



# Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

The Director-General

LOB-DG/21/231

12.IV.2021

Excellency,

I write to convey my heartfelt congratulations to you and your team on the occasion of the first anniversary of the Organization of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS).

In this regard, I commend your efforts in the transformation of the OACPS into a strong intergovernmental organization, by the strengthening of the relationship with the European Union and deepening collaboration with new partners, with the overall aim to better serve OACPS Member States.

At the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), we affirm our vision for a better future for all. Our new Strategic Framework (2022-31) focuses on the four “Bettters” - Better Production, Better Nutrition, Better Environment, and a Better Life - which allow us to harmonize the economic, social and environmental dimensions of agri-food systems, fully aligned with the pursuit to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

Through the Hand-in-Hand Initiative, FAO is giving priority to assist Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Countries and Small Island Developing States, which are also a priority for OACPS.

As a longstanding partner of the OACPS, FAO remains ready to support OACPS in its new organizational scope as well as to strengthen the successful projects, such as the Fish4ACP and the Sustainable Wildlife Management, and to join forces in new initiatives to benefit the Member States, leading to their economic recovery and building back better post-COVID-19.

In this special year, for people and for the planet, in which key events will take place, such as the UN Food Systems Summit and the UN Climate Change Conference/COP26, I believe that this is a unique opportunity to upscale and deepen our partnership, including in mainstreaming sustainability into agri-food systems. In this context, I look forward to reconvening soon our senior management teams to discuss the steps towards the renewal of our Memorandum of Understanding, which will address this new promising reality of the OACPS.

Accept, Excellency, the assurance of my highest consideration.

**QU Dongyu**

His Excellency  
George Rebelo Chikoti  
Secretary-General  
Organization of African, Caribbean and  
Pacific States  
Brussels  
Belgium

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Viale delle Terme di Caracalla  
00153 Rome  
Italy

Email: [Director-General@fao.org](mailto:Director-General@fao.org)  
Internet: [www.fao.org](http://www.fao.org)  
Telephone: (+39) 06 570 53433  
Fax: (+39) 06 570 53152