



Panfrican farmers' organization
Organisation panafricaine des agriculteurs
المنظمة الإفريقية للفلاحين



SIXTH Ordinary Session - PAFO General Assembly 2023

FINAL RESOLUTION

Tunis, 27th – 28th October 2023

In accordance with its statutory texts and convened by the President of its Board s, Mr Kolyang PALEBELE, the Pan-African Farmer's Organization (PAFO) held its 6th Ordinary General Assembly (OGA) on 27th and 28th October 2023 at the RAMADA PLAZA Hotel in Tunis, Tunisia.



The 6th GA also registered the participation of three PAFO partners (AHA, Agricord, AGRA) with 5 representatives and a goodwill message from the IFAD President.





The opening ceremony of the 6th Ordinary General Assembly was chaired by Mr Abdelmonaam BELATI, Minister of Agriculture, Fishery Resources of the Republic of Tunisia, and was punctuated by four (4) speeches:

Firstly, Mr. Nourredine BEN AYED, President of UTAP and Vice-President of UMNAGRI welcomed the participants and wished them a good stay. He thanked PAFO for its choice of UTAP and Tunisia to host the 6th General Assembly.

In his speech, the PAFO President, Mr Kolyang Palebele, thanked the Tunisian government for hosting the 6th session of its Ordinary General Assembly and for the facilities granted to PAFO for its efficient organization. He also thanked and congratulated UMNAGRI and its national platform in Tunisia, UTAP, for their efforts in ensuring the organization of the GA. The President of PAFO explained the context of the AGO, which meets the governance requirements set out in the texts. He called for greater support from the Tunisian government for UMNAGRI, which has its headquarters in Tunis.

The word from the partners was delivered by Mr Alvaro Lario, President of IFAD, on behalf of the partners. In his goodwill video message to participants at the GA, Mr. Lario stressed the importance of the partnership between PAFO and IFAD. It is a

partnership that has lasted for several years, and with good reason. The two institutions share the same objectives and the same values.

The IFAD President praised the crucial role played by PAFO and its member farmers' organizations in the transformation of African agriculture, which provides food and preserves social and economic values in Africa.

Acknowledging PAFO's vital role in ensuring that the voice of farmers is heard in political debates, Mr. Alvaro Lario concluded by reiterating IFAD's commitment to continuing to work with PAFO and the regional networks of FOs to bring about change at global level.

[Message from IFAD President](#)

Mr Abdelmonaam BELATI, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Halieutic Resources of the Republic of Tunisia, began by expressing the government's delight that his country was hosting the 6th Ordinary General Assembly of PAFO. He called on farmers to redouble their efforts to innovate and adopt appropriate solutions to the increasingly acute problem of climate change, so as to be able to maintain and strengthen their activities and thus guarantee food and nutritional security and jobs. He declared open the General Assembly by wishing delegates fruitful debates and relevant resolutions that will strengthen the dynamics of PAFO.



The 6th Ordinary General Assembly then focused on the following points:

- **A dialogue session with Partners**



- Presentation and discussion of the conclusions of the parallel events (4^{ème} PAFO rural women's forum, agroecology workshop, and mapping workshop,
- Partners' round table
- Presentation and discussion of proposed strategic orientations drawn from the parallel events



- **A closed-door institutional session with delegates**



- Verification of quorum
- Adoption of the agenda
- Presentation of the final 2021 GA resolution
- Presentation of the Chairman's report
- Presentation of the 2021 - 2023 activity report
- Presentation of the 2021 - 2023 financial report
- Presentation of the 2021 and 2022 audit reports
- Organ renewal

- **Closing Ceremony**



- Resolution read out
- Motions of thanks read out
- Closing remarks: i) President UTAP; ii) President UMNAGRI; iii) Official closing speech by the President of ROPPA

The discussions and exchanges during the GA resulted in the following conclusions, recommendations and resolutions:

1. Activity, Financial and Audit Reports

President Kolyang Palebele presented his report to the Assembly, recalling the context marked by health, security and climate crises on the continent. However, under his leadership, PAFO has worked to strengthen its executive secretariat, to hold regular statutory meetings and to build partnerships for dynamic African agriculture. He called on PAFO to consolidate its achievements and to open up new and better prospects for the network.



