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BELEIDSKOMITEE
POLICY COMMITTEE

Agri SA Annual Report 2013 | 2014

Afrika
Africa

Tuiste van die Suid-Afrikaanse boer • Ikhaya lomlimi waseNingizimu Afrika • Home of the South African farmer • Lehae la balimi ba Afrika Borwa

Die voorsitter van die Beleidskomitee oor Afrika is Dirk Hanekom, wat tans ook die uitvoerende bestuurder van Agri Gauteng en die uitvoerende hoof van AgriSaMoz is. Johan Pienaar, die adjunk-uitvoerende direkteur van Agri SA, is die vise-voorsitter van die Afrika Komitee en Dr Theo De Jager, adjunk-president van Agri SA, die addisionele lid. Administratiewe ondersteuning word deur Heléne Swanepoel verleen.

Beide die presidente van die twee Agri SA-assosiasies in Afrika, onderskeidelik Deon Lezar van Congo Agriculture (die Suid-Afrikaanse boere in die Republiek van die Kongo) en Lester Mouton van AgriSaMoz (Suid-Afrikaanse boere in Mosambiek) het ook sitting op die Komitee.

Die internasionale fokus op die landboupotensiaal in Afrika het in die afgelope jaar verder verskerp en beleggings het dienooreenkomstig in verskeie hoëpotensiaal-landboulande toegeneem. Suid-Afrikaanse boere het hul vlerke heelwat verder as die tradisionele Suid-Afrikaanse Ontwikkelingsgemeenskap (SAOG) begin sprei.

Die uitbreiding het nie net in Afrika plaasgevind nie maar sluit toenemend ander kontinente, waaronder Europa, Suid-Amerika, die Midde-Ooste en Asië in. Hierdie boere en Suid-Afrikaanse landbou-entiteite het nie noodwendig direkte bande met Agri SA nie maar dra nietemin die etiket van die Suid-Afrikaanse boer en landbougemeenskap. Die situasie bring ook unieke uitdagings en geleenthede mee.

Die Afrika Beleidskomitee het hom in terme van die Algemene Raad se opdragte in 2013/2014 veral op die volgende toegespits:

- Herstrukturering van die Afrika Beleidskomitee, wat veral die operasionalisering van AgriAllAfrica (AaA) as spesialis Afrika- en eksterne "landboubeleggingsfasiliteringsplatform", behels;
- Hantering van die geïdentifiseerde probleme met betrekking tot die situasie in die Republiek van die Kongo en Congo Agriculture (CA);
- Verbeterde samewerking met die Suider-Afrikaanse Konfederasie van Landbounies (SACAU);
- Situasie rondom wedersydse bilaterale beleggingsooreenkomste (BITs);
- Opgradering van prioriteit-status van landboubestemmings en die daarstel van beleidsriglyne om die groot hoeveelheid persone en instansies wat by Agri SA oor landbou-betrokkenheid en -beleggings in Afrika navraag doen, sinvol te kan hanteer; en
- Die AgriSaMoz-statusverslag.

Herstrukturering van die Afrika Beleidskomitee

Die besluite in die Algemene Raad van Maart 2014 en die riglyne van die Agri SA Bestuurskomitee sedertdien het 'n toedrag van sake geskep waarin die Afrika Beleidskomitee met die taakgroep wat die implementering van AgriAllAfrica (AaA) hanteer, gevra is om die volgende te bewerkstellig en as strategiese riglyne te aanvaar:

Dirk Hanekom

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The international focus on agriculture's potential in Africa has further intensified over the past year, with an increase in investments in various high-potential agricultural countries.

The chairman of the Africa Policy Committee is Dirk Hanekom, who is currently also the executive manager of Agri Gauteng and chief executive officer of AgriSaMoz. Johan Pienaar, deputy executive-director of Agri SA, serves as vice chair of the Africa Policy Committee, with Dr Theo de Jager, Agri SA deputy president, the additional member. Administrative support is provided by Heléne Swanepoel.

The presidents of the two Agri SA associations in Africa, namely Deon Lezar of Congo Agriculture (representing South African farmers in the Republic of the Congo) and Lester Mouton of AgriSaMoz, (representing South African farmers in Mozambique) also serve on this committee.

The international focus on agriculture's potential in Africa has further intensified over the past year, with an increase in investments in various high-potential agricultural countries. South African farmers have started to spread their wings considerably wider than the traditional South African Development Community (SADC).

Such expansion is not limited to Africa but is increasingly including other continents, for example Europe, South America, the Middle East and Asia. These farmers and South African entities do not necessarily have direct ties with Agri SA but nevertheless bear the label of the South African farmer and agricultural community. The situation also brings unique challenges and opportunities.

The committee has, in terms of the General Council's instructions, focused on the following activities in 2013/2014:

- Restructuring of the Africa Committee, which involved, in particular, the operationalisation of AgriAllAfrica (AaA) as specialist African and external "agricultural investment facilitation platform";
- Dealing with identified problems relating to the situation in the Republic of the Congo and Congo Agriculture (CA);
- Better co-operation with the Southern African Confederation of Agricultural Unions (SACAU);
- Situation around bilateral investment treaties (BITs);
- Upgrading of the priority status of agricultural destinations and drafting of policy guidelines to be able to deal meaningfully with the large number of persons and organisations who make enquiries at Agri SA regarding agricultural involvement and investments in Africa; and
- AgriSaMoz status report.

