



EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY

**4TH MEETING OF THE SECTORAL COUNCIL ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD
SECURITY**

AICC, Arusha, Tanzania
16th November, 2012

REPORT OF THE MEETING

(Ref: EAC/SR/161/2012)

EAC SECRETARIAT
Arusha, Tanzania
November, 2012

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1. Convening of the Meeting

The 4th Meeting of the Sectoral Council on Agriculture and Food Security was held on 16th November 2012 in Arusha, Tanzania to review progress made in the Sector in implementing Council and Sectoral Council decisions and to consider other issues of regional importance in the areas of agriculture and food security. The Report of the meeting was finalized in Nairobi, Kenya on the 26th November 2012.

1.2. Attendance

The meeting was attended by Ministers, Permanent Secretaries and Senior Officials from the Ministries responsible for Agriculture and Food Security, Livestock and Fisheries, Special Programmes, East African Community Affairs and Trade and Industries of Partner States, Lake Victoria Basin Commission and the EAC Secretariat. East African Farmers Federation participated as observers. The list of participants is hereto attached as Annex I.

1.3 Opening of the Meeting

1.3.1 Constitution of the Bureau

In accordance with EAC Rules of Procedure, the meeting was chaired by Hon. Dr Mohammed Kuti, Minister of Livestock Development, Republic of Kenya while Mr. Ernest Ruzindaza, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources, Republic of Rwanda was the Rapporteur.

1.3.2 Opening Remarks

Remarks by the Chairperson

The Chairperson, Hon.Dr. Mohammed Kuti welcomed all the delegates to the meeting and thanked the United Republic of Tanzania for hosting the meeting in Arusha. He emphasized the importance of the agriculture sector and the need for Partner States to allocate more resources for the development of the sector. He finally wished the meeting fruitful deliberations.



Remarks by the Secretariat

The EAC Secretariat opening remarks were given by Hon. Jesca Eriyo, Deputy Secretary General Productive and Social Sectors on behalf of the Secretary General, East African Community and are hereto attached as **Annex II**.

1.3.3 Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted and is hereby attached as **Annex III**.

2.0 CONSIDERATION OF THE STATUS OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL AND SECTORAL COUNCIL DECISIONS, PROJECTS AND PROGRAMMES AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

2.1 Report on the Implementation of Previous Decisions of the Council and Sectoral Council

The Sectoral Council was informed that reporting on the status of implementation of previous Council and Sectoral Council decisions and directives is part of the monitoring function of the EAC Secretariat.

The Implementation Matrix of previous Council and Sectoral Council decisions is attached hereto as **Annex IV**.

The Sectoral Council on Agriculture and Food Security considered the matrix and made the following observations:

- (a) The Sectoral Council on Agriculture and Food Security examined the Implementation matrix and made the following observations; Agriculture is a very important sector in addressing food security in the region. It is therefore imperative that the capacity of the department of Agriculture and Food Security at the Secretariat be strengthened in both human and financial resources. There is therefore urgent need to fast track recruitment of additional staff to handle sector matters (crops, livestock and fisheries).
- (b) There is a need for the implementation status of the Food Security Action Plan to be reported as a substantive agenda in all meetings of the Sectoral Council on Agriculture and Food Security.



- (c) Currently, the Department of Agriculture and Food Security is understaffed in key technical areas.
- (d) Partner States technical experts could be seconded to EAC Secretariat to bolster the under staffed Department of Agriculture and Food Security. The Sectoral noted that this happens in other Regional Economic Communities like SADC. The respective Partner States should pay the seconded staff while the EAC Secretariat meets the operational costs of the seconded staff.
- (e) The activities of the EAC Food Security action plan should be prioritised. A list of priority activities should be worked out and an action plan of priority activities be developed.