The activity report was presented by PAFO's Chief Executive officer, Dr. Babafemi Oyewole who outlined the activities carried out under the 4 pillars and cross-cutting themes of PAFO's strategic plan. It emerged that the actions taken had helped to strengthen PAFO's base and visibility.

The Financial officer, Solange Uwera, presented PAFO's financial statement for the period 2021-2023. The auditor of PAFO intervened and attests to the effective and efficient management of PAFO funds.

2. On the Side Events

During the various parallel events, recommendations were made by the various participants.



2.1.1. Rural Women Forum



Three (3) key recommendations were made:

- **Strengthening the institutionalization of the PAFO rural women's forum by** (i) drawing up a charter for its organization and operation; (ii) running a communication and information forum on the forum;
- **The establishment of PAFO's women's platform in the near future.** PAFO should also help RFOs that do not have a women's platform to set up one, by encouraging peer support and sharing.
- **Put in place, as part of PAFO's strategic plan and by the end of its 1^{er} cycle, (i) an operational program to strengthen the leadership and advocacy skills of rural women through the women's platform of the RFOs, two priority support and guidance programs; (ii) a program to digitize the tools and services developed or used by rural women.**

[PAFO Rural Women Forum report](#)

[African Rural Women Declaration](#)

[VIDEO DAY 1](#)

[VIDEO FIELD VISIT](#)

2.1.2. Agroecology Workshop



Four (4) major recommendations were made during the workshop.

- PAFO was tasked to lead the debate on agroecology in Africa. To do this, it must (i) carry out a study on the impact of agroecology on the continent's agriculture; (ii) define a vision, a policy line, and a conception of agroecology that take into account the realities of the continent and the dynamics of POs; (iii) draw up PAFO's profile on agroecology, specifying the potential and key tools developed by its members;
- Implementing an agro-ecology advocacy strategy and getting involved, with a well-defined political agenda, in the major programs underway and in consultation forums at continental and international level concerning agro-ecology and climate change;
- Drawing up a regional PAFO program on agroecology to support the scaling-up of proven solutions and the determining factors of agroecology (strengthening collaboration with research institutions, production enhancement, integration into policies, etc.), which will serve as a basis for mobilizing support from partners;
- Monitor and produce a farmers' understanding of FORI and initiate discussions with Agricorn and the European Union;

[PAFO-FO-RI Agroecology Workshop Report](#)

[VIDEO](#)

2.1.3. FO Mapping



The recommendation is as follows:

- To continue the work begun by the consultant to produce, as a matter of priority, a map of FOs from local to regional level, via national and regional levels, by 2024. This mapping will eventually include characteristic strategic local products from farms in the various countries in the region;

[Report Session on Mapping](#)

[VIDEO](#)

2.1.4. Mid-term review of the strategic plan

This generated two (2) major recommendations:

- The setting up of focal points at the level of the RFOs to work with the PAFO secretariat and the strategy consultancy to finalize/improve the mid-term review of the strategic plan;
- Validation of the final report by the PAFO Board

1. Concerning the technical team of the PAFO Secretariat

Two (2) major recommendations

- Strengthening the technical team by recruiting (i) a program officer; (ii) a FO specialist; (iii) a human resources management specialist;

- The provision of support for the organization of work and the implementation of guidelines defined by Board meetings

2. Concerning the implementation of women's and youth colleges

- The 6th GA endorsed a proposed approach for setting up **women's and youth college**, submitted by the women and youth delegates to the AGO, as well as two women's and youth committees set up to lead this process;
- The 6th GA also ratified the appointment of Mr. **BENKADDOUR Youssef of UMNAGRI** and Ms. **KINKODILA TOMBO Dolares Hortens of PROPAC**, as youth and women focal points respectively, responsible for coordinating this process in conjunction with PAFO's Executive Secretariat and Board.

