

Held under the patronage of the Commissions of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA), the RPCA annual meeting brought together virtually the region's key food and nutrition security stakeholders. The Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS) and the Sahel and West Africa Club Secretariat (SWAC/OECD) organised the meeting.

SCHEDULE

13:00 – 18:00 (UTC) Accra, Dakar, Ouagadougou

14:00 – 19:00 (UTC + 1) Abuja, Brussels, Niamey, Paris The 36th RPCA annual meeting has been held virtually in light of the Covid-19 pandemic. It took stock of the 2020-21 agro-pastoral campaign, the food and nutrition outlook and the responses to the 2020 food crisis. It also provided an opportunity to assess the implementation of the recommendations of the second PREGEC Charter evaluation and discuss next steps. Members of the Senior Experts Group of the Global Alliance for Resilience (SEG-AGIR) discussed Burkina Faso's experience in building resilience. Some governance and co-ordination tools have been presented. They aim to strengthen the coherence and effectiveness of interventions and the governance of food and nutrition security more broadly. They were developed within the framework of the Network with the support of the SWAC/OECD Secretariat.

The region experienced a severe food and nutrition crisis in 2020, exacerbated by persistent security tensions and the Covid-19 pandemic. In addition, heavy flooding during the rainy season led to the loss of human lives and enormous damage, particularly in Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria and Senegal, further weakening the livelihoods of vulnerable populations.

In response to this food crisis, the region's stakeholders quickly reacted, notably through setting up a Regional Task Force, led by ECOWAS together with UEMOA and CILSS, in order to monitor and inform responses. In support of the Task Force, the RPCA set up a technical unit to facilitate information sharing among stakeholders and disseminate the work of the Cadre harmonisé Technical Committee. Furthermore, the SWAC/OECD Secretariat, in collaboration with

CILSS, set up an information platform on the RPCA website. This helps stakeholders "work together in a co-ordinated manner" and contributes to improving the effectiveness of interventions.

The mobilisation of States and partners facilitated the implementation of different types of responses, including social protection programmes. Regional solidarity quickly came into play, bolstering countries' efforts. For example, UEMOA supported its member states to the tune of CFA francs 3 billion (EUR 4.6 million) for the implementation of their national response plans. Similarly, the ECOWAS Regional Food Security Reserve was mobilised through the rapid release of 5 528 tonnes of cereal for the vulnerable populations in Burkina Faso (954 tonnes), Mali (793 tonnes), Niger (473 tonnes) and Nigeria (3 309 tonnes).









THURSDAY 3 DECEMBER 2020

13:30-14:00 Audio and camera testing and registration of participants

→ Facilitator: MR LAURENT BOSSARD, Director, SWAC/OECD Secretariat

14:00-15:15 OPENING REMARKS

- → DR IBRAHIM ASSANE MAYAKI, CEO, AUDA-NEPAD and SWAC Honorary President
- → MR NADJIROU SALL, Civil Society and Private Sector Representative
- → MR PHILIPPE THOMAS, PTF-AGIR Platform Representative, EU
- → H.E.MR ABDOULAYE DIAR, Minister of Agriculture of Chad and CILSS Co-ordinating Minister
- → MR SÉKOU SANGARÉ, ECOWAS Commissioner for Agriculture, Environment and Water Resources, IGO Representative (ECOWAS, UEMOA, CILSS)

Tribute to DR DJIMÉ ADOUM, CILSS Executive Secretary who is at the end of his term

15:15-17:20 Session 1: agricultural, food and nutrition situation

Moderator: DR DJIMÉ ADOUM, Executive Secretary, CILSS

Introductory presentations

Provisional results of the 2020-21 agro-pastoral campaign → MR SY MARTIAL TRAORÉ, CILSS

Review of international food market trends

→ MR MARTIN DJERANDODJE NAINDOUBA, FAO

Food and nutrition situation

→ MR ISSOUFOU BAOUA, CILSS

Gender and food security

→ MS AZARA REMALIA NFON DIBIE SANOGO, OXFAM

Implementation of National Response Plans (NRPs) in 2020 & planned responses for 2021 → MR ECTOR HOUSSOU, CILSS

Country responses to the Covid-19 pandemic and the desert locust threat → MR SY ALAIN TRAORÉ, ECOWAS

Discussion

17:20-18:50 Session 2: Senior experts' group of the global alliance for resilience (seg-agir) and other rpca work

Moderator: **MR SÉKOU SANGARÉ**, ECOWAS Commissioner for Agriculture, Environment and Water Resources

17:20-17:45 Sequence 1: **SEG-AGIR**

Introductory presentation

State of play of the implementation of Burkina Faso's National Resilience Priorities and best practices for resilience

→ MS HALIMATOU SIEBA HALIDOU YACOUBA, SE-CNSA Burkina Faso

Discussion

17:45-18:20 Sequence 2: APPLICATION OF THE PREGEC CHARTER

Presentation

State of play of the implementation of the recommendations of the 2^{nd} evaluation of the PREGEC Charter and next steps

→ MR OUSMAN TALL, SWAC/OECD Secretariat

Discussion

18:20-18:40 Sequence 3: Tools for IMPROVING FNS GOVERNANCE

Presentations

Analytical tool for assessing leadership in the governance of food & nutrition security → MR OUSMAN TALL, SWAC/OECD Secretariat

The food and nutrition security project database and next steps → MS JULIA WANJIRU, SWAC/OECD Secretariat

18:40-18:50 CLOSING REMARKS

- → MR LAURENT BOSSARD, Director, SWAC/OECD Secretariat
- → DR IBRAHIM ASSANE MAYAKI, CEO, AUDA-NEPAD and SWAC Honorary President

