

Steering Committee of the Food Crisis Prevention Network (COR/RPCA) Extraordinary Session, 6 April 2020

Following the [RPCA restricted meeting](#) on 2 April 2020, the RPCA Steering Committee held an extraordinary session on 6 April 2020 in the presence of Mr Sékou Sangaré, ECOWAS Commissioner and Mr Jonas Gbian, UEMOA Commissioner. Both of these organisations provide political leadership for the Network. Dr Djimé Adoum, CILSS Executive Secretary, chaired the meeting, which was organised by videoconference, with the support of the Sahel and West Africa Club Secretariat (SWAC/OECD).

Steering Committee members formulated the following conclusions and decisions:

- 1.** The unprecedented humanitarian crisis looming over the Sahel and West Africa makes it our duty to ensure co-ordination and alignment with country priorities and with those of their regional organisations (ECOWAS, UEMOA, CILSS). We thus urge all stakeholders to respect the principles of the Charter for Food Crisis Prevention and Management ([PREGEC Charter](#)), adopted by ECOWAS, UEMOA and CILSS Member States in February 2012. We must collectively ensure that effective support is provided to populations that are in distress today or will be tomorrow.
- 2.** Stakeholders are taking action. Countries are developing response plans and regional organisations are setting up a Regional Task Force; interventions are underway on the ground; international initiatives are being announced; information is regularly produced on the evolution of the food and nutrition situation; analyses are being conducted and good practices are, and will be, highlighted. It is imperative to have a clear outlook. This is why we are asking the CILSS Executive Secretariat and the SWAC/OECD Secretariat, co-facilitators of the RPCA, to set up a technical unit to support the Regional Task Force.
- 3.** This technical unit will have the following tasks:
 - ▷ Collect, summarise and disseminate information on the evolution of the crisis, national response plans, regional and international initiatives, etc.;
 - ▷ Capitalise and communicate on the analyses conducted by stakeholders, and draw recommendations for decision-makers;
 - ▷ Disseminate the work of the *Cadre harmonisé* technical committee providing updates on the areas and numbers of people at risk of food and nutrition insecurity.

We request all RPCA members to nominate as soon as possible a focal point who will liaise with the technical unit.

A dedicated information platform will be set up on the RPCA website (www.food-security.net).

- 4.** We will convene other virtual RPCA meetings as necessary.

Abuja, Accra, Bamako, Brussels, Dakar, Niamey, Ouagadougou, Paris and Rome, 6 April 2020.

Chairpersons of the RPCA Steering Committee

Mr Sékou Sangaré, ECOWAS

Mr Jonas Gbian, UEMOA

Chairperson of the Extraordinary Session

Dr Djimé Adoum, CILSS

