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Food safety: a critical part of the food system in Africa

Organised by CTA, ACP Secretariat, European Commission (DG DEVCO and DG Health and Food Safety), Concord and the Global Food Safety Partnership

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<http://brusselsbriefings.net>

BIODATA OF THE SPEAKERS

Lystra Antoine – Chief Executive Officer, Global Food Safety Partnership

Dedicated to results-driven strategies to improve the human condition through safe, reliable and sustainable food systems, Lystra joined the GFSP as its CEO in August 2016. Her top three priorities are to: (1) focus the GFSP to achieve its strategic objectives; (2) expand the awareness and involvement of key stakeholders; and (3) elevate the importance of food safety to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. For four years prior to joining the GFSP, Lystra was the Global Director for DuPont Pioneer's sustainable agriculture development efforts and was responsible for designing and leading the implementation of agriculture development initiatives that helped smallholder farmers improve their livelihoods and increase their contribution to the value chain. Lystra spent sixteen years at the World Bank prior to joining DuPont. She holds an MBA from SUNY Buffalo and a Juris Doctor from Georgetown University Law Center.

Isolina Boto – Manager, CTA Brussels Office

Isolina Boto is the Manager of the CTA Brussels Office. Isolina has more than 20 years of experience in development. She worked for the European Commission, various ACP embassies and NGOs in areas related to food security, rural development and trade. Within CTA, she worked in various positions at headquarters, in the Netherlands, especially on co-funded technical programmes on Agriculture and Rural Development implemented at regional level. Since 2004 she heads the CTA Brussels Office, dealing with policy issues related to the ACP-EU cooperation in the field of agricultural and rural development. In that context, she coordinates and organizes the regular Brussels Development Briefings on topical development policy issues (<http://brusselsbriefings.net>). The office produces a daily news service on key policy areas of ACP-EU cooperation on trade, fisheries, climate change, food security and development policy (<http://brussels.cta.int>). Since 2016 she leads the CTA group on agribusiness development.

Kelley Cormier – Division Chief, Bureau for Food Security, USAID

Dr. Kelley Cormier serves as Chief of the Inclusive Market Development Division in USAID's Bureau for Food Security, where she leads a team that addresses the agribusiness enabling environment and trade, risk management and resilience, access to finance, market systems strengthening, and commercialization of technologies in fulfillment of the U.S. Government's Global Food Security Strategy. Kelley is an agricultural economist with expertise in agriculture sector commercialization, international food systems, and the effects of land reform on poverty. Before joining USAID, Kelley worked with USDA designing, implementing, and evaluating sanitary and phyto-sanitary programs, focusing on animal health. Prior to this, she conducted research that explored how policies and institutions affect agricultural markets and market actors and has consulted with GTZ and ADB. She has held numerous fellowships, including with the American Association for the Advancement of Science and Fulbright. She holds a PhD in Development Studies with specializations in Economics and Law from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a MS in Agricultural Economics from Michigan State University.

Viwanou Gnassounou – Assistant Secretary General, ACP Secretariat

Viwanou Gnassounou, from Togo, is an economist, financial expert and project manager with 17 years of experience in agricultural and natural resource policy formulation, aid programming, sectoral commodity export strategies, and trade. Before joining the ACP Management Team, he was co-manager of a Consulting firm, which provides support in the areas of development policies. He also set up and managed an agricultural products industrial processing company based in Togo. Mr. Gnassounou holds a Master's degree in Economic Analysis and Policy, a Diplôme d'Etudes Approfondies (DEA) in Development Economics (MPhil equivalent), and a Diplôme d'Etudes Supérieures Spécialisées (DESS) in Economic Development and Development Project Management (MSc equivalent) from the Centre for Research and Studies in International Development at the Université d'Auvergne, France. He is fluent in English, French and Mina (Togo), with basic knowledge of German. Mr. Gnassounou took office on 1 April 2015.