Recommendations

The Sectoral Council:

- (a) **took note of the progress made in implementation of the previous Council and Sectoral Council decisions;**
- (b) **directed the Secretariat to fast track recruitment of additional staff to handle sector matters where human resource gaps exist at the EAC Secretariat in the Agriculture and Food Security department;**
- (c) **directed the Secretariat to explore ways of how Partner States technical experts could be seconded to Secretariat for specific positions to enhance capacity of the Agriculture and Food Security Department while awaiting recruitment of additional staff through established positions. The Secretariat should develop and present a concept note on options for secondment of staff to the Secretariat in the next meeting of the Sectoral Council;**
- (d) **directed the Secretariat to collaborate with other institutions including LVBC and LVFO to mobilize resources for development activities;**
- (e) **directed the secretariat to prioritize key strategic activities which could be successfully implemented with available funding based on the current EAC agricultural instruments. The priority activity list and prioritized action plan to be presented in the next Sectoral Council; and**



- (f) directed the Secretariat to ensure that the implementation matrix of previous Council decisions reflect accurately and comprehensively the status of implementation of the respective activities.

2.2 Development of EAC SPS Protocol

At its 20th Meeting held on 19th - 26th March 2010, the Council adopted and referred the Draft Protocol on Sanitary and Phytosanitary to the Sectoral Council on Legal and Judicial Affairs for legal input (*EACCM20/Decision 27*).

The 14th meeting of the Sectoral Council on Legal and Judiciary Affairs meeting (held in Kigali, Rwanda from 19th to 23rd October 2012) considered the Draft Protocol on Sanitary and Phytosanitary and recommended to Council that the Draft East African Community Protocol on Sanitary and Phytosanitary (Draft EAC SPS Protocol) meets the requirements of the Treaty and should be concluded. The Draft SPS Protocol will be considered by the 26th meeting of the Council scheduled for 19th to 26th November 2012.

The meeting noted the progress made in development of the EAC SPS Protocol and observed that any interventions from the Partner States can be made at the next meeting of the Council scheduled for 19th to 26th November, 2012, Nairobi, Kenya.

Recommendations

The Sectoral Council took note of progress made.

2.3 Development of EAC Regional Food Balance Sheet Framework

The Sectoral Coordination Committee meeting was informed that Secretariat in collaboration with experts from Partner States have developed a Regional Food Balance Sheet (RFBS) framework as directed by the 3rd Sectoral Council on Agriculture and Food Security at its meeting held in August, 2011, Arusha, Tanzania. The Sectoral Council directed the Secretariat to conclude the development of the Food Balance Sheet Framework and ensure that it covers the whole range of food commodities apart from staple grains. The development of the RFBS framework is in line with the implementation of the EAC Food Security Action Plan.

The Regional Food Balance Sheet (RFBS) framework has the following major components:

- a) Cereals and Pulses
- b) Livestock (Meat, Dairy Products and Animal Fats)
- c) Fish
- d) Horticulture (Fruits, Vegetables)
- e) Roots and Tubers; and



f) Industrial Crops (Sugar and Sugar Products, Oil Crops and Vegetable Oils

The Sectoral Coordination Committee meeting was further informed that there is a need to develop harmonized user operational manuals (for the six components above) for data pooling for the National Food Balance Sheet (NFBS) and Regional Food Balance Sheet (RFBS) capturing the necessary methodologies and procedures. USAID COMPETE is committed to support the EAC in development of the user operational manuals. For effective implementation of RFBS there is need to run a pilot phase of NFBS and RFBS (covering the six subcomponents) for a period of at least six months to determine its effectiveness before the official launching of the framework.

Recommendations

The Sectoral Council:

- a) took note of the progress made in the development of the Comprehensive RFBS;
- b) urge Partner States to develop user operational manuals for the NFBS by June 2013;
- c) directed the Secretariat to develop user operational manuals RFBS and run a pilot phase of the Comprehensive RFBS for a period of six months by end of September 2013; and
- d) directed the Secretariat to prepare detailed technical and financial requirements for operationalization of the Comprehensive NFBS and RFBS and mobilize resources from development partners.

