat reminded participants of the Africa 10 Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production – that could be updated to take into account the green-economy related outcomes of Rio+20, and support their implementation. The secretariat concluded by highlighting how ECA, together with partners, could provide forums and platforms bringing together member States and partners interested in engaging in IGG activities in Africa, to facilitate exchange of information and the establishment of partnerships.

Presentation and discussion on programme of work of broader measures to complement gross domestic product

86. During this presentation, the secretariat highlighted that The Programme of Work on Broader Measures to Complement Gross Domestic Product (GDP Plus) proposed by Rio+20 was aligned with the call of African countries for reference

indicators to assess the economic, social and environmental performance of their economies, for integrated policy making. It provided countries with an opportunity for more accurate and comprehensive assessment of the state of their economies. For comparability and compatibility of data across countries, African countries would need to mobilize financial, technical and human resources to adopt, implement and move towards international statistical standards, and to use harmonized and reliable statistics in all fields, including the 2008 System of National Accounts (the 2008 SNA) and the and the latest version of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (the 2012 SEEA).

87. The presentation suggested that ECA, AUC, AfDB and other international and regional development partners could be called upon to provide technical assistance and policy advice required to support Africa's participation in the global process and in the measurement and assessment of the progress on sustainable development on the continent. For the African Statistical System, the Statistical Commission for Africa (Stat-Com Africa) provides a platform to discuss and inform Africa's position, through which, Africa should build horizontal linkages with other ECA Committees and vertical linkages with UN Statistics Commission to follow up with the programme of work on broader measures to complement GDP as recommended by Rio+20.

88. It was important for countries to ensure improved quality and comparability of statistics, promote adherence to fundamental principles of public statistics in Africa, and a culture of evidence-based policymaking, as well as to build the institutional capacity of statistics authorities towards ensuring their autonomy in operations. To this end, the presentation urged member States to sign and ratify the Charter as soon as possible to facilitate its implementation, the strengthening of policies, and the development of statistical systems.

89. In the subsequent discussions, participants stressed the importance of broad-based platforms and a strong statistical background to policy formulation. In this regard, institutions responsible for statistics should be involved in developing sustainable development strategies. Furthermore, participants expressed the need for regional

institutions to develop, upon demand, training programmes on statistics, including on sustainable development indicators and the implementation of the Africa Charter on Statistics. They emphasized that coordination between national and international statistics institutes should be improved, and reiterated the call for African countries to ratify and implement the African Charter on Statistics.

Presentation and discussion on the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States

90. In this presentation, the secretariat recalled the main outcomes of Rio+20 in relation to Small Island Developing States (SIDS). The conference reaffirmed the special case of SIDS, given their unique and particular vulnerabilities. Rio+20 further noted that the five year review of the Mauritius Strategy concluded that SIDS had made limited progress in economic improvements, poverty reduction and debt sustainability, though some progress was witnessed in the area of gender, health, education and the environment. In this context, Rio+20 called for continued and enhanced efforts to assist SIDs in implementing the Barbados Programme of Action and the Mauritius Strategy, and for a strengthening of the UN system support to SIDS. Furthermore, Rio+20 decided to hold the Third International Conference on SIDS in 2014, and invited the General Assembly to determine the modalities of the conference.

91. The secretariat informed participants that negotiations on the modalities of the Conference were still ongoing at the meeting of the Second Committee in New York. Issues under discussions included: the potential role of CSD-20, given its special mandate on SIDS; the objectives and expected outcomes of the Conference – with convergence on the need for it to result in a concise, focused, forward-looking and action-oriented political document; and the frequency and duration of global and regional preparatory meetings – on which discussions were still ongoing.

92. The presentation concluded by proposing actions that African SIDS – Cape Verde, Comoros, Mauritius, Sao Tome and Principe, Seychelles, which are members of the Atlantic, Indian Oceans, Mediterranean and South China Sea (AIMS) region – could consider to ensure their effective engagement in the process. In this regard, the

presentation suggested that African countries should reiterate the importance of the conference in consolidating and scaling up the implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action and the Mauritius Strategy and call for the conference to reach an outcome that is bold and ambitious, and which builds on previous processes including Rio+20 and the Mauritius Strategy of Implementation+5 (MSI+5).