Michael Hailu – Director, Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA)

Michael Hailu, an Ethiopian national, is the Director of the Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA) based in the Netherlands. CTA is a joint institution of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States and the European Union working under the Cotonou Partnership Agreement. Mr. Hailu has over 25 years of professional experience in agricultural research and development in Africa and Asia. Prior to joining CTA in mid-2010, he held senior leadership positions at the World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF) based in Nairobi, Kenya and at the Centre for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) in Indonesia. Mr. Hailu has led the development and implementation of CTA's 2011-2015 strategic plan refocusing the Centre's work on three priority themes—supporting agricultural policies and strategies; enhancing inclusive value chains; and strengthening capacities of ARD institutions and networks in knowledge management and ICTs. He has degrees from the University of Pittsburgh and Addis Ababa University. He has also been trained in strategic leadership at the Stanford University Graduate School of Business.

Gerald Masila – Executive Director, Eastern Africa Grain Council (EAGC)

Gerald Makau Masila is Executive Director and CEO of EAGC since 2011, working to structured grain trade in the Eastern Africa region through development, implementation of regionally harmonized quality standards, post-harvest management, aggregation and warehousing, market information, training and capacity building and trading platforms to facilitate trade. Under his leadership, EAGC has developed key interventions towards structuring grain trade including; the GSoko Online Grain Trading system launched in 2015, a virtual trading platform with a network of certified and automated warehouses linked to farmer aggregation centres; the Eastern Africa Grain Institute, the specialized training and capacity building division of EAGC in 2012; the Agricultural Trade Policy Advisory Forum for Eastern and Southern Africa (ATPAF-ESA) in 2013, a multi stakeholder platform for trade policy, monitoring, analysis, capacity building and advocacy; the upgrade and re-launch of the EAGC Regional Agricultural Trade Intelligence Network (RATIN), a marketing information system; the hosting of the Africa Grain Trade Summits, the flagship EAGC biennial grain trade policy conferences from the 4th held in 2011 in Kampala to the 7th held in Das es Salaam in 2017 and also the EAGC annual Agribusiness EXPOs in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania as well as the regional Business to Business –B2B forums bringing buyers and sellers of grain to sign trade deals and follow on with deliveries across the borders. Gerald has over 20 years of experience in general management, sales, marketing, distribution, commodity trading, fast-moving consumer goods management, and management of trade associations. He holds a Master's degree in Agricultural Economics and Bachelor's degree in Economics both from Egerton University, Kenya and is currently pursuing a PhD in Project Planning and Management, Project Finance Option at the University of Nairobi.

Leonard Mizzi – Acting Director Devco C, Planet and Prosperity and Head of Unit Rural Development, Food Security, Nutrition, Europeaid, European Commission

Leonard Mizzi is a Maltese national, having started working in the Maltese public administration (Office of the Prime Minister in the late 80s) then moving to the Maltese private sector between 1996-2006 where he was the first Director of the Malta Business Bureau in Brussels- the joint office of the Hotels and Restaurants Association and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Malta. Since 2007 he joined the European

Commission (DG Agriculture and Rural Development), first dealing with ACP countries and development and then inter-institutional affairs. In 2017, he joined DG DEVCO. Dr. Mizzi is a graduate of the University of Malta, CIHEAM-IAMM (Montpellier) and has a Ph.D from Reading University, UK – with a specialisation in food demand economics. He has been a visiting lecturer at the University of Malta, Open University and Boston University and occasionally College of Europe (Bruges). He is the author of a number of articles, specialising in Euro-Mediterranean issues, Malta-EU relations, agribusiness in island states and agribusiness and SME development.

Cris Muyunda – Chairman of the Governing Council of CAADP Non State Actors Coalition

Cris Muyunda, the current Chairman of the CAADP Non State Actors' Coalition (CNC), is an experienced agribusiness professional with over 20 years' experience gained in the African development landscape. In the period 2005 to 2009, Cris led COMESA's CAADP implementation efforts and was founding CEO of the Alliance for Commodity Trade in Eastern and Southern Africa (ACTESA). Previously, Cris worked as a Deputy Team Leader for the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in Zambia and worked closely with development agencies on the African continent. Cris has strong negotiation and analytical skills to manage and lead any team. Cris obtained a bachelor of sciences degree from the University of Zambia in 1986 and undertook post graduate studies in Australia and the USA. He holds a PhD in business competitiveness.

