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THEMATIC SESSION 5

The role of regional and local authorities in the management of natural resources in the context of climate change

19 January 2010 – 8.30 – 12.30

Chair: Mr Charles Katiza, Chairman of ACP Local Government Platform

Coordinator: Mr Alexis De Bertoult, Adviser for the FAO Decentralised Cooperation Programme

Rapporteur: Dr. Joseph Matowanyika, Consultant on food security, Zimbabwe

OBJECTIVES AND FOCUS

Greenhouse gas emissions from forestry and some sectors of agriculture contribute about a third of current annual total emissions. However, the farm industry can also mitigate the impact and improve food security by using appropriate agricultural practices and managing natural resources sustainably.

Regional and local authorities have the powers and/or are organised in such a way as to ensure the sustainable management of natural resources in their territory in order to guarantee food security in the face of risks related to climate change. Such measures are achieved in practice through:

- integrated management plans for natural resources at territorial level, covering specific agro-ecological areas;
- the development of decentralised mechanisms and capacity building to manage natural risks;
- the development of food security policies that incorporate climate change and propose adaptation mechanisms;
- access to decision-making tools and technologies developed by the research community.

The project presentations will highlight their impact on food security and the relevance of the work carried out at decentralised level. They will also set out some recommendations on how to pool such efforts by identifying the tools and methods required by those involved in projects.

EXPERT CONTRIBUTIONS

The challenge of managing natural resources to guarantee food security in the context of climate change, **Mr Stéphane Jost**, Liaison Officer, Natural Resources and Environment Department, FAO

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REGIONAL INITIATIVES

The Ferlo Silvo-Pastoral Area (Senegal), **Rhône-Alpes** Region (France)

Decentralised cooperation to promote a territorial approach to climate change: Programme for the development of territories that emit less greenhouse gases and are more resistant to climate change in the Ferlo silvo-pastoral area, jointly presented by **M. Aliou Niang**, President of Saint-Louis Region (Senegal) and **Mr Jean-Philippe Bayon**, expert on development and decentralised cooperation.

Red River Basin (Vietnam)

The second Red River Basin sectoral redevelopment project: decentralised management of irrigation and flood protection infrastructure, Dr **Le Trung Tuan**, Vice Director of the Institute for Water and Environment and member of the Office for Climate Change of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Vietnam

Quebec (Canada)

Quebec's added value and ability to act in the field of food security-related natural resources management in the context of climate change, example with Algeria, **Mr Simon Chabot**, Director of the *Centre de valorisation internationale de l'expertise publique québécoise*, Quebec, Canada

Coastal Regions (Bangladesh)

The Livelihood Adaptation to Climate Change Project (LACC-II), Integration of locally-developed risk prevention and management practices within national food security policies, Dr **Abu Wali Raghieb Hassan**, Sub-component Manager, Ministry of Agriculture, Bangladesh

Morogoro Region (Tanzania)

Introduction of a payment scheme for environmental services - Equitable Payments for Watershed Services (EPWS), Mr **Dosteus Lopa**, EPWS Programme Manager, CARE, Tanzania

Taking into account the environmental challenge and climate change within a public policy: the example of the Common Agriculture Policy, Mrs **Catherine Combette**, Deputy Head of Unit, ACP and South Africa, FAO, Food Aid, Directorate General for Agriculture and Rural Development, European Commission