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DIRECTORATE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION

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ROPPA AND AU-SAFGRAD TO STRENGTHEN COLLABORATION

Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso – 29 June 2016. Mr Djibo BAGNA, Chairman of the Board of The Network of Farmers and Producers Organizations of West Africa (ROPPA), paid a visit to AU-SAFGRAD. The visit which was on the margin of the workshop on Pastoralism organised (from 28 June to 1st July 2016) by DREA in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, was an opportunity for the two institutions to review their relationships.



Mr Djibo BAGNA, Chairman of the Board of ROPPA greeting Dr Ahmed ELMKASS, AU-SAFGRAD Coordinator.

Mr. Bagna was welcomed to the Office by Dr Ahmed ELMKASS, AU-SAFGRAD Coordinator who briefed the august visitor on the major activities and achievements aiming at strengthening livelihood resilience of small holders in semi-arid zones of Africa (SAZs).

The Chairman of ROPPA Board, after thanking AU SAFGRAD head and his collaborators for receiving him despite a full agenda, explained his expectations in terms of collaboration and partnership between ROPPA and AU-SAFGRAD.

He also presented the current activities of the ROPPA network. ROPPA Board Chairperson particularly made a focus on few main activities including an important study on the implementation of an observatory of family farming in West Africa and the preparation of a ministerial meeting on the issue of agricultural development in West Africa. In his intervention, the Head of the board of ROPPA expressed his wish that Pastoralism be taken into account in the new generations of national agricultural investment programs (NAIPs). He also reiterated the need to include Women and Youth, and other elements such as agricultural scientific research and agricultural value chain to be considered into the new NAIPs within CAADP framework.

In conclusion and after a very rich discussion and exchange of views, the two institutions agreed to envisage a technical meeting between aimed at identifying ways of closer collaboration and eventually the signature of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

AU-SAFAGRAD Coordinator, on behalf of African Union, thanked the ROPPA leader for his visit and the interest he has shown on the activities of AU SAFGRAD and the need for a better collaboration between the two concerned institutions.

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