2.4 Development of EAC Food Security and Nutrition Policy

A draft EAC Food Security and Nutrition Policy has been developed pursuant to implementation of various activities that are foreseen in the EAC Food Security Action Plan. The draft document was considered by the meeting of experts from 26th to 27th October, 2012 in Arusha, Tanzania.

The meeting observed that the role of the Secretariat should be to facilitate harmonization of the existing national policies and mobilization of resources for coordination and harmonize process.

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Recommendations

The Sectoral Council;

- a) took note of the progress made; and
- b) directed the Secretariat to coordinate and harmonize national policies on food security and nutrition and mobilize resources for the coordination and harmonization process.

2.5 Implementation of the African Agribusiness and Agro-Industry Development Initiative (3ADI) In EAC

EAC Secretariat had developed a technical proposal TCP (Technical Cooperation Programme) for implementation of the East African Agri-enterprises and Agro-industries Development Program (E3ADP) with support from FAO.

The TCP agreement signed between FAO and EAC amounting to USD 349,000 to run from September 2012 for a period of 19 months.

The main outputs of the TCP include:

- 1) An East African Agro-industries and Agro-enterprise Development Programme (E3ADP) developed, documented and approved by the relevant EAC organs.
- 2) Model investment plans and projects developed with identified potential financing for their implementation.
- 3) Improved capacity of EAC Secretariat and institutions as well as regional implementation partners in coordination and implementation of E3ADP and related development programmes in agro-industries and agro-enterprises.

The main activities of the TCP includes; reviewing current situation, identifying gaps and proposing feasible solutions, organise national and regional validation workshops, engaging and raising awareness of development partners and investors, developing final program document, undertaking sub-sector prioritization and analysis of model investment plans, facilitating stakeholder understanding of priority investment opportunities, and facilitating dialogue and design of necessary public-private partnerships for the joint model investment plans.



In addition, the TCP activities will also include training of relevant regional and national actors in agro-industry sector development and providing direct technical support to the EAC Secretariat

The project implementation is expected to start at the end of November 2012, with FAO recruiting a technical expert to spear head implementation of the project in collaboration with the EAC Secretariat.

The meeting noted that there is need for involving Partner States in development of projects and TCPs with development partners for purposes of ownership and making relevant input. The meeting observed the TCP should be implemented since it has been signed but should request FAO to review the implementation period and use more local people with required competencies.

Recommendations

The Sectoral Council;

- a) took note of progress made;**
- b) direct the Secretariat to involve Partner States in development of projects and TCPs with development partners for purposes of ownership and making relevant input; and**
- c) directed the Secretariat to proceed and implement the TCP with FAO but request FAO to review the project implementation time with a view of reducing it from the current 19 months and use of local experts in implementation of the TCP.**

2.6 DEVELOPMENT OF EAC REGION CAADP COMPACT

The Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) is at the heart of efforts by African governments under the AU/NEPAD initiative to accelerate growth and eliminate poverty and hunger among African countries. Within the context of key NEPAD-CAADP principles and values, CAADP aims to stimulate and rally resource (technical, financial, etc) support to country and regional efforts in realizing agricultural driven higher path of economic growth. EAC is committed to the implementation of CAADP at Community level with EAC Secretariat playing a coordination role.

With the support of the NEPAD Planning and Coordination Agency (NPCA) through its CAADP Head Office, the Secretariat has managed to develop a detail road map for the development of EAC Regional CAADP Compact hereto attached as **Annex V**.



As per the Roadmap for the development of the EAC Regional CAADP Compact the EAC is expected to commission an preliminary assessment study of what is already in place/being done and determine major action areas to embrace CAADP values and principles in driving regional trade and integration objectives in EAC by 30th November 2012.

Recommendations

The Sectoral Council:

- a) **took note of progress made; and**
- b) **directed Secretariat to coordinate and harmonize national CAADP Compacts and support Partner States in mobilization of resources for the process of coordination and harmonization.**

2.7 COLLABORATION WITH AU-IBAR

2.7.1 MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MoU) WITH AU-IBAR

The EAC and African Union Commission - Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR), signed an MoU on the 5th June 2012 with the aim of enhancing and increasing the effectiveness of efforts to achieve common goals and objectives especially in animal resources development.

