



#AUEU4farmers

6th AFRICAN UNION & EUROPEAN UNION Agriculture Ministerial Conference

*A sustainable
future for
agri-food
systems*

PROGRAMME

Rome, 27 June 2025



African Union



08.00 – 09.30 Registration at FAO (Viale Aventino 7 – Rome)**09.30 – 12.00 High level thematic sessions**Interpretation from and to: *English, French, Portuguese, Arabic*

Investment and financing in agri-food value chains

Room - Malaysia

Chair - Abubakar Kyari

Minister of Agriculture and food security, Nigeria

Moderator: Cristina Miranda Gozálvez, Head of Unit African, Caribbean and Pacific, Overseas Countries and Territories, Directorate-General for Trade (DG TRADE), European Commission**Speakers**

- **Federica Diamanti**, Associate Vice President, International Fund for Agriculture and Development (IFAD)
- **Rodrigo Madrazo**, Chief Executive Officer, European Development Financial Institutions (EDFI) Management Company
- **Alice Ruhweza**, President, Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA)
- **Betty Chinyamunyamu**, Chief Executive Officer, National Smallholders Farmers' Association of Malawi (NASFAM)
- **Barbara Ramos**, Chief of Strategies and Policies for Trade and Investment, International Trade Center (ITC)

Sustainable practices and climate resilience

Room – Philippines

Chair - Mateja Čalušić

Minister of agriculture, forestry and food, Slovenia

Moderator: Éliane Ubalijoro, Chief Executive Officer, Center for International Forestry Research and World Agroforestry (CIFOR-ICRAF), Director General, World Agroforestry**Speakers**

- **Lamine Diatta**, Board member, Food and Agriculture for Sustainable Transformation (FAST) Partnership
- **Tobias Gräs**, Head of Policy, Brussels, Danish Agricultural & Food Council (DAFC)
- **Bernard Kimoro**, Head of climate change and sustainability, State Department for Livestock, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development, Kenya
- **Lisa Jäckering**, Senior Officer, Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Regional Identity, Germany
- **Karst Kooista**, Sourcing Development Director, Tradin Organic

Research, innovation and technology

Room – German

Chair – Mandla Tshawuka

Minister of Agriculture, Eswatini

Moderator: Luis Vivas-Alegre, Head of Sector, Unit Research and Innovation, Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development (DG AGRI), European Commission**Speakers**

- **Irene Frempong**, Coordinator of CEA-FIRST project, Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA)
- **Baboucarr Manneh**, Director General, AfricaRice
- **Elizabeth Nsimadala**, President, Eastern Africa Farmers Federation (EAFF)
- **Daniel Adeniyi**, Policy Analyst Sustainable food systems and Climate action and green transitions, European Centre for Development Policy Management (ECDPM)
- **Hamid El Bilali**, Coordinator of SUSTLIVES project, Scientific administrator, International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (CIHEAM-Bari)
- **Carlo Rega**, Scientific Officer, Unit Food Security, Joint Research Centre, European Commission

Market access and trade facilitation

Room – Ethiopia

Chair – Annie Genevard

Minister for agriculture and food sovereignty, France

Moderator: Steven Were Omamo, Director for Africa, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)**Speakers**

- **Estherine Fotabong**, Director Agriculture, Food Security and Environmental Sustainability, African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD)
- **Agata Galinska**, Head of Unit Global issues, WTO and relations with ACP, Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development (DG AGRI), European Commission
- **Providence Mavubi**, Director of Industry and Agriculture, Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) Secretariat
- **Isolina Boto**, Head of Networks and Alliances, Committee Linking Entrepreneurship-Agriculture-Development (COLEAD)
- **Alice O'Donovan**, Secretary General, European Liaison Committee for Agricultural and Agri-Food Trade (CELCAA)

12.00 – 12.15 Signature of the Mission Soil Manifesto**Room – German****Christophe Hansen**, European Commissioner for Agriculture and Food**Moses Vilakati**, African Union Commissioner, Head of Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy and Sustainable Environment**12.00 – 14.30 Lunch***Ground floor Atrium***Side events****Side Event 1:** Enhancing investment, sustainability, and trade: The role of farmers and farmer organisations
(No interpretation)**Room – Philippines****13:00-14:00****Side Event 2:** Achieving African food sovereignty: What will it take?
(Interpretation from and to English and French)**Room – German****12:45-14:00****Side Event 3:** Supporting science-to-policy for sustainable agri-food systems across Europe and Africa
(No interpretation)**Room – Ethiopia****12:45-14:00****Side Event 4:** Geographical indications: a cross-Africa-Europe look at a formidable tool for promoting and developing territories
(Interpretation from and to English and French)**Room – Sheikh Zayed****13:00-14:00**

**14.30 – 17.45 Plenary AU –
EU Agriculture Ministerial Conference**Interpretation from and to: *English, French, Portuguese, Arabic, Italian*

ROOM – GREEN

14.30 – 14.35 Welcome**Moderator: Aminda Leigh****14.35 – 14.55 Opening addresses****Jacek Czerniak**, Secretary of State, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of Poland**Alaa Farouk**, Minister of Agriculture and Land Reclamation of the Arab Republic of Egypt**14.55 – 15.45 Keynote addresses****Qu Dongyu**, Director General, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)**Álvaro Lario**, President of the International Fund for Agriculture and Development (IFAD)**Francesco Lollobrigida**, Minister for Agriculture, Food Sovereignty and Forestry, Italy**Sakina Usengimana**, Founder, Afri-Foods Ltd and Chairperson of Rwanda Youth in Agribusiness Forum (RYAF)**Katariina Latva**, young farmer, Central Union of Agricultural Producers and Forest owners Finland (MTK)**15.45 – 16.25 Reports by the Chairs of the high level thematic sessions****16.25 – 17.25 Ministers' interventions and open discussion****Moderated by Aminda Leigh****17.25 – 17.45 Closing addresses****Moses Vilakati**, African Union Commissioner, Head of Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy and Sustainable Environment**Christophe Hansen**, European Commissioner for Agriculture and Food**18.00 – 19.00 Closing reception**FAO terrasse (8th floor)



#AUEU4FARMERS

WI-FI SERVICE AT FAO :

Username: FAO-Guest

Password: FAOunited2024