93. Countries should also underscore the importance of robust national and regional (AIMS) preparations, the need to mobilize and provide adequate resources for capacity-building, as well as support national and regional preparatory activities for the conference and effective representation and participation of African SIDS and other countries in the conference; and Also pertinent, is the need to urge the effective and coordinated support to the national and regional preparations to be given by the UN system and other partners for African SIDS.

E. Statutory and legislative matters

Presentation and discussion on the implementation of the 2012/2013 work programme of the ECA subprogram on food security and sustainable development and priorities for the 2014/2015 work programme

94. Under this agenda item, Mr. Josué Dioné, Director, Food Security and Sustainable Development Division, made a presentation drawn from document number E/ECA/CFSSD/8/17 - Implementation of the 2012/2013 Work Programme of the ECA Subprogramme on Food Security and Sustainable Development: Progress Report.

95. He stated that the overall objective of the subprogramme during the 2012/2013 biennium was to “Promote food security and sustainable development, including addressing the challenge of climate in Africa in accordance with the priorities of the AU and its NEPAD Programme, and the JPOI”. He said that the programme expected accomplishments were: enhanced capacity and engagement at the national, subregional and regional levels to develop and implement appropriate policies, strategies and programmes for achieving food security and sustainable development; and improved capacity of member States to mainstream climate change into development policies, strategies and programmes.

96. He outlined completed, ongoing and planned outputs of the subprogramme for 2012-2013 in the areas grouped into sustainable development and climate change; and agriculture and food security. Among the key results achieved by the programme were: strengthened capacity of member States and their intergovernmental bodies to participate in Rio+20, which led to the region's effective participation and achievement of a favourable outcome at Rio+20. The subprogramme had also strengthened capacity of member States to effectively participate in international climate change negotiations; and enhanced awareness of the *Land Policy Initiative* stakeholders, member States and regional and subregional organizations on land policy formulation and implementation in Africa.

97. With regard to the 2014-2015 proposed programme budget for the subprogramme, Mr. Dioné said that the objective was to promote food security and sustainable development, including addressing the challenge of climate change in Africa. He also highlighted the planned expected accomplishments of the subprogramme during this biennium. Mr. Dioné concluded by inviting member States to provide guidance on further work of the subprogramme for 2013, and the proposed programme budget for 2014-2015, taking into account lessons learned and emerging priorities from mandates and requests from various international and regional bodies, and members States respectively.

98. In the ensuing discussions, the committee noted the urgent need to better integrate issues related to land policy into the work of the ECA subprogramme and take into account the recently published FAO report on land regimes.

99. The committee urged ECA to give due consideration to the issue of land acquisitions and promote the concept of environmentally sustainable investments while attracting FDI in agriculture. It underscored the problem of urban food insecurity, in the sense that food insecurity was often and wrongly perceived as a totally rural phenomenon. The meeting emphasized the need to invest in urban agriculture in order to tackle the high food demand resulting from rapid urbanization and high population growth in Africa.

100. The committee underscored the need to build infrastructures in rural areas, notably to address transport constraints and transaction costs in accessing markets. It deplored the fact that an abnormally high proportion of agricultural production from land acquisition was designed for exports and not for domestic consumption, and called upon ECA to address two crucial issues, including the ownership of land (which was not clearly determined in African countries) and the necessity to strike a balance between conservation of the environment and development in rural areas.

101. The committee underscored the cross-cutting gender issues, notably the links between gender and land ownership in Africa noting that while women constituted most of the agriculture labour force in most African countries, the majority of land owners were men. It was mentioned that social safety nets were an important way of protecting individuals from shocks induced by natural disasters. The committee emphasized the need to promote income-generating activities for women through expanding their access to financing mechanisms and ease their work burden at the household level. It also highlighted the importance of promoting regional and subregional integrated water management initiatives.

102. The committee urged countries to tackle the issue of high post-harvest losses as vast proportion of food was lost even before reaching the urban consumer. The representative of the indigenous people major group emphasized the importance of alternative livelihoods in fostering rural resilience to climate change and other shocks.

103. A delegate brought the attention of the committee to the G8 Initiative on Food Security to which six African countries were beneficiaries. The committee urged ECA to take into consideration the implications of such an initiative in terms of the involvement of the private sector in the African agricultural sector and the interactions between small farmers and large ones. It underlined the need to harmonize different sources of information within the UN System to avoid confusion.

