

**ACCRA DECLARATION ON DEFINING A POLICY ROADMAP
TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE AFRICAN COCOA ECONOMY
ADOPTED BY THE 2ND AFRICA COCOA SUMMIT**

ACCRA, GHANA, 5TH SEPTEMBER, 2007

We the Heads of State and Government meeting in Accra, Ghana, on the occasion of the 2nd Africa Cocoa Summit on 5th September, 2007.

RECOGNIZING that cocoa contributes significantly to the economies of most cocoa producing countries in Africa and the livelihood of a large proportion of its citizenry.

CONSCIOUS of the need to ensure the sustainability of the cocoa economy in Africa and the potentials for increased benefits in providing employment, generating revenue and contributing to food and nutritional security.

TAKING note of the stagnation in productivity and losses in production capacity due to the spread of cocoa pests and diseases.

CONCERNED that world cocoa prices in real terms have been on the decline over the last ten years, and that the distribution of income among stakeholders in the World Cocoa Economy is inequitable.

RECOGNIZING that this decrease in revenue from cocoa exports has made it more difficult to attain the millennium development goals.

RECALLING the Abidjan Charter of the Cocoa Producers' Alliance, 1962, its objectives to collect and disseminate technical and scientific information on cocoa, to discuss problems of mutual interest and to advance social and economic relations between cocoa producers, to ensure adequate supply of cocoa beans to the world market at remunerative prices and to promote the expansion of the consumption of cocoa.

MINDFUL of the interest shown by the international community about worst forms of child labour *in* cocoa production sector.

EMBRACING the principles of the NEPAD vision of Africa's development, its objectives to eradicate poverty, achieve food security and build the foundations of sustainable development in the region.

DO HEREBY RESOLVE, without prejudice to the sovereign rights, obligations, and responsibilities of our countries under relevant international laws, treaties and agreements, to:

- i. **ENCOURAGE** the harmonization of international quality standards and the procedures used to measure them.
- ii. **PROVIDE** resources to build human and technological capacity for quality assurance.
- iii. **PROMOTE** domestic consumption of cocoa.
- iv. **ENHANCE** downstream research and development for value addition to cocoa.
- v. **PROVIDE** adequate funding for research.
- vi. **STRENGTHEN** international cooperation among African cocoa producers.
- vii. **ENCOURAGE** other African cocoa producers to join the Cocoa Producers' Alliance.
- viii. **PROMOTE** public/private sector partnership in the cocoa industry.
- ix. **TAKE MEASURES** to eliminate any cases of the worst forms of child labour from cocoa farms wherever they exist.
- x. **EDUCATE** the international community on cocoa production in Africa to bring out the involvement of children in cocoa production practices in order to allay fears of the existence of the worst forms of child labour.
- xi. **IMPROVE** productivity through the planting of disease-resistant and high-yielding planting materials, including the adoption of appropriate technologies.

- L. **PROMOTE** intensification of production to ensure the judicious use of land for both cocoa and other crops leading to improved incomes for farmers.
- xiii. **TAKE MEASURES** to make cocoa farming more attractive especially to the youth.
- xiv. **ENGAGE** our trading partners in negotiations with the view to eliminating stringent tariffs on finished/semi-finished cocoa products in order to improve market access.
- xv. **EXAMINE** the implications of the use of supply management and other market instruments with the view to achieving market equilibrium and remunerative prices.
- xvi. **COMMISSION** an inventory of cocoa resources to enhance policy formulation.

5th September, 2007
Accra, Ghana