3. Renewal of the Board

- On the proposal of the RFOs, the delegates at the 6th GA validated the members of PAFO's new Board of Directors, on behalf of 5 representatives of the RFOs, who will be joined at the next AGM by 2 representatives of women and youth;
- On the proposal of the 5 members of the Board, the delegates to the 6th GA ratified the various functions to be assumed by the 5 RFOs on the Board as follows:
 - i) President PAFO Board: ROPPA President
 - ii) Vice-President PAFO Board : SACAU
 - iii) PAFO Treasurer: PROPAC
 - iv) Ordinary member: EAFF
 - v) Ordinary member: UMNAGRI

4. In connection with the organization of the 7th Ordinary General Assembly

The Board has been invited to propose the network and country that will host the 7th Ordinary General Assembly.

5. On PAFO regulations

Two (2) Major **recommendations**:

- A review and harmonization of PAFO's constitution and internal regulations with a view to adapting and updating them to take account of PAFO's institutional and organizational developments;
- The introduction of provisions in the texts to formalize an advisory council made up of former presidents and leaders of the African farmer's movement to strengthen PAFO.

Done in Tunis on 28th octobre 2023

GENERAL ASSEMBLY MOTIONS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND RECOGNITION OF THE TUNISIAN GOVERNMENT

We, PAFO member networks, gathered at the 6th Ordinary General Assembly of our continental platform, reiterate our deep gratitude and our sincere thanks to Tunisian Government, for hosting the 6th General Assembly and Side events; for the unconditional support and for all the facilities and support provided for the organization of our 6th General Assembly.



M. Abdelmonem Belati, ministre de l'agriculture



Ms. Leila Chikhaoui, Minister of Environnement

We would particularly like to thank Mr Abdelmonem Belati, Minister of Agriculture and Hydraulic Resources, and Mrs Leila Chikhaoui, Minister of the Environment, who honoured us with their presence at the opening of our events.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO PARTNERS

The delegates present at the 6th Ordinary General Assembly of PAFO, on behalf of the member networks, thank all the technical and financial partners committed to PAFO, and who have provided them with their support and support in the conduct of its activities and initiatives, in particular the presence of this General Assembly.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO THE OUTGOING BOARD



We, delegates to the 6th Ordinary PAFO General Assembly deeply thank all the members of the outgoing Board for having carried out their mandate with commitment and success. We are grateful to them for their strategic initiatives to support the achievement of PAFO's objectives and strengthen its institutional dynamic.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO UMNAGRI



The delegates to the 6th PAFO Ordinary General Assembly and all members of the outgoing Board send their thanks and deep gratitude to PAFO's Member Network, UMNAGRI, for its invaluable and essential support at all stages of the organization of our 6th GA, which greatly contributed to its success. We appreciated their excellent logistical coordination, which ensured that our event proceeded smoothly. We would particularly like to thank the UMNAGRI President, and Mrs Rim Ferchichi, General Secretary and the UMNAGRI Secretariat, who showed great dedication and invested themselves fully in the success of our event.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO UTAP



We, PAFO member networks, gathered at the 6th Ordinary General Assembly of our continental platform, reiterate our deep gratitude and our sincere thanks to the Tunisian Union of Agriculture and Fisheries (UTAP), the NFO, member of UMNAGRI, for their invaluable support in the exceptional organization of PAFO's General Assembly and Side events.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO PROVIDERS

We, the PAFO member networks, gathered at the 6th Ordinary General Assembly of our continental platform, express our thanks and recognition to all the institutions and individuals who contributed to the success of our event, in particular the management and staff of the REMADA PLAZA Hotel, the interpreters, the media and all the service providers, who worked relentlessly to ensure that our activities ran smoothly.