

Closing Communiqué For the Kenya Fertilizer Roundtable - KICC, October 16-17, 2018
By the Stakeholders of the Event, and read by the Agriculture Secretary, Ministry of
Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Irrigation, Ms. Anne Onyango,

Opening Session

1. African green revolution cannot be possible without increased usage of fertilizer to increase productivity
2. NPK fertilizers are common in Africa but rarely meet complete nutrients, yet balanced fertilizers that contain secondary and micro-nutrients are being developed and result in significant increases in yields and productivity
3. African and Kenya fertilizer markets are growing rapidly
4. Agriculture transformation is possible through increased agriculture productivity
5. Need for climate smart agriculture and the role of fertilizers is important
6. Need for right mix of policy to achieve the goals is very important

Thematic Area 1 - Fertilizers, Soils and Crop Nutrition under Changing Climatic Conditions

7. Delivering balanced fertilizers (crop and soil-specific fertilizers containing macro and micro and secondary nutrients) to smallholder farmers needs to be a government priority
8. Constraints to access including soil testing and mapping needs to be addressed leading to soil and crop-specific blends to be made available
9. Soil mapping of Kenya to highlight nutrient deficiencies by crop should be completed
10. Soil testing methods need harmonization
11. Soil acidity needs to be addressed through the use of soil amendments (lime) and/or non-acidifying fertilizers
12. Commercialization of lime, together with demonstrations and extension, should be expanded
13. Exchange of agronomic and soils information among all fertilizer sector stakeholders, including users, is important
14. Harmonization of the tax-exempt code for all agricultural inputs (including lime) as taxation limits the availability and affordability of fertilizers to farmers as higher costs are passed to consumers

Thematic Area 2 - Fertilizer Supply Chain and Usage

15. Price distortion caused by subsidized fertilizer should be addressed
16. Delayed clearance at port needs to be addressed
17. Non-recognition of COC (certificate of conformity) needs to be addressed through strengthening of PVOC (pre-verification of conformity) at load port in order to avoid re-testing at destination port
18. Transport infrastructure should be improved (roads and SGR)
19. National systems for fertilizer quality should be strengthened and establishment of well-equipped permanent inspection teams.
20. Enhance analytical capability of the labs
21. Training of fertilizer handlers and improvement in storage through the fertilizer chain to maintain fertilizer quality

22. Capacity of agro-dealers in product information, handling and storage, extension support should be expanded
23. Fertilizers to be made available in small-packs for users
24. Awareness and demonstration of fertilizers and other improved technologies should be expanded

Session 3 - Policy, Laws and Regulations

25. There is need to establish a competitive enabling environment for fertilizer policies and programs
26. Fertilizer Board needs to be constituted with input from key public and private stakeholders so that it leads to appropriate regulation that balances public and private sector needs
27. The role of the national government and county governments needs to be harmonized for effective delivery of fertilizers to the farmer
28. Restructure the subsidy program into a smart subsidy program that does not bypass the private sector. The subsidy program should support a holistic package of support interventions with clear exit strategies

Session 4 - Financing Opportunities and Experiences Learned From Other Input Sectors

29. Farmer financing of input packages (fertilizers, seeds and chemicals) should be expended coupled with crop insurance
30. Financing for wholesale/hub and retail agro-dealers and other actors in the value chain should be expanded

Session 5 - Proposed Fertilizer Platform

31. The idea of a **Kenya Fertilizer Platform** was supported by the stakeholders. The Kenya Fertilizer Roundtable Organizing Committee will constitute the platform as per the feedback from stakeholders during the event to address the challenges by the stakeholders as raised during the deliberations over the last two days.