The MoU signed envisages a scope of work to include; provision of a mechanism for cooperation in development of animal resources as a means to improve human well-being and economic development in EAC; setting up a framework for co-ordination and harmonization of policies, measures, programmes and activities in livestock development; fast-tracking of integration and establishment of the African Common Market; and Promoting inter-regional projects in livestock development.

2.7.2 REINFORCING VETERINARY GOVERNANCE (VETGOV) PROJECT

In line with the above MoU, EAC and AU have signed a partnership agreement to Implement the VETGOV project. This is a five year project funded by the EU and is being implemented by AU-IBAR, FAO and the OIE and the eight Regional Economic Communities including EAC. The project aims at improving the institutional environment of veterinary services by providing effective and efficient animal health services.



The strategic goal of the Project is to bring about institutional strengthening of veterinary services towards;

- (i) the establishment of adequate veterinary services at the national level
- (ii) Strengthen regional institutions to play their roles of coordination, harmonization, integration and support to countries with the aim to stimulate a more conducive environment for public and private investments in the livestock sector.

The project has three result areas, namely:

- (i) Knowledge and awareness for institutional change enhanced;
- (ii) Institutional capacity for livestock policy formulation, animal health strategies and legislation; and
- (iii) Institutional capacity for the implementation of policies and enforcement of regulations enhanced

The project has recruited a Regional Project Coordinator and an Accountant to the EAC Secretariat. A project bank account has been opened at Kenya Commercial Bank, Arusha, Tanzania. The project has embarked on collation of livestock policies and veterinary legislation in the EAC. The project also has committed some funds to co-sponsor national validation workshops to validate the Draft Regional EAC Livestock Policy. In addition, the project organized a Continental workshop on livestock policies development in Arusha Tanzania, November 2012.

Recommendations

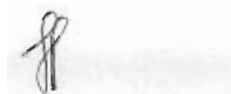
The Sectoral Council took note of the progress made.

2.8 THE EAC AVIAN INFLUENZA RESPONSE PROJECT

The EAC Regional Avian Influenza Response project was a three year project that specifically aimed at harmonizing, synergizing and coordinating national action plans for avian influenza and other transboundary diseases and enhancing sustainable capacity of the EAC Secretariat and national veterinary services. The total cost for the three year project was €3 million with one million channeled through EAC Secretariat under a programme estimate arrangements while €1.86 million was channeled through FAO as an implementing agent under a contributory arrangement (CA).



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The EAC Regional Avian Influenza response project aimed at contributing to the socio-economic welfare and public health in the East African Community by minimizing the impact of Avian Influenza (AI).

The project started on 1st October, 2008 and ended on 30th November 2011. The project was successfully implemented within the region as it enhanced regional preparedness and coordination in the EAC.

The main achievements of the project included:

- enhanced integrated regional coordination in responding to diseases;
- established and facilitated regional disease control Steering and Technical Committee meetings;
- built the capacity to prepare for and respond to disease outbreaks including carrying out several table top and cross border field simulations; and
- supported and facilitated cross border meetings to enhance cross border disease control and information exchange.

In addition, the project developed the following coordination instruments and networks:

- EAC Strategy on Control and Prevention of Trans-boundary Animal and Zoonotic Diseases;
- Regional Contingency Plan;
- Harmonized Trans-boundary Animal Health Data Capturing Tools;
- Identification and listing of Priority Animal Diseases in the EAC;
- Documentary Films on Cross Border Field Simulation Exercises and Stakeholder visit to Kenya Bixa Ltd;
- Epidemiological and laboratory networks;
- Wildlife health network; and
- Poultry Association of East Africa.

Seven vehicles were procured under the project. All the vehicles and other assets were allocated to the Partner States and Zanzibar and the Secretariat. The Landrover 4WD were registered under Secretariat.