Presentation and discussion on the status of food security in Africa

104. The secretariat highlighted the prevalence of malnutrition in Africa with almost 240 million undernourished people, representing around 23 per cent of Africa's population. Though the number of undernourished had declined to 11 per cent since 2009, it increased in absolute terms reflecting the need for more concrete efforts towards addressing the root causes of the chronic food insecurity in a continent that had 60 per cent of the world's uncultivated arable lands. More alarming, the presentation underlined that almost one-third to one-half of the population in most African countries suffered from hunger despite an annual continental food imports of around 50 billion dollars, and two billion dollars of food aid, suggesting that food security was not a marginal issue, thereby justifying the need to address it in a more comprehensive, integrated manner.

105. Compared to the rest of the world, Africa was the worst achieving continent with an increase in the number of undernourished people by almost 37 per cent since 1990/1992, in contrast to a decrease of 33 per cent at the global level. At country level, the picture was mixed with some countries achieving a remarkable success in hunger reduction against a set of countries that had registered a substantial increase in hunger prevalence. This suggested the need for more country-specific food policy interventions.

106. The presentation pointed out the ongoing shifts from a period of global relatively cheap food prices to much higher and volatile prices highlighting the adverse effects on the poor. Moreover, as the presentation indicated, the uncertainty in prices and high volatility hindered growth and investment in agriculture making it even harder for Africa's agriculture to attract much needed investment. In this regard, the Secretariat suggested the need to establish or reinforce regionally based early warning systems and food markets surveillance institutions, and to adopt price and income stabilization instruments to promote more resilient production systems. The presentation also underscored that sustained strategic agricultural and rural investments were critical to addressing existing agricultural productivity gaps and increase decisively food production and value addition in strategic commodity and food products.

107. The presentation concluded by indicating a number of policy options on priority actions that Africa needed to consider to effectively address food insecurity. In this regard, it highlighted the need to promote and support agricultural growth and rural transformation programmes by significant investments, appropriate policies and effective institutions. It called for enhancing competitiveness and value addition, and increasing strategic staple production. It advocated for ensuring social and environmental sustainability of the food and agricultural systems.

108. Furthermore, the presentation urged countries to give more attention to African smallholder farmers in order to increase agricultural productivity and production. It urged for enhancing policy coherence in order to ensure that climate change and energy policies do not jeopardize food security, through, for example, the promotion of biofuel at the expense of food production for instance. It drew attention to the need for strengthening at all levels, African governance and coordination structures and mechanisms, as well as monitoring and evaluation structures and systems in food and nutrition security matters. Finally, it called for experience sharing and cooperation among African countries to be promoted within the framework of the RECs, with a view to boosting investment in agriculture and enhancing food security across the region.

109. Following the presentation, the committee emphasised the need for African countries to build on lessons learnt and available good practices in food security interventions to enhance food availability and access. It recognized the need to provide disaggregated data on food security for better understanding of the effects of malnourishment.

110. Furthermore, the committee stressed the need to consider increasing the percentage of agricultural public expenditure to at least 10 per cent of the national budgetary allocation in line with the Maputo resolution and CAADP principles. It called for aligning international food aid/interventions, including grants, loans and subsidies with food aid policies to enable Africa to effectively tackle food insecurity. The

committee considered it important to scale up the establishment of regional and national food reserves. It emphasized the need to accord priority to the empowerment of small-holder farmers, particularly female farmers, through enhancing access to finance, modern inputs and markets.

111. The committee underlined the need to promote indigenous research in support of food production increase, and to align the research with the requirements of boosting agricultural productivity in Africa, with a particular focus on small-scale farming. It drew attention to the need to reinforce the traditional food patterns with a view to altering the observed shift from the consumption of traditional African food crops such as cassava and millet, which were readily grown in Africa to food crops that were not natural flora of Africa.

112. The committee considered it pertinent to improve the current farming systems in Africa in order to meet the food demands of the ever growing population, while taking into account that small-scale farmers constitute the majority of farmers in Africa, as well as the anticipated adverse impacts of climate change on Africa's agriculture. Effectively managing the population dynamics and migration to contribute positively to food security should be a complementary measure.

