

**Joint Communiqué on ASWAp Post CAADP Roadmap
CAADP Malawi Business Meeting
Lilongwe, Malawi
29th September, 2011**

Background

1. The Government of Malawi agreed with its Development Partners and stakeholders in the agricultural sector to formulate the Agriculture Sector Wide Approach (ASWAp) as a means for achieving agricultural growth and poverty reduction goals of the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MGDS).
2. The ASWAp is a priority investment framework in the agricultural sector aimed at increasing agricultural productivity, contributing to at least 6 percent growth annually in the sector, improving food security, diversifying food production to improve nutrition at household level and increasing agricultural incomes of rural people. The strategy targets a minimum of 10 percent of the annual budget to agriculture sector, in order to pursue at least 6 percent average growth rate in the sector.
3. The ASWAp adheres to the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) framework. The CAADP Compact signed by Malawi Government and other stakeholders on 19th April 2010, affirmed a partnership commitment to further the ambitions of CAADP, as it relates to the MDG targets, and achieves the ultimate goal to reduce poverty through sustained economic growth and infrastructure development.
4. The development of the ASWAp was a broad based process and recognised the importance of engaging multi-stakeholders, inclusive of wide array of interested groups, including national and regional governments, development partners, international bodies, private sector, farmers union and civil society organisations.
5. The ASWAp is built around three focus areas, two support pillars and two cross cutting issues, as outlined below:

Focus Areas	Strategic Objective
1. Food Security and Risk Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maize self sufficiency • Agricultural diversification • Risk management
2. Commercial agriculture, agro processing, and market development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agricultural exports • Agro processing and value addition • Market development
3. Sustainable agricultural land and water management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable land management • Irrigation/greenbelt initiative • Sustainable management of climate change
Key Support Pillars	Strategic Objective
4. Technology generation and dissemination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Result oriented research • Farmer led extension
5. Institutional strengthening and capacity building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public management systems • Capacity building for public and private sector
Cross Cutting Issues	Strategic Objective
6. a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mainstream gender and HIV/AIDS

ASWAp Technical Review and Roadmap

6. The Draft ASWAp was appraised by AU/NEPAD Technical Review Team and the report was submitted in September 2010. The Technical Review was intended at enhancing the quality of the agricultural investment plan and increase effectiveness of resources by analysing the ASWAp on an operational basis and creating a set of concrete implementable actions and related responsibilities of in-country and external stakeholders. The review also proposed the post CAADP roadmap.
7. Following the AU/NEPAD Technical Review, the Government of Malawi held wide consultations with various stakeholders including civil society, private sector, academia and development partners to solicit further input into the ASWAp. The consultations were followed up with dissemination of the ASWAp technical review report on 4th July 2011. Based on the dissemination, it was agreed to incorporate key inputs raised from technical review report and ASWAp consultations. A post CAADP Compact roadmap was also agreed, including stakeholder consensus to hold a CAADP Business Meeting.

Harmonisation and Alignment

8. The ASWAp recognises that effective and efficient funding needs to be harmonised, aligned and delivered within a framework that considers the mandates and resources from government and other cooperating partners. The partnership modalities and principles follow consultative, long term, sector-wide strategic planning and programmatic approach to implementation. All the partners acknowledge the importance of harmonisation and alignment as well as principles of mutual transparency and accountability. Thus, principles of Paris Declaration on Aid effectiveness and Accra Action plan will be adhered to by various stakeholders.
9. Government of Malawi commits to promote long term economic growth and development to reduce poverty and achieve food and nutrition security. It commits to sustain and increase CAADP recommended 10 percent of the national budget to agricultural sector, to achieve at least 6 percent agricultural growth. The government also commits to regular consultation, reviews on ASWAp progress, including operationalising the dialogue process through agriculture sector working group and other partnership arrangements.
10. Development Partners in the agriculture sector commit to further align their assistance to the ASWAp, in consultation with the government to provide indications of future aid to the sector on a multi-year basis. To improve predictability and allow better planning, budgeting and implementation, the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development will present at the beginning of each financial year the annual work plan and budget and an update of the investment framework. The development partners commit to provide such aid consistent with the principles defined in the ASWAp and the Development Aid Strategy (DAS). Development partners will work with Government of Malawi to ensure that financial, administrative, planning

monitoring and evaluation systems are strengthened as a means to foster harmonisation and alignment.