Elizabeth Nsimadala – Entrepreneur & President of Eastern Africa Farmer's Federation (EAFF)

Elizabeth Nsimadala is the Board Member Pan Africa Farmers Organization (PAFO) a position she holds on behalf of The Eastern Africa Farmers Federation (EAFF) where she serves as The Regional President. Previously she served four years as the Regional Women Representative at the EAFF and Treasurer Board Uganda cooperative Alliance (UCA) a member of EAFF. She is also the Chairperson Governing Council Uganda Cooperative College Tororo, Coordinator Caritas Cooperative Governing Council and Secretary of her local cooperative - Nyabubare Cooperative Society a member of UCA. Professionally she holds a Master of Science in Project planning and Management (Ndejje University Uganda) and a Bachelor of Arts in Social sciences (Makerere University Kampala), she has also received specialized training in Cooperative Management, Agricultural marketing and logistics management for cooperatives, public administration and management, Administrative law among others at both international and National level. Elizabeth is a successful Agripreneur and has been key in promoting aggregation of farmers for markets model. She has specialized in banana value addition (wine production) and has so far trained over 250 farmer groups through the Uganda Cooperative Alliance, Uganda's Ministry of Education and Sports – Non Formal Skills program, The Ministry of Trade Industry and Cooperatives (One Village One Product programme) and through Nyabubare Cooperative Society. As a result of her efforts, she was awarded the best established enterprise award by Consortium for Enhancing University Responsiveness to Agribusiness Development (CURAD).

Kristina Roesel – Jointly appointed scientist at Freie Universität Berlin and the International Livestock Research Institute

Kristina Roesel holds a DVM and PhD in Biomedical Sciences and currently works as a jointly appointed scientist in the Animal and Human Health program at the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) in Kenya, and the Institute for Tropical Veterinary Medicine at Freie Universität Berlin in Germany. She started research in food safety and informal markets when she joined ILRI as a graduate fellow during the final synthesis activities of the BMZ/GIZ funded, ILRI-led Safe Food, Fair Food project in 2011. This project was one of the first investigating foodborne diseases in informal markets of sub-Saharan Africa using risk-based approaches, and introducing participatory methods to qualitative and quantitative food safety risk assessment. The project approach informed a number of studies that followed in Africa and South East Asia. She later coordinated a second phase of the project which pilot tested food safety interventions in four livestock value chains in sub-Saharan Africa. Her current work includes continued research on food

safety and informal markets in Africa, other areas of veterinary public health, and science-informed policy engagement.

Michael Scannell – Director for the Food Chain – Stakeholder and International Relations in DG Sante, European Commission

Michael Scannell is an official of the European Commission since 1991. He is currently Director for the Food Chain – Stakeholder and International Relations in the Directorate General for Health and Food Safety. He was until recently Director of the Food and Veterinary Office which was responsible for promoting proper enforcement and compliance with EU requirements on food safety, animal and plant health in both EU Member States and third countries. His previous positions included chief spokesperson for the EU in the Codex Commission and in the Sanitary and Phytosanitary Committee of the World Trade Organisation between 2002 and 2010. He also worked from 1995 to 2002 in the private offices of Commissioners, with particular responsibilities in the area of tobacco control, trade, economic, food safety and animal health regulatory issues. This period included the BSE and foot and mouth diseases crisis and the creation of a specific Directorate General for Health Protection and of the European Food Safety Authority. Mr Scannell is Irish and a graduate in economics and politics from University College Dublin.

Morag Webb – Policy Adviser, PIP-COLEACP

Morag Webb studied Environmental Science and Applied Ecology, followed by a Master Degree in Integrated Pest Management. She is from a farming background and since 1990 has run a commercial farm with her family in the UK. Morag spent 15 years in research, mainly in smallholder agriculture, managing projects financed by the UK Department for International Development (DFID) in South America and Africa. On joining COLEACP in 2003, she worked in food safety technical assistance and capacity building of value chains in the Africa-Caribbean-Pacific horticultural sector. From 2009 – 2016 she headed the R&D and Market Access team addressing regulations, private standards and buyer demands, and led the development of the COLEACP Sustainability Programme. She represents COLEACP on a variety of technical committees and boards.