

ASAREC Newsletter Vol. 18

Wishing You A Merry Christmas And Happy New Year

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Dear esteemed Partners,

It is the time of the year to wish you the best of luck, especially during the festive season. It is also time to pray that the Almighty God sails you through to the New Year 2021.

While it goes without saying that the rapid spread of the COVID-19 pandemic disrupted smooth implementation of our work plans, we are thankful to God that we were able to adopt remote working innovations, which enabled us to achieve 82% of planned activities. But most important, we are still alive!

We would like to thank you for the financial, technical, and political support provided to the Secretariat during year. Specifically, we thank the Governments of Member States for delegating the Permanent Secretaries to deliberate in the Virtual Consultative Meeting of Permanent Secretaries of Agriculture line Ministries, Director Generals of NARIS and the Board of Directors on the role of Member States in sustaining the Association, held on October 22, 2020. Through this meeting, you made unwavering commitment to: Clear all outstanding arrears in membership fees and other re-capitalization contributions to the Secretariat; work with the Director Generals to ensure sustainable disbursements of fees to the Association; continue to providing political patronage and institutional ownership of ASARECA, among other things. Thank you.

The Secretariat pledges to continue harnessing resources to fulfill its value proposition to the Member States. This year, despite the COVID-19 Pandemic disruptions, we were able to undertake the following strategic actions:

>> Completion of signing of the new ASARECA Constitution

>>Admission of the Republic of Cameroon and Central African Republic (CAR) to the Association.

>>>Completion of the development of ASARECA Resource Mobilization and Sustainability Strategy.

>>Development of ASARECA's flagship publication "ASARECA@25: Celebrating decades of Coordinating Collaborative Agricultural Research for Development in the ECA (1994-2019) and a video visualizing the publication (available viaYouTube //YQUKMuSILZ04).

>>Convening of the dialogue for the Committee of the Director Generals of the NARIs to identify urgent AR4D climate relevant activities for joint implementation under the CAADP-XP4 Programme.

>>Launch of the exercise to update the register of ASARECA's members and partners. This exercise was scheduled to end on December 31st, but has been extended to allow all stakeholders to register.

Once more, we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Prof Jean Jacques Mbonigaba Muhinda

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ASARECA





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