113. The committee called for ensuring a coherent design of the flow of food security related activities through the inclusion of relevant agencies working at different stages from policy formulation, analysis, financing to implementation. It urged ECA liaise with member States in collecting data and information with a view to ensuring accuracy and consistency. It underscored the need to build partnerships among African countries focusing on identified strategic commodities. In view of the limited resources available, this should be done with the support of the UN system in the context of partnership arrangements that leverage on their different comparative advantages.

114. In response, the secretariat pointed out the lack of, and access to reliable data on agricultural and rural sector in most African countries and reiterated the need for

strengthening the capacity of national statistical agencies through strategic, sustained investments. It underscored the need for consistent, sustained mechanisms for sharing knowledge and lessons learned in order to upscale successful food policy interventions and draw lessons from unsuccessful interventions.

115. The secretariat further underscored the paramount importance of improving infrastructure at national and regional levels to facilitate trade and marketing, and to enhance the competitiveness of African producers of agricultural commodities. It highlighted that Africa should properly manage its resources in order to effectively tackle food insecurity. In this regard, good governance and effective partnerships were considered vital.

Presentation and discussion on the development of strategic agricultural commodity value chains

116. The secretariat presented the findings of livestock value chains studies undertaken in Botswana and Ethiopia with a regional perspective. The objective of the studies was: 1) to determine and establish the current livestock production potential, the demand for livestock products/by-products and market access at both regional and international markets; 2) identify commodity flows and stakeholders, including their interaction across the value chain and 3) identify major challenges and opportunities across the value chain; and to indicate the relevance and significance of livestock in the livelihoods of smallholder farmers and agro-pastoralists/pastoralists.

117. The presentation focused on three key areas, namely: the importance, relevance and significance of livestock production in the smallholder/traditional and agro-pastoral/pastoral systems in Botswana and Ethiopia, respectively; the number of pertinent issues in the value chains for both Botswana and Ethiopia, which revealed salient features, challenges and opportunities along livestock value chains in the COMESA/SADC sub-region.; and the examination of the supply chain frameworks of both Botswana and Ethiopia and insights into how livestock were marketed/ traded and the behaviour of players across the supply chains.

118. In the conclusion, the presentation highlighted the strength, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT) of the livestock value chains of Botswana and Ethiopia. It proffered recommendations on: addressing trans- boundary diseases; mitigating against droughts; improving livestock productivity; marketing hides and skins; addressing environmental degradation; and fostering coordination and linkages.

119. During the discussions, the committee underlined that work on the promotion and the development of strategic food and agricultural commodities regional value chains should form an integral part of the CFSSD work programme for the 2014-2015 biennium. This should be aligned with the Rio+20 outcomes related to livestock development in Africa.

120. It called for studies on the identification and analysis of challenges and opportunities for private and public investments in the livestock sector. The studies should also address subsidy schemes for livestock development in Africa and the integration of African markets should be the guiding principle of the studies.

Presentation and discussion on climate change and development in Africa

121. A representative of the African Climate Policy Centre (ACPC) made this presentation. The presenter explained that the Centre formed an integral part of the Climate for Development in Africa Programme (Clim-Dev Africa), which was a joint initiative of the AUC, ECA and AfDB. Under the Programme, the ACPC was implementing activities in four results areas:

- i. Widely available climate information, packaging and dissemination
- ii. Quality analysis for decision support and management practice
- iii. Informed decision making, awareness raising and advocacy
- iv. Programme functioning

122. Under Results Area 1, activities included data rescue and the assessment of climate monitoring networks with pilot projects and needs assessments conducted in Rwanda, the Gambia, and Zambia, and a workshop undertaken in Ethiopia. The ACPC had also mapped climate data and information in over 10 African countries and was assessing the impacts of climate change in terms of loss and damage in Burkina Faso, Mozambique, Ethiopia, Gambia and Kenya. Other activities under this resulted area included preparation of a data base of green house gas emissions in Africa, developing Africa's capacity to undertake long term climate projections and scenarios.

123. Under Results Area 2 the presenter highlighted progress with regard to the establishment of an African Climate Frontiers steering committee, identifying thematic areas and the mapping of African and non-African institutions engaged in related activities. Other activities under results area 2 included: policy reviews on climate resilience in the agricultural sector in Mali, Malawi and Kenya; the launching of a project on infrastructure and the green economy with the World Bank; the preparation of concept notes and projects to assess costs and benefits of climate change adaptation in five river basins; and the production of a report on the green economy in Africa and key questions for follow up with African stakeholders.

