Recommendations of the Donor Roundtable

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am pleased to share with you the recommendations of the Donor Roundtable at the AAA Initiative Ministerial Conference. The roundtable brought together representatives from the financial and technical community, as well as leading research and academic institutions.

The recommendations focused on four key areas to promote climate change adaptation in African agriculture:

First, it is imperative to systematically integrate climate risk management into African food policies. This can be achieved by developing anticipation mechanisms, such as early warning systems, by taking into consideration the diversity of climate risks and by developing insurance systems. In addition, climate change must be mainstreamed into all public policies and funding. Governments should also put in place multidimensional and holistic strategies to leverage the necessary resources.

Second, it is imperative to build the institutional capacity of African countries to reduce their dependence on international consultants. Morocco was mentioned as an example of how to successfully accredit four national institutions to the Green Climate Fund. To facilitate the implementation of adaptation projects, it is also recommended that one-stop delivery systems be generalized.

The third point concerns the importance of South-South and pan-African cooperation to foster innovation and technology in agriculture. We need to capitalize on existing technical and financial experiences and capacities to enable more effective sharing. In addition, to enhance agricultural development, it is essential to adopt a systems approach that integrates agriculture into the nexus with water and energy. We must avoid silo approaches and find solutions specific to each territory or context.

Finally, a special recommendation comes from the participation of two start-ups: it is crucial to support innovative companies to get at least one African "unicorn", i.e. a company with a market value of at least one billion US dollars. We need to find support mechanisms to enable innovative start-ups to benefit from access to public procurement for small innovative companies.
Thank you for your attention. These recommendations have been developed following rich exchanges and I am convinced that they can guide our future actions to support the adaptation of African agriculture to climate change.