Europe, Africa and Food Security: European policies, biofuels and land grabbing

A dialogue between European authorities, Member States and Civil Society

Tuesday 28 February 2012 – h 9:15 – 16.30 pm

Brussels, House of Dutch Auditorium
Philippe de Champagnestraat, 23

Places are limited. Please confirm your participation by Thursday 23 February to bartolomei.europafria@gmail.com

Co-organised by EuropAfrica-toward food sovereignty and CONCORD

Supported by European Union-funded project “Awareness raising on the on the relations between European policies and agricultural development in Africa”
PROGRAMME

8.45  
Registration and coffee

9.15 – 10.45  
Introduction

✓ Official welcome

✓ The Right to Food and Biofuels – Olivier De Schutter, UN Special Rapporteur for the Right to Food. This intervention by the Special Rapporteur will draw on the briefing on this topic that he will be releasing in early March and his reading of the EuropAfrica report.

✓ Policy coherence targeting food security in Africa – EuropAfrica: Nora McKeon, Terra Nuova. This intervention will illustrate the objectives and methodology of EuropAfrica’s policy coherence monitoring, which takes as its reference points the promotion of food security and sustainable small-scale production, and will present the day’s programme.

✓ Food Security and Rural development in Africa - Rural Development, Food Security and Nutrition Unit, Directorate General Development and Cooperation. A presentation of the EU’s strategy and policy guidelines for promoting food security and sustainable small-holder food production in Africa.


Comments and questions from the participants.

10.45 – 12.30  
Land grabbing in Africa and European policies related to biofuels

✓ European energy policies and land grabbing in Africa – Roman Herre and Sylvain Aubry, Food First Information and Action Network (FIAN). Presentation of the main findings of the EuropAfrica 2011 report.

✓ African farmer organizations’ evidence
  - African small-scale farmers’ concerns regarding land grabbing and biofuels – Djibo Bagna, President, ROPPA and Vice-President Pan African Farmers’ Organization (PAFO)
  - Land grabbing in East Africa – Annick Sezibera, CAPAD, Burundi and EAFF
  - Land grabbing and biofuels in Senegal – Marius Dia, CNCR, Senegal

Comments and questions from the participants. Synthesis of issues raised

12.30 – 13.30 Lunch Break

13.30 – 16.00  
Dialogue with European and African Authorities

✓ Authorities directly concerned by the issues will be invited to make interventions based on their readings of the EuropAfrica report and the morning’s debate: Directorate General Development and Cooperation; Directorate General Energy and Transport; Directorate General Trade; Directorate General Agriculture and Rural Development; European External Action Service; EU Working Group on Land Issues; European Parliament; ACP Committee of Ambassadors.

✓ General debate with interventions from all participants.

16.00 – 16.30  
Concluding session

✓ Proposals emerging from the presentations and the debate and follow-up
✓ Closing remarks

Interpretation in English and French. Buffet lunch.
The EuropAfrica 2011 report will be made available to participants in advance.