124. The Centre also works on sustainable energy issues and has been providing technical backstopping to the African Group of Climate Change Negotiators (AGN).

125. Under Results Area 3, the ACPC hosted the second conference on Climate Change and Development in Africa, which serves as a stakeholder forum for the ClimDev-Africa Programme. Other important outreach events in 2012 included the launching of the IPCC Special Report on Managing the Risks of Extreme Events and Disasters to Advance Climate Change Adaptation (SREX) in March.

126. Under Results Area 4, the presenter highlighted the establishment of the African Climate and Development Society (ACD-Soc), which it facilitates. The body intended to

hold year-round stakeholder engagement from across Africa on climate resilient and low carbon development issues of common interest.

127. The Chair expressed commended the presentation, which showcased work grounded in reality and based on studies. In the ensuing discussion, the committee raised questions related to the Centre's engagement with FSSDD, the private sector and RECs, and requested for more information on the ACPC fellowship programme.

128. In responding to questions posed, the presenter pointed out that the ACPC was engaging with colleagues in FSSDD on issues of food security. He agreed that there was need for further engagement with RECs, particularly on regional issues like transboundary water resources and climate resilience, regional power pools and their role in low carbon development.

129. On private sector engagement, the presenter stated that the Centre had been engaging private sector organisations, as the scale of development required in Africa called for the mobilization of the private sector to complement government actions. This, he said, required an enabling environment where profits could be made, while addressing wider social and environmental benefits. The ACPC fellowship programme was established to engage African PhD graduates in Africa-specific research, and to develop capacity in these areas. The programme also aimed to bolster the capacity of the ACPC to engage in technical work.

130. On the issue of climate change impacts, the example of sea level rise and its likely impacts on certain countries were raised along with the issue of 1.5 degrees Celsius being considered as the upper threshold limit for Africa. It was pointed out that beyond two degrees Celsius, the risks for Africa would be great. The same was true for other parts of the world such as the Arctic where there was a real risk of feedback mechanisms that could result in uncontrolled climate change.

Presentation and discussion on the AUC/ECA/AfDB Land Policy Initiative

131. The Secretariat of the AUC/ECA/AfDB Land Policy Initiative (LPI) made this presentation. The presentation pointed out that the Initiative was jointly developed by AUC, ECA and AfDB to address land issues in Africa. It highlighted the objectives of the LPI, namely; building consensus, developing framework and guidelines on land policy, building partnerships, addressing land issues and challenges, as well as mobilizing resources to implement the AU declaration on land issues and challenges.

132. The Initiative was established in 2006 and was divided into two phases. Phase I, which ran from 2006 to 2009, entailed the development and adoption by the AU Summit in 2009, of the *Framework and Guidelines on Land Policy in Africa*. Phase II, which would run from 2010 to 2016 was being guided by the AU Declaration on land and addressed the following: (i) building the capacity of member states and RECs in land policy formulation implementation, monitoring and evaluation; (ii) women land rights of access and utilization; (iii) the implementation of the Nairobi Action Plan on large-scale agricultural land based investments in Africa; (iv) land use planning and mapping; and (v) continuous data collection to facilitate monitoring of processes and assessment of impacts.

133. Following the presentation, the committee applauded the Initiative and called for deepening and devolving the work of LPI to subregional and national levels, and to foster consensus building on land issues by involving all stakeholders, including government and non-government actors.

134. Views of the committee on *Large Scale Land Based Investment* (often referred to as land grabbing) were varied. While some felt there was no such thing as *land grabbing*, others were of the view that indeed this was a reality, but historical in nature. Some countries considered large investments in agriculture essential in raising levels of production and ensuring food security. The committee suggested that in those countries where this phenomenon was believed to engender corruption and disenfranchise

smallholders, it was essential to enact legislation to close loopholes, ensure land tenure security and strengthen land administration.

135. The committee proffered that crop aggregation was one way of addressing the issue of small land holding productivity, as this would ensure economies of scale. Crop intensification, use of improved seeds and fertilizer application were also considered essential to maximizing land use. In both cases, the principle of security of tenure would be upheld.

136. Regarding gender equality in land ownership, some delegates informed the meeting that women land rights were observed and enshrined in their respective constitutions. However, it was observed that women land rights were generally recognized in many national policies, but the issue was their ability to utilize this land.

