Awakening the Sleeping Giant:
Making Grain Markets Work for Smallholder Farmers and Consumers in Eastern and Southern Africa

Sponsored by
Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa – CAADP Programme and
Alliance for Commodity Trade in Eastern and Southern Africa

10 May, 2010,
Lusaka, Zambia

Draft Agenda

Session 1: Official Opening

8:30 Registration

9.00: Welcoming remarks: Mr. Sindiso Ngwenya, Secretary General, COMESA

9.10 Opening Address: Hon. Peter Daka, Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Zambia

9.20 Brief overview of the Guiding Investments for Sustainable Agricultural Markets for Africa (GISAMA) program: Dr. Cris Muyunda, Chief Executive Officer, ACTESA

9.30 Coffee/tea

Session 2: Setting the stage: Current State of Food Markets and Future Trends


10.40: Floor Discussion. Moderator: Dr. Cris Muyunda, Chief Executive Officer, ACTESA

Session 3: Learning from Experience.

11.30: How is South Africa Affecting Food Security in the Region?  
Jan Nijhoff, COMESA / Michigan State University

11.50: How Can Food and Price Instability be Effectively Managed?  
Dr. Shahid Rashid, IFPRI

12.10: Floor discussion. Moderator: Ms. Fostina Mani, East Africa Grain Council

12.45: Lunch

14.00: Strategies for Improving the Competitiveness of Smallholder Agriculture in the Region. Dr. Hans Binswanger, World Bank

14.20: Floor discussion. Moderator: Dr. Ferdinand Meyer, University of Pretoria

Session 4: Recommendations

14.45 Panel Discussion – Developing Recommendations on Investment Priorities and Policy Actions to Strengthen Staple Food Markets

Panelist 1: Traders Association Representative – Ms. Grace Mhango, Chairperson, Grain Traders Association of Malawi
Panelist 2: Regional government representative – Dr. Cris Muyunda, CEO ACTESA - COMESA
Panelist 3: National government representative – To be identified
Panelist 4: Farmer group representative – Mr. Philip Kiriro, East Africa Farmers Federation

15.30: Floor Discussion: Moderator: Bekele Shiferaw, CIMMYT

16.15: Tea coffee

16.40: Recommendations on Investment Priorities and Policy Action: Prof. Oliver Saasa

17.00: Closing Statement: Government official, COMESA Member State

18.00: Reception

Conference Master of Ceremony:
Hon. Chance Kabaghe, Food Security Research Project – Zambia