



منظمة الأغذية  
والزراعة  
للأمم المتحدة

联合国  
粮食及  
农业组织

Food  
and  
Agriculture  
Organization  
of  
the  
United  
Nations

Organisation  
des  
Nations  
Unies  
pour  
l'alimentation  
et  
l'agriculture

Продовольственная и  
сельскохозяйственная  
организация  
Объединенных  
Наций

Organización  
de las  
Naciones  
Unidas  
para la  
Agricultura  
y la  
Alimentación

## TWENTY-SIXTH REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR AFRICA

Luanda, Angola, 3-7 May 2010

### **PRESS RELEASE: Side event on Direct Investment in African Agriculture**

Wednesday 5 May 9.00 – 12.00 AM, BELAS Conference Centre Luanda, Angola

The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), in collaboration with the Government of Angola, organises its 26th Africa Regional Conference which will be held in Luanda, Angola, from 3-7 May 2010. These Regional Conferences are held every two years in all regions, aiming to bring to the fore and at a high level, special problems related to the agricultural sector of the respective regions and identifying priority areas requiring attention that should be taken into account in FAO's Programme of Work and Budget in support of Member Countries' efforts to implement their food and agricultural development plans.

The devastating recent food and financial crises have served to revitalize attention to the need for assistance to agriculture and have renewed interest in international and national investment in the sector. This is why the overall theme of the Conference is dubbed: *Investment in agriculture to ensure food security in Africa*. Other topics on the Agenda for this year's Conference include (a) support to the accelerated implementation of CAADP; (b) climate change implications for food security and natural resources management in Africa; (c) high food prices and food security – threats, opportunities and budgetary implications for sustainable agriculture and (d) challenges and opportunities for bio-fuel production in Africa.

A side event to the Conference is being organized on *Direct Investment in African Agriculture* aiming to bring together technical experts, investors, service providers, policy makers, farmers and other relevant stakeholders actively interested in investment in African agriculture to review and pool knowledge and identify priorities for policy, incentives, best practices for sustainable investment and support to African agriculture, issues for further research and the overall investment environment and policy debate.

The event will provide a forum to exchange information and to review what is known and what is not known about recent investments, to identify key issues requiring attention and to explore policy and legislation questions.

A tentative agenda and timetable is given below.

Interested persons should kindly contact Ms Diana Tempelman, co-organisator investment side event, at [Diana.Tempelman@fao.org](mailto:Diana.Tempelman@fao.org) by 23 April.

#### TENTATIVE PROGRAMME

- 09.00 **Welcome** by representatives from the Government of Angola and FAO  
Introduction of the objectives of the side-event on Direct Investment in African Agriculture
- 09.30 **Presentation of key issues in direct investment in African agriculture** synthesis report of recent country case studies on investments in the agricultural sector (Presentation FAO)
- 09.50 **Presentation of the principles for a voluntary code of conduct** for responsible investment in agriculture (Presentation FAO)
- 10.00 **Panel discussion** between invited panel members on specific issues in investment in agriculture (Chair FAO)
- 11.00 **Plenary discussion** with the floor and panel of experts
- 11.45 **Conclusions** – issues and recommendations on the formulation of the code of conduct, priorities for further research, policy conclusions
- 12.00 **Close**