Input into the Draft Ministerial Declaration of the 2019 UN Environment Assembly

On behalf of the International Fertilizer Association and CropLife International, we would like to propose the following input into the Draft Ministerial Declaration Main Priority 3: Support robust engagement of civil society, citizens, private sector and academia in promoting innovative approaches for meeting global environmental challenges and sustainable production and consumption. We hope that you will consider our recommendation.

Suggested inclusion of:

Encouraging member states to implement/leverage on past commitments in relation to sustainably increasing agricultural productivity and food security in collaboration with all stakeholder groups to ensure investment in agriculture, in rural infrastructure, and in food chain innovation.

The commitments that are referred to in this statement can include:

CAADP is the policy framework for agricultural transformation, economic growth, food security and nutrition and overall prosperity for Africa. Adopted in 2003 as a New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD) program, the CAADP focuses on expanding agricultural growth that will benefit rural communities through increasing income with stronger agricultural markets both nationally and globally and ensuring farmers access to the market economy, improved infrastructure, expanded agricultural research to be disseminated to farmers, promoting and implementing sustainable agriculture and improved food security.

1. 2003 - Maputo Declaration on Agriculture and Food Security and the 10 percent national budget allocation to agriculture development: At the Second Ordinary Assembly of the African Union in July 2003 in Maputo, African Heads of State and Government endorsed the “Maputo Declaration on Agriculture and Food Security in Africa” (Assembly/AU/Decl. 7(II)). The Declaration contained several important decisions regarding agriculture, but prominent among them was the “commitment to the allocation of at least 10 percent of national budgetary resources to agriculture and rural development policy implementation within five years”. This monitored through African Union’s The Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP).

2. 2014 the “Year of Agriculture and Food Security”: Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth And Transformation for Shared Prosperity And Improved Livelihoods. As part of the recent commitments, the AU Heads of State and Government committed to ending hunger by 2025 and to achieve this they further resolved to halve the current levels of post-harvest losses by the year 2025. The specific targets and goals include:

   1. A recommitment to the Principles and Values of the CAADP Process
   2. A recommitment to enhance investment finance in agriculture
   3. A commitment to end hunger by 2025 including:
      a. At least a doubling of productivity (inputs, irrigation, mechanization)
      b. Reduction of stunting to 10%
4. Commitment to halve poverty by 2025 through inclusive agricultural growth and transformation
5. Commitment to boosting intra-African trade in agricultural commodities and services
6. Commitment to Enhancing resilience in livelihoods and production systems to climate variability and other shocks
7. Commitment to mutual accountability to actions and results

We thank you for your consideration and please contact us if you have any further questions.

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