



Addis-Abeba, Éthiopie 02-10-2024

Press Release– PAFO Board Meeting

PAFO Strengthens Strategic Ties with the African Union Commission to Support African Farmers



Board members @AUC

The Board Members of the Pan-African Farmers Organization (PAFO) recently paid a significant courtesy visit to the African Union Commission (AUC), where they were welcomed by H.E. Monique Nsanzabaganwa, Ph.D. Deputy Chairperson, African Union Commission.



During the meeting, PAFO President Mr. Ibrahima Coulibaly expressed the organization's gratitude to the AUC for its critical role in the founding of PAFO in 2010. He called for enhanced strategic collaboration to address urgent challenges such as access to finance, climate resilience, and market access for African farmers.

Mr. Coulibaly underscored the need for climate adaptation support, citing recent floods in Mali as a pressing example of the climate challenges facing African agriculture. He also urged the AUC to facilitate the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with PAFO to support resource mobilization for farmers across Africa. In response, Dr. Nsanzabaganwa acknowledged PAFO's crucial role in representing Africa's extensive farming population and affirmed the AUC's commitment to working closely with PAFO to ensure food and nutrition security across the continent. She further promised that the MoU would be prioritized and that PAFO's concerns would be conveyed to AUC leadership.



**Ibrahima Coulibaly PAFO President with H.E. Monique Nsanzabaganwa, Ph.D.
Deputy Chairperson, African Union Commission**

During the closing session, Mr. Coulibaly emphasized the importance of strengthening PAFO's internal structures to better address the key challenges faced by African farmers. The OD session comprehensively reviewed PAFO's electoral system, governance structure, and board composition, refining the election process and establishing terms that align with the organization's strategic goals.

Since January 2024, PAFO has received technical support from Germany's Andreas Hermes Akademie (AHA), which has provided continuous assistance in this OD process. AHA Director Nicole Bolomey expressed satisfaction with PAFO's progress and pledged continued technical and financial support.



OD workshop-Dar Essalam, Tanzania

Finally, the Addis Ababa session clarified the respective roles of PAFO's Secretariat and its regional networks: while the Secretariat will focus on continental and global agricultural issues, the regional networks will address national and regional programs. This approach follows the principle of subsidiarity and ensures a cohesive, multi-level framework. On October 30, PAFO's Board conducted a comprehensive review of the Secretariat's implementation of the organization's 2021-2025 strategic pillars, which included progress on partnerships, MoUs, and financial audits, demonstrating PAFO's commitment to international best practices and strengthened financial strategies.



OD Workshop Addis-Abeba, Éthiopia