The Landrover motor vehicles were allocated as follows;

	Chassis No	Registration Number	Location
1	SALLDHMTT78A762506	TCD264EAC	Tanzania –Zanzibar (Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries)

			Development Veterinary Department
li	SALLDHMT79A765126	TCD265EAC	Rwanda (Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources, RAB –Animal Health Section)
lii	SALLDHMT78A762574	TCD266EAC	Tanzania- Mainland (Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries Development, Veterinary Department)
lv	SALLDHMT78A762432	TCD267EAC	Burundi (Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, Veterinary Department)
v	SALLDHMT79A765276	TCD268EAC	Kenya (Ministry of Livestock Development Veterinary Services Department)
vi	SALLDHMT79A764632	TCD269EAC	Uganda (Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries , Veterinary Department)
Vii	SALLDHMT79A765216	TCD270EAC	Secretariat- Arusha Tanzania

However, the project closed with some pending work including; development of the animal health information system; development of the regional livestock policy; Regional Compensation Strategy; and finalization of the Integrated National Action Plans for disease control (INAPs)

Recommendations

The Sectoral Council:

- a) took note of the progress;
- b) directed the Secretariat to initiate change of ownership of all the vehicles and assets from the ended project to the respective Partner States by March 2013; and
- c) urged Partner States to sustain Project activities by mainstreaming them in their national plans and budgets.






2.9 CONTROL OF TSETSE AND TRYPANOSOMIASIS IN THE REGION

The meeting noted that the tsetse infestation causing trypanosomiasis is a neglected disease by Partner States and development Partners yet is closely linked to poverty in Africa.

Trypanosomiasis has a severe economic impact on agricultural production. In affected countries the adverse effects are greatly felt in socio-economic development, land use, utilization of natural resources and causes poverty and food insecurity. Specifically, in the EAC region the tourism sector has been affected in the highly infested tsetse areas

The control and ultimate elimination of the human and animal diseases transmitted by the tsetse flies would significantly contribute to improve human health, increased productivity of land and livestock and to reduce rural poverty in Africa.

One of the main challenge in the battle against tsetse flies is the transboundary nature of the problem; eradication intervention cannot be localized to a single state in the affected area but must be regional to address the problem of re-infestation.

Given the East African scale of the tsetse fly problem and considering its complex and dynamic medical, veterinary, agricultural and rural development dimensions, East African Partner States have recognized the need to establish focus and direction in the fight against tsetse and trypanosomiasis.

The EAC in collaboration with African Union Pan African Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis Eradication Campaign (AU-PATTEC) have embarked on developing a joint proposal on surveillance and eradication in the EAC region. This is in line with EAC's strategy on Prevention and Control of Trans-boundary and Zoonotic diseases and the strategies of the EAC Partner States.

Recommendations

The Sectoral Council:

- a) took note of the progress made;
- b) directed the Secretariat to develop a joint project proposal by June 2013 with AU-PATTEC for the control of Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis in the Region;
- c) directed the Secretariat to constitute an EAC regional technical working committee on control of Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis by June 2013;and
- d) directed the Secretariat to embark on resource mobilization for eradication of Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis in the EAC region.



2.10 PASTORALISM AND DRYLANDS DEVELOPMENT IN THE EAC

The Sectoral Council was informed that two meetings were held on pastoralism and drylands development. The first meeting was convened from 13th to 15th February, 2012 in Arusha, Tanzania and the second meeting was held from 9th to 11th May 2012 Arusha, Tanzania to discuss Pastoralism and Drylands development in the EAC in light of climate change impacts and to explore adaptation and mitigation options open to the EAC Pastoralist.

The key issues discussed and agreed on by experts included, the need for a regional emergency preparedness and response plan, a Regional Strategy on pastoralism and drylands development; a study on reviewing of the regional pastoral and drylands policy, environment and resource mobilization for pastoralism and drylands development initiatives.

The Sectoral Council observed and appreciated the contribution of Pastoralism as a way of life but also acknowledged the unsustainable nature of livestock management by traditional ways of life that do not allow for development of this important sector.

