



## Thank You for Participating in the Ministerial Conference

Dear AR4D colleagues,

Thank you for all for Participating in the ASARECA AAMC

I would like most heartily to thank you all in your various capacities, for participating during ASARECA Agriculture Ministerial Conference held at Speke Resort, Munyonyo in Kampala, Uganda from May 17-19, 2023. I note from the onset that all the objectives of the AAMC were met. These include:



- Identifying mechanisms for leveraging resources to support coordinated implementation of joint actions towards building resilient food systems in the sub-region.
- Approving the admission of Cameroon, Central African Republic, and Somali as new Core Members into the Association and undertaking other governance functions including electing office bearers.
- Highlighting achievements under the CAADP-XP4 Programme, raise the visibility of the Programme, and harness multi-stakeholder partnerships to respond to the effects of climate change.
- Strengthening capacities of multi-stakeholder Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) platforms to scale up proven climate smart Technologies, Innovations and Management Practices (TIMPs).
- Engaging policy makers and Research Forum Leaders to review the strategies and research programs of the Association and identify emerging scientific issues and regional AR4D priorities.
- Engaging Regional Economic Communities (RECs) in enhancing regional agricultural trade, promoting use of digital agricultural tools for climate change.

Following the various sessions of the AAMC, including the General Assembly, the Council of Patron Ministers, and the scientific Conference the Ministers of Agriculture in the ASARECA Member States signed a Joint Communiqué in which they committed to:

- Contribute to sustainable and long-term financing of ASARECA through payment of a One-off membership fee of USD 100,000 to ASARECA and Annual subscription fees of USD 100,000, as ordinary members contribute an annual subscription fee of USD 25,000.
- Clear all outstanding financial arrears with ASARECA between September 2023 and March 2024.
- Support Regional Agricultural Research for Development Initiatives by lobbying Development Partners to support mega regional agricultural projects coordinated by ASARECA.
- Support formulation and implementation regional policies to facilitate cross border trade and germplasm transfer among ASARECA member countries.
- Ensure ASARECA Secretariat coordinates engagements between One CGIAR and ASARECA Member States.
- Support partnerships for transformation of smallholder livelihoods.
- Support evidence-based policy making.
- Support increased access to and use of agricultural technologies, innovations, and management practices.
- Increase access to agricultural data and Information for planning and decision making
- Increase access to agricultural markets through structured production, distribution, and trade to upgrade value chains of key food security commodities
- Implement Constitutional Amendments including the revised composition of the Board of Directors admitting all the Directors General of the NARIs of the Member States to the Board.

Full Conference Proceedings, including key recommendations from the Scientific Conference will be availed to you in the very near future.

**Enock Warinda (PhD)**  
**Executive Director**

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### News Highlights



#### All the objectives of the AAMC were met-- Says ASARECA ED

All the targets set by ASARECA and its Governance Organs during the ASARECA Agriculture Ministerial Conference (AAMC)-2023 running from May 17 to 19, 2023 were achieved, the Executive Director, Dr. Enock Warinda has said. Speaking at the close of the AAMC-2023 on May 19, Dr. Warinda said the Line Ministers for

### News Highlights



#### ASARECA AAMC Kicks off in High Gear

The ASARECA Agriculture Ministerial Conference (AAMC) opened in high gear at Speke Resort, Munyonyo in Kampala, Uganda on May 17, 2023 with focus on Building Resilient Food Systems. Delivering the opening address on the first day of the Conference, Uganda's Minister of State for

Agricultural Research and Development in Member States signed a Joint Communiqué agreeing to all the prayers made to them. [Read more](#)

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### Minister Calls for Impactful & transformative Agricultural Research

The ASARECA Agriculture Ministerial Conference closed on May 19, 2023, with a call on scientists to engage in research that easily benefits the intended beneficiaries—the farmers. The call was made by Uganda’s Minister of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF), Hon. Frank Tumwebaze while addressing over 350 delegates at the close of the AAMC. “Research should help farmers build resilient seed systems and solutions to diseases for both animals and crops. It should be adaptive and impactful,” the Minister, who is also the current Chairman of the ASARECA Council of Patron Ministers, told over 350 delegates from 15 ASARECA Member States.” [Read more.](#)

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### AR4D Events

**Africa Agribusiness and Science Week:** FARA is co-organizing the event with the CAADP XP4 partners i.e., CCARDESA, ASARECA, CORAF, AFAAS, the Government of the Republic of South Africa and in collaboration with numerous other partners including AUC, AUDA, GFAR, YPAR, PAFO, One CGIAR, FAO, AFDB, UNIDO, AFBC, Sappi, AGRA, AWARD, ICRISAT, DESIRA LIFT, PANAP, RUFORUM, Standard bank. Development Partners collaborating in this event include EC, IFAD, AfDB, AfreximBank etc. Theme: Linking Science, Innovation, and Agri-Business for Resilient Food Systems. Details: <https://aasw.faraafrica.org/>

Livestock in the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries, Hon. Bright Rwamirama challenged researchers to focus on jointly addressing the impacts of Climate change, a crisis which, he said knows no boundaries. [Read more](#)

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### Dr. Warinda makes strong case for financing ASARECA to stakeholders

ASARECA Executive Director, Dr. Enock Warinda, has made a passionate appeal to Members States to settle their arrears in membership fees to the Association. Addressing ASARECA stakeholders during the ASARECA Agriculture Ministerial Conference (AAMC)-2023 on Thursday, May 17, 2023, Dr. Warinda noted that countries owe the Association more than USD 1.9 million, with only three (Tanzania, Eritrea, and Uganda) in good standing having cleared fees to zero balance. The other countries are in arrears to various extents. To drive his message home, Dr. Warinda noted that ASARECA has over the last 29 years mobilized over USD 258 million to implement Agricultural Research for Development (AR4D) initiatives in member countries. "That is the reason you need to re-capitalize ASARECA to be more attractive to development partners," he asserted. [Read more](#)

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**Science and Innovation for Food Systems Transformation: Follow up to the 2021 UN Food Systems Summit.** Following the [UN Food Systems Summit](#) held in September 2021, the [UN Food Systems Coordination Hub](#), was established in early 2022 to coordinate follow-up to the summit, including facilitation of food systems transformation pathways at the country level. The 2023 follow up conference brings together members of the UNFSS Scientific Group, the Director of the UN Food Systems Coordination Hub, and the Managing Director of the CGIAR Science Group on Systems Transformation to explore scientific findings that inform food systems transformation. Date: 11<sup>th</sup> April, 2023. Eye Street, Washington DC. Details: <https://www.cgiar.org/news-events/event/science-and-innovation-for-food-systems-transformation-follow-up-to-the-2021-un-food-systems-summit/>



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