137. The committee pointed out that the application of land use, and land suitability mapping could help in minimizing conflicts and reverse the rural urban migration trend. The need to check spontaneous and haphazard development in urban areas was also raised. The committee called on ECA and other partners to help countries develop tools to manage land, and suggested that LPI should look into supporting the formulation of a land declaration that focused on rural areas.

138. The committee observed that there cannot be one land policy for the continent, as there were different forms of land ownership rights, including customary, private and state owned land. In this regard, the crucial issue was to ensure security of tenure. Concerns were highlighted over mining activities that displaced communities. In this regard, the committee underscored the need to develop mining practices that take into account the rights of rural communities and minimize environmental degradation.

F. Consideration and adoption of the Africa-RIM Outcome Document for CSD-20

139. The Committee considered the draft Africa-RIM Outcome Document for CSD-20. Delegations made comments, observations and proposed amendments to the document. The committee adopted the draft Outcome Document as amended.

G. Consideration and adoption of the report of the meeting

140. The Committee considered the draft report of its meeting. Delegations made comments, and proposed amendments to the report. The Committee adopted the draft report as amended.

H. Theme, dates and venue for CFSSD-9

141. On this agenda item, the Secretariat requested for flexibility to hold a discussion with the Bureau of CFSSD-8 on choosing the theme for the next CFSSD. As for the venue, the Secretariat invited interested countries to submit offers to host the CFSSD-9 session indicating that offers should be made within three months. In conclusion, the Committee unanimously agreed to the submission and entrusted the Secretariat to consult with the Bureau on the theme, exact date and venue for CFSSD-9.

I. Any other business

142. The committee wished to know when its report would be made available to participants. In responding, the secretariat assured participants that the French and English versions of the report would be circulated the following week.

143. In view of the impending retirement of Dr. Josué Dioné, Director of FSSDD, the committee, through the Chair, gave a special vote of thanks in recognition of his long and dedicated service to ECA and several African institutions. It saluted Dr. Dioné's many achievements and laudable contribution to advancing Africa's agriculture and addressing the region's food insecurity challenges, as well as in key areas of sustainable

development, including climate change and land issues. It wished Dr. Dioné happy retirement and success in all his future endeavours.

J. Closing of the meeting

144. Before delivering the closing remarks made on behalf of the Executive Secretary of ECA, Mr. Dione, the Director of FSSDD, expressed gratitude to the committee for the vote of thanks made in recognition of his exemplary service to Africa and his imminent retirement. Mr. Dioné, then thanked the participants for their substantive, high quality and effective deliberations during the meeting. As a result of this, the meeting had been able to come up with clear messages and positions on the Rio+20 outcomes to serve as Africa's inputs to CSD-20 and other global and regional processes. He also thanked the meeting for the clear guidance on the further implementation and development respectively, of the work programmes of the ECA subprogramme on Food Security and Sustainable Development, for the current and next biennium.

145. Mr. Dioné extended special appreciation to the African Group from New York for their participation in the meeting. He noted that this was an innovative way of harmonizing views between member States and their representatives in New York. He assured the meeting that ECA and partners would continue to build on this experience to strengthen the collaboration and synergy among all the stakeholders to make sure Africa's voice was heard in the Rio+20 follow-up and related discussions.

146. He thanked all ECA staff for their effective involvement in, and substantive contribution to the organization of the meeting, coordinated by Ms Isatou Gaye, Chief of Environment and Sustainable Development Section. He said that this was yet another activity that showcased ECA effectively delivering as one. He also extended profound appreciation to the interpreters for serving beyond the scheduled hours of their work. Mr. Dioné ended his remarks by assuring the participants that ECA would keep in close touch with all of them to further strengthen the discussions on the post-Rio agenda, and wished them all a safe journey back to their respective destinations.

147. The Chairperson of the CFSSD-8 Bureau thanked the participants for their patience and the rich discussions over the three days of the CFSSD-8 and Africa RIM. He expressed appreciation and gratitude to the country delegations for giving the Republic of Congo the opportunity to continue leading the work of the Bureau of CFSSD. He assured the meeting of the Bureau's determination to produce quality work in response to the trust and confidence bestowed on them. He lauded the meeting for achieving successful outcomes. On that note, he wished *bon voyage* to all the delegates and declared the meeting closed.

148. The meeting rose at 21:05 hrs.

Advance Unedited Version