In this regard, there is a need to hold a regional forum to bring together key stakeholders from public sector, international development partners, private sector, civil society, pastoralists associations amongst others to discuss and propose possible sustainable alternative livelihoods.

The Sectoral Council further noted the need for policies, strategies, plans and investments for long term development in view of the emerging challenges. In this regard, the Sectoral Council observed that there is need for national plans to address the root causes of livestock mobility by improving availability of pasture, water, diseases control, improving veterinary and marketing infrastructure in the drylands, initiating development programmes like irrigation, livestock identification and traceability systems, public education awareness campaign and strengthening of farmer groups on the need for transformation amongst others.

Recommendations

The Sectoral Council:

- a) took note of the progress made on pastoralism and drylands;
- b) directed the Secretariat to conduct a study to review the policy status on the regional pastoral and drylands development;



- c) directed the Secretariat to organize for a high level regional forum to deliberate on the need for transformative sustainable livestock farming practices by June 2014;
- d) directed the Secretariat to develop a detailed long term plan for transformation of pastoralism into sustainable livestock based livelihoods; and
- e) directed the Secretariat to mobilize resources to facilitate the activities of the Regional Steering Committee on pastoralism and drylands development.

2.11 EAC LIVESTOCK POLICY DEVELOPMENT

The Secretariat through the consultants has developed the 2nd Draft EAC Livestock Policy. The 2nd draft document is now undergoing validation at the national level before being subjected to a final regional validation workshop by stakeholders. As of now it is only the Republic of Rwanda that has held its national validation workshop. The other EAC Partner States of Burundi, Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda are scheduled to hold their national validation workshops before the end of November 2012. A regional validation workshop is expected to be held after the national validation workshops.

Recommendations

The Sectoral Council:

- a) took note of progress made in development of the EAC Livestock Policy;
- b) urged the Partner States to undertake national validation workshops/ exercises with funding from Secretariat before the next meeting of the Sectoral Council ; and
- c) directed the Secretariat to conduct the regional validation workshop to finalize the draft Livestock policy before the next meeting of the Sectoral Council.

2.12 DEVELOPMENT OF HARMONISED LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION DATA CAPTURING INSTRUMENTS

The Sectoral Coordinating committee meeting was informed that an experts meeting on the development of an EAC Livestock Production data framework was convened from 20th to 22nd June, 2012 in Arusha, Tanzania.

The experts identified core livestock production data/indicators for the region; developed a draft harmonized regional data collection framework; discussed technical conversion factors/formulas and agreed on the Animal Resources Information System (ARIS) II for



management of animal resources in the EAC. ARIS II was developed by AU-IBAR in line with the decision of African Ministers responsible for animal resources. The ARIS initiative is also in line with CAADP and the Global Strategy to improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics.

Recommendations

The Sectoral Council:

- a) **took note of the progress made in development of harmonized list of livestock indicators and data framework for capturing livestock production and health data;**
- b) **directed the Secretariat to develop harmonized regional technical livestock conversion factors for the region; and**
- c) **adopt the Animal Resources Information System (ARIS) II as primary tool for information management on animal resources in the EAC.**

2.13 EAC SPS MEASURES ON FISH & FISHERIES PRODUCTS

2.13.1 UPDATING EAC SANITARY AND PHYTOSANITARY (SPS) MEASURES ON FISH AND FISHERIES PRODUCTS AND IT'S COMPANION DOCUMENTS

The Secretariat and the Partner States Experts updated the EAC Sanitary Measures for fish and fisheries products and its companion documents (the Inspectors Guide – IG and Manual for Standard Operating Procedures - MSOP). The documents are ready for publishing. The updating exercise was supported by the *Smartfish* Programme.

The *Smartfish* is a programme funded by the EU for “Implementation of a Regional Fisheries Strategy for the ESA-IO”, which is being implemented from the Programme Management Unit (PMU) based at Indian Ocean Commission in Mauritius. The programme is implemented by the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC) in collaboration with the Common Market for East and Southern Africa (COMESA), the East Africa Community (EAC) and the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD).

