

**THE COMPREHENSIVE AFRICA AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT
PROGRAMME (CAADP)**

PRESENTATION TO THE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT, UNITED KINGDOM

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Honourable Ministers and Members of Parliament, Distinguished Participants, Ladies and Gentlemen. NEPAD welcomes the rare opportunity to make a statement before this well respected institution. On behalf of NEPAD, I would like to take this opportunity to thank *Her Majesty's Government* for recognizing agriculture development as a major source of economic growth in Africa and allocating significant DFID resources to support the development of sector under the Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP).

Honourable Members of Parliament, African Heads of State and Government accept the importance of quickly attaining the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and are developing and implementing plans to attain at least 7 percent annual growth rate in GDP, achieve food security, and build the foundations of sustainable economic development on the continent.

Honourable Members of Parliament, the Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Programme is the framework for development of agriculture in Africa (CAADP). CAADP consists of four pillars: *extending the area under sustainable land management and reliable water control systems; improving rural infrastructure and trade related capacities for market access; increasing food supply and reducing hunger; and agricultural research, technology dissemination, and adoption*. These pillars are supported by cross-cutting areas in academic and professional training in the agricultural sector and information and knowledge systems to support strategy formulation.

Honourable Members of Parliament, NEPAD recognizes the critical role of agricultural research (S&T) and dissemination in achieving the CAADP vision and we are working with African and international research institutions and other knowledge centres to facilitate farmer and agribusiness access to research and technologies to enhance productivity. In view of the MDG deadline, NEPAD realizes that the existing technologies will be the basis of enhancing productivity among farmers and agribusiness. Therefore, NEPAD is encouraging the partners to develop incentives for researchers and extension staff that contribute to quick delivery of technologies.

Honourable Members of Parliament, African Leaders are determined to change the negative statistics about Africa as stipulated under the MDGs. This is evident through

African commitment to allocate at least 10% of the national budget to agriculture development and establishment of appropriate investment climate. NEPAD believes that the fastest way to achieve the MDGs is through out/up scaling agricultural successes, including the technologies that have been generated through DFID funded research and technology generation. In order to quickly realize the productivity gains embodied in these technologies, rigorous programmes for capacity-building are needed to strengthen Africa's research and farmer's organisations as an integral part of public-goods.

THANK YOU