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NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Delegations

Subject: AOB item for the meeting of the "Agriculture and Fisheries" Council of 14 July 2025:
Sixth AU-EU Agriculture Ministerial Conference (Rome, 27 June 2025)
- Information from the Commission

The **sixth African Union (AU) – European Union (EU) Agriculture Ministerial Conference** took place in Rome on 27 June 2025. Over 400 participants including Ministers, Secretaries of States, diplomats, industry and civil society from Europe and Africa attended the event, focused on *a sustainable future for agri-food systems*. The Conference was co-chaired by the EU Commissioner for Agriculture and Food, Christophe Hansen and the AU Commissioner for Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy and Sustainable Environment, Moses Vilakati (Eswatini). It was hosted at FAO premises.

The conference included four high level thematic sessions chaired by ministers, four side-events and a plenary, in which Commissioner, ministers, key international organisations and young farmers presented their views. The significant high-level engagement demonstrated the commitment to the AU-EU partnership in the agri-food sector and highlighted the EU's role as a reliable partner for Africa. The conference discussed potential policy synergies and strategies for implementing the AU's **Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) Strategy and Action Plan (2026-2035)**, in line with the Commission's **Vision for agriculture and food**. It examined in particular opportunities and challenges in the areas of [investment and financing](#), [sustainability](#), [research and highlighted the importance of trade facilitation](#), and took stock of the African Union-European Union Rural Transformation Agenda adopted in 2019.

At the conference, the Commission reaffirmed the EU commitment to support sustainable development and resilient agri-food systems in line with the AU-EU Joint Vision for 2030, the AU Agenda 2063 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), while reviewing strategic collaboration opportunities, including under the Global Gateway Africa Europe Investment Package. EU support and efforts were given visibility notably through the presentation, by the Commission, of the **Declaration by the EU and its Member States** on the enhanced partnership with CAADP (ST 10765/25 INIT).

During the event:

- The Commission and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) announced a new **€26 million contribution agreement for a capacity-building programme to strengthen African farmer organisations** and enhance their role in agricultural value chains;
- **AU Commissioner Moses Vilakati signed the EU Mission Soil Manifesto** in the presence of Commissioner Hansen, demonstrating shared views on soils as a fragile resource that needs to be carefully managed and safeguarded for future generations;
- Participants made a call to keep supporting **evidence-based policy** through the Pan-African Network for economic Analysis of Policies (PANAP), with special focus on rural areas and relating agriculture and food sectors;
- The Commission announced its intention to renew EU financial **support for geographical indications** in Africa in the coming months.

The outcomes will feed into the African Union-European Union Summit that is planned to take place in Africa toward the end of 2025.

Related document: [Joint press release by EU Commissioner Christophe Hansen and African Union Commissioner Moses Vilakati.](#)