2.13.2 ROLL-OUT PLAN FOR EAC SPS FISH AND FISHERIES PRODUCTS MEASURES

The meeting was informed that Secretariat in collaboration with Partner States experts in their meeting of 31st August to 2nd Sept, 2011 discussed and agreed on a roll-out plan for the EAC SPS measures on fish and fisheries.



The meeting was further informed that the experts recommended the following for purposes of effective and wider reach out to stakeholders;

- i) an inventory of all development frameworks, legal instruments and standards of the fisheries sector of EAC Partner States should be carried out;
- ii) training of stakeholders/actors and support service providers along the fish value chain on SPS measures;
- iii) develop user friendly versions of the EAC SPS Vol. III and training manuals with target groups in mind; and
- iv) the EAC Secretariat should embark on resource mobilization for the fisheries sub-sector.

Recommendations

The Sectoral Council:

- a) took note of the progress made;
- b) directed the Secretariat to roll-out the EAC SPS Measures on fish and fisheries and training of Fisheries Inspectors, Fisheries Personnel and Stakeholders along the fisheries value chain;
- c) directed the Secretariat to undertake an inventory study of all development frameworks, legal instruments and standards of the fisheries sector in the EAC Partner States;
- d) directed the Secretariat to develop user friendly versions of the EAC SPS Vol. III and training manuals; and
- e) directed the Secretariat to coordinate and harmonize national policies of Partner States on fisheries and mobilize resources for process of Coordination and harmonization;

3.0 REPORT OF THE 4TH SECTORAL COORDINATION COMMITTEE OF THE SECTORAL COUNCIL ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY

The meeting was informed that the 4th Meeting of the Sectoral Council on Agriculture and Food Security was held up to the level of Permanent Secretaries responsible for Agriculture and Food Security as a consultative meeting due to the absence of the Republic of Burundi. The Report of this meeting is hereto attached as **Annex VI**.

The report is hereto presented to enable the 5th Session of the Sectoral Coordination Committee of the Sectoral Council on Agriculture and Food Security to conclude the report.



The Sectoral Coordination Committee concluded the Report of the 4th Sectoral Coordination Committee Meeting on Agriculture and Food Security.

4.0 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

4.1 Emerging Issues in the Region: Transboundary Crop Pests and Diseases

There have been a number of emerging, recurring and destructive crop pests and diseases, in the EAC region. The crop pests and diseases have drastically affected crop production and productivity and consequently impacted negatively on food security. The emergence of these crop pests and diseases in the Region is associated with various factors including adverse climate change effects among others. The meeting particularly noted the emergence of the destructive maize lethal necrosis disease.

In view of the impact of these incidences of crop pests and diseases on the food security situation in the Region there is need for addressing this new challenge in the EAC.

The Sectoral Council urged Partner States to enhance information sharing on pests and diseases outbreaks to avoid diseases spreading within the region. Secretariat to develop a mechanism for information sharing and joint response to disease outbreaks in the region.

4.2 Review of EAC Agriculture Policy Instruments

The meeting took note that there is need to review the EAC Agriculture and Rural Development Policy and Strategy to be aligned with the changing policy and other emerging issues like adverse climate change effects.

4.3 Date of the next meeting

The meeting agreed to that next meeting of the Sectoral Council be held by the end of February 2013.



Signed on this 16th Day of November, 2012 by the respective Heads of Delegation as indicated hereunder:

				
...
Hon. Musa Sirma	Hon. Monique Mukaruliza	Hon. Leontine Nzeyimana	Hon. Benedict N. Ole Nangoro	Hon. Bright Rwamirama
Minister of East African Cooperation	Minister of East African Community	Minister of East African Affairs	Deputy Minister of Livestock and Fisheries Development	Minister of States for Animal Resources
Republic of Kenya	Republic of Rwanda	Republic of Burundi	United Republic of Tanzania	Republic of Uganda