

25th April 2013

Rt. Hon David Cameron MP
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London
SW1A 1AA
United Kingdom

Dear Prime Minister Cameron,

**PUTTING CAADP AND AFRICAN-LED AGRICULTURE AT THE HEART OF THE 2013
NUTRITION FOR GROWTH EVENT & G8 SUMMIT**

As members of African civil society and farmers organisations, we welcome the timely focus of G8 on food, agriculture and nutrition. We, the undersigned groups, have a diversity of views on African agriculture, but we have come together to urge the UK government and other G8 countries to feature Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) of the Africa Union as the central organizing theme at the *Nutrition for Growth* event, reinforced by the subsequent G8 summit in Lough Erne. Strong support for CAADP should underpin all of the various donor and G8 initiatives in agriculture, and should be the vehicle through which these initiatives deliver, including: the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition, Grow Africa, Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP), and the agriculture focus of the Scaling Up Nutrition movement. Though well intended, the several initiatives if not aligned to CAADP will undermine or underestimate Africa's own agricultural and rural transformation programme.

With just a year and a half before the Millennium Development Goals deadline to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger by the end of 2015, a number of countries in Africa are not on track to meet this goal. It will take a significant investment in African-driven agricultural initiatives to address this challenge.

Greater investment is urgently needed from national governments, donor countries, the private sector and other development partners to reduce chronic hunger and bolster African agriculture. This investment can be most effective if it is aligned to and supports rural women, and smallholder producers own investment.

The Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) of the Africa Union provides potential for a clear and comprehensive framework in Africa for delivering nutrition and food security progress within the next five years. The main goal of CAADP is to “help African countries reach a higher path of economic growth through agriculture-led development, which eliminates hunger, eradicate poverty and food insecurity.” So far, over 40 African countries have engaged in the CAADP process, and 26 nations have signed costed, vetted, agriculture investment plans.

As we move towards the 2014 Year of Agriculture and food security and commemoration of 10 years of CAADP as designated by the African Union Heads of States and Government Summit, it is essential that international initiatives build on and support African-led momentum and progress

through CAADP. The G8 and other donors should use this opportunity to work behind and support CAADP and Africa's agriculture plans with the financial resources required to fill the funding shortfall espoused in the national agriculture investment plans. We look to you and your UK government as the host of the *Nutrition for Growth* event and the 2013 G8 Summit to ensure that donor support for CAADP is prioritized and robust.

We are sending a copy of this letter to your Secretary of State for International Development, Rt Hon Justine Greening MP.

Yours sincerely,

1. ACORD
2. ActionAid Burundi
3. ActionAid Gambia
4. ActionAid Ghana
5. ActionAid Kenya
6. ActionAid Mozambique
7. ActionAid Nigeria
8. ActionAid Rwanda
9. ActionAid Sierra Leone
10. ActionAid South Africa
11. ActionAid Uganda
12. ActionAid Zambia
13. ActionAid Zimbabwe
14. African Fertilizers and Agribusiness Partnership, South Africa
15. African Network for Agriculture, Agroforestry and Natural Resources Education (ANAFE)- Kenya
16. African Women in Agricultural Market Development (AWARD)- Kenya
17. Agricultural Market Development Trust (AGMARG)- Kenya
18. Africa Harvest Biotech Foundation International (AHBFI)- Kenya
19. Agriculture Non State Actors Forum, Tanzania
20. Catholic Development Commission (CADECOM) Mzuzu – Malawi
21. Catholic Relief Services, Africa
22. Coalition of Smallholder Women Farmers in Nigeria
23. Christian Agricultural and Related Professionals Association (CARPA)-Kenya
24. Civil Society Agriculture Network, Malawi
25. East Africa Farmers Federation
26. Eastern and Southern Africa Small Scale Farmers Forum, Uganda
27. Farmer Organization Support Programme (FOSUP)-Zambia
28. Food , Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network, South Africa
29. Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition
30. Jamaa Resources Initiatives, Kenya
31. National Alliance for Food Security The Gambia
32. Network of Civil Society Organization for Sustainable Food Security in Burkina Faso

33. ONE Campaign, Africa
34. OXFAM
35. Pan African Farmers Organisation
36. Social Enterprise Development Foundation, Ghana
37. Southern African Confederation of Agricultural Unions
38. West African Civil Society Forum (WACSOF)