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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 26 May 2025: Sixth AU-EU Agriculture Ministerial Conference (Rome, 27 June 2025) <i>- Information from the Commission</i>

The **sixth African Union (AU) - European Union (EU) Agriculture Ministerial Conference** will take place on **27 June in FAO premises (Rome)**, the day before the start of the 44th Session of the FAO Conference. The theme of this year is “**A sustainable future for agri-food systems**”. Invitations to Ministers have been circulated via the Council Secretariat (WK 6463 2025 INIT).

The conference will take place as the African Union has just launched the **new Comprehensive Africa Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP) 2026-2035 Strategy and action plan**, the European Commission has put forward its **Vision for Agriculture and Food**, and preparations for the UN Food Systems Stocktaking Event of July 2025 are ongoing.

Set against the backdrop of global challenges such as **aggravated food insecurity, geopolitical tensions and climate change**, the ministerial conference will aim to identify how the EU and AU can further deepen their partnership to secure food systems and promote both continents' agricultural potential.

In the run-up to the seventh AU-EU Summit, the conference will provide an opportunity to reaffirm the EU's 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. The conference will discuss areas of collaboration on common priorities such as shared **prosperity, resilience, competitiveness, generational renewal and sustainability in agriculture** across both continents.

In the morning, high level thematic sessions chaired by Ministers will discuss the following topics:

- 1. Investment and Financing in agri-food value chains**
- 2. Sustainable practices and climate resilience**
- 3. Research and Innovation enabling sustainable and resilient agri-food systems**
- 4. Market Access and Trade Facilitation**

Side events will take place during lunch break to showcase the successful implementation of the actions of the Rural Transformation Agenda agreed at the 2019 AU EU Agriculture Ministerial and the potential to scale up certain initiatives.

In the afternoon, Ministers will engage in a **Plenary Session**, with the AU and EU Commissioners for Agriculture, the AU and EU Presidencies and keynote speakers.