

## Africa-Economy-Meting of Agriculture ministers

***LIBREVILLE, October 27 (Infosplusgabon) - Agriculture ministers and government representatives from more than 45 countries will meet in Paris at the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) on 3-4 November to discuss and lay out a roadmap for transformative solutions towards meeting these shared challenges. Transformative solutions are urgently needed to address the challenges facing agriculture and food systems.***

The two-day meeting takes place just before the Twenty-Seventh Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) (COP27) in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt. It offers an opportunity for Ministers of Agriculture to discuss a shared vision of the role the agriculture and food sector in addressing climate change, including how countries can shape the direction of future policies to ensure that their agriculture sectors contribute to reaching climate targets.

High food prices, aggravated by Russia's large-scale aggression against Ukraine, have drastically increased the number of people at risk of hunger, malnutrition, and extreme poverty. Severe droughts in Europe, China and in North America are further exacerbating food security risks in the near term.

Yet even before these disruptions, agriculture and food systems were facing a "triple challenge" These include ensuring food security for a growing global population; providing livelihoods along the food chain; and enhancing the sustainability of the sector and its contribution to climate change mitigation. To address these challenges, the agricultural sector needs to do more with less, through well-targeted, comprehensive and inclusive policy mixes. Commitments to boost investment in innovation (R&D) and infrastructure are urgently required to put the agricultural sector on the necessary trajectory for sustainable productivity growth, ensuring global food security and achieving environmental goals.

The opening session takes place on Thursday 3 November from 09:30 CET (08:30 GMT), and media can register via Zoom. High-level speakers will include:

Mr Mathias Cormann, Secretary-General, OECD

Ms Marie-Claude Bibeau, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, Canada (Co-Chair)

Mr Damien O'Connor, Minister of Agriculture, for Biosecurity, and for Rural Communities, New Zealand (Co-Chair)

OECD Agriculture Ministers last met in April 2016, when they explored more holistic policies for agriculture and food systems, culminating in a Declaration.

Requests for interviews or further information should be directed to the OECD Media Office (tel. +33 1 4524 9700).

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