11. The African Union/NEPAD and COMESA commit to support implementation of Malawi's CAADP Compact through mobilisation of international and regional political, financial and technical support.
12. Government is committed to engaging with regional and international organizations, private sector and non governmental organizations as implementing partners and service providers in order to realise the goals and aspirations of ASWAp. .
13. The Agriculture Sector Working Group, chaired by the Principal Secretary responsible for Agriculture and co-chaired by the sitting Chair of the Donor Committee on Agriculture and Food Security (DCAFS), will be the apex platform bringing together stakeholders. The Agriculture Sector Working Group will be further supported by technical working groups in line with the ASWAp focus area and support pillars. The sector working group will be fully operational as part of the implementation framework of ASWAp.

Way Forward

14. The ASWAp describes the priority focus, plans and strategy for the agriculture sector in order to realise aspirations of the MGDS. The next steps in the process will be;
 - a. Finalisation of the post Business Meeting Road Map providing the key milestones for the ASWAp revision
 - b. Revisions of the ASWAp led by Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development in response to the key issues identified by the technical review, by this Business Meeting and additional consultation with stakeholders.
 - c. A commitment by development partners on the alignment of their current and future sector support, in line with the ASWAp.
 - d. Implementation of the ASWAp from 2011/12

Stakeholder Endorsement

15. By endorsing this Joint communiqué of CAADP Malawi Business Meeting, the following commitments are made:
 - a. Government of Malawi confirm to fulfil the commitments specified in the CAADP and post CAADP roadmap, including the commitment to strengthen the financial, administrative, planning and monitoring and evaluation systems underpinning the implementation of the ASWAp.
 - b. Development Partners confirm their commitments to support implementation of the ASWAp, in line with the Paris Declaration and Accra Agenda for Action.
 - c. African union/NEPAD, COMESA, and Other Regional partners confirm collectively to fulfil their commitments to support the CAADP implementation in Malawi.
 - d. Private Sector, Civil Society and Farmers Union, collectively commit their support to effectively implement the ASWAp and work together on the post CAADP roadmap.

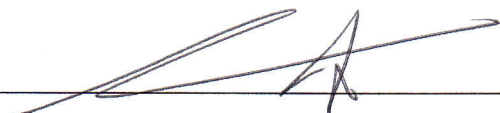
Signed at Lilongwe, Malawi on 29th September 2011

For and on behalf of the Government of Malawi

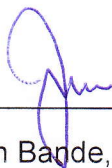


Hon. Prof. Peter Mwanza, MP.
Minister of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development

Hon. Henry Mussa, MP.
Minister of Local Government and Rural Development



for Hon. Dr. Ken Lipenga, MP.
Minister of Finance and Development Planning



Hon. John Banda, MP
Minister of Trade and Industry

For and on behalf of NEPAD and the African Union



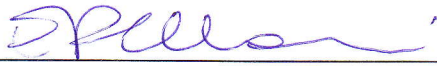
His Excellency Dr. Ibrahim Assane Mayaki
Chief Executive of NEPAD

For and on behalf of COMESA



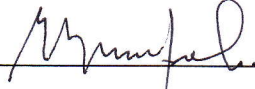
for Mr. Sindiso Ngwenya
Secretary General, COMESA

For and on behalf of the Donor Committee on Agriculture and Food Security (DCAFS)



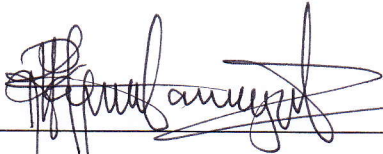
Ms. Enrica Pellacani
Chairperson, European Union (EU)

For and on behalf of the Civil Society



Mr. Edson Lusako Musopole
Chairman, CISANET

For and on behalf of Farmers Union of Malawi (FUM)



Mr. Felix Jumbe
President, Farmers Union of Malawi

For and on behalf of private sector



Mr. Chancellor Kaferapanjira
Chief Executive, Malawi Confederation of Chambers of Commerce and
Industry (MCCCI)