Restructuring of the Africa Policy Committee

The General Council's resolutions adopted in March 2014 and the guidelines established by the Agri SA Management Committee since then have created a situation where the Africa Committee, which deals with the task group implementing AgriAllAfrica (AaA), was asked to facilitate and accept the following as strategic guidelines:

- Die implementering van AaA as 'n onafhanklike maar tog 'n "armlengte weg"-organisasie wat alle aspekte wat nie op beleidsvlakke van Agri SA manifesteer nie, sal hanteer waar Agri SA en sy lede se buitelandse belange of potensiële belange (met die klem op Afrika), ter sprake mag wees;
- Met die inwerkingstelling van AaA as spesiale gebruiksplatform vir Suid-Afrikaanse boere in Afrika en wyer internasionaal, verander die rol wat die Afrika Beleidskomitee die laaste paar jaar vervul het. Suid-Afrikaanse boere wat hul belange na die buiteland uitgebrei het, het in hoofsaak ondersteuningsversoeke wat noue samewerking met veral die Suid-Afrikaanse landbou-kommoditeitsorganisasies en -insetmaatskappye insluit. Die beplanning is dat die Afrika Beleidskomitee met ingang van 1 Desember 2014 sal ontbind. Die belange van die Afrika Beleidskomitee sal aan die operasionele kant deur AaA behartig word. Mandate en versoeke vir Agri SA steun en -betrokkenheid in Afrika deur AaA en Afrika-affiliasies en -assosiasies sal via die Kommersiële Beleidskomitee vir voorlegging en aan die Algemene Raad vir beslissing (waar nodig), voorgelê word; en
- Die formalisering van AaA se bestaan deur die voltooiing van 'n sakeplan (sonder om enige aanspraak te maak op enige Agri SA befondsing), 'n Memorandum van Inkorporasie (MOI) wat die formalisering van die AaA Raad insluit en oorname van die bestuur van die databasis rakende Afrika, vorm deel van die pakket.

- The implementation of AaA as an independent, yet arm's-length organisation, which would deal with all aspects that do not manifest at Agri SA policy level and where Agri SA and its members' interests or potential interests may be at stake (with the emphasis on Africa);
- With the implementation of AaA as special-purpose platform for South African farmers in Africa and wider internationally, the role that the Africa Committee has played over the past few years has changed. South Africa farmers who have expanded their interests abroad mainly request support, which includes close co-operation especially with the South African agricultural commodity organisations and input companies. The plan is that the Africa Committee would be dissolved as from 1 December 2014. The committee's interests will be handled by AaA on the operational side. Mandates and requests for Agri SA's support and involvement in Africa received from AaA and African affiliates will, where necessary, be submitted via the Commercial Policy Committee to the General Council for a decision; and
- The formalisation of AaA's existence by completing a business plan (without making any demand on Agri SA funding), a Memorandum of Integration (MOI), which included the formalisation of the AaA Council, and transfer of the management of the database on Africa, will form part of the package.

Republic of the Congo

The establishment of a solid platform to resume negotiations with the Republic of the Congo was a major consideration for liaison that took place between the two organisations during the past year. A visit by an

Republiek van die Kongo

Die daarstel van 'n stewige platform vir die voortsetting van onderhandelinge met die Republiek van die Kongo was 'n hoofoorweging vir die skakeling tussen die twee instansies in die afgelope verslagjaar. Die Agri SA-afvaardiging wat saam met Congo Agriculture (CA) en AFGRI voor einde Maart 2014 besoek aan die Republiek van die Kongo sou aflê, is weens negatiewe klimaatskepping deur die media voor die aanvang van die besoek gekanselleer. Die besoek is vervang deur 'n uitnodiging aan die Kongolese minister van landbou om NAMPO as gas van AFGRI en CA te besoek. Gedurende die periode is die minister en sy afvaardiging aan Suid-Afrikaanse landboutoestande blootgestel. Die inhoud van die gesprekke wat met beide Agri SA en AFGRI plaasgevind het, was opbouend en het die platform geskep vir die verstewiging van betrekkinge. Die bestaande MOU wat in Oktober 2014 verval, sal deur 'n nuwe MOU vervang word asook die bestaande grondgebruiksooreenkomste wat nuut uitgereik sal word. Die minister se kantoor sal voortaan self die grondgebruiksooreenkomste hanteer en presterende boere kan deurlopend op meer grond aanspraak maak.

Agri SA het weer eens aan die minister bevestig dat hy nie in enige bedryfsake of operasionele aangeleenthede van die assosiasie betrokke sal raak nie tensy daar behoorlik gemandateerde versoeke vir ondersteuning aan Agri SA gerig word, waarna dit eers oorweeg sal word. Die gedagte is verder dat AaA ook in die

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Agri SA delegation, which was supposed to accompany Congo Agriculture (CA) and AFGRI before end March 2014 to the Republic of the Congo, was cancelled due to the negative climate the media had created before the visit. The visit was replaced with an invitation to the Congolese minister of agriculture to visit NAMPO as guest of AFGRI and CA. During this period the minister and his delegation were exposed to South African agricultural conditions. The content of the discussions held with both Agri SA and AFGRI was constructive and created a platform for strengthening relations. The MOU, which expires in October 2014, will be replaced with a new MOU and the existing land use agreements will be renewed. The minister's office will in future deal with land use agreements and performing farmers can demand more land on an ongoing basis.

Agri SA once again confirmed to the minister that it would not become involved in any commodity matters or operational affairs of Congo Agriculture unless properly mandated requests for support are addressed to Agri SA, after which such requests would first be considered. The idea is also that AaA should in future deal with this type of requests as well as applications to affiliate with Agri SA. AaA will also assist Congo Agriculture with the responsibility of implementing effective section guidelines as well as processes.

After thorough introspection, Congo Agriculture members, at an information meeting in June 2014, accepted general guidelines to continue farming in the Republic of the Congo, which will contribute significantly in returning Congo Agriculture's focus on successful farming.

Better co-operation with the Southern African Confederation of Agricultural Unions and the NEPAD Business Foundation

The commonalities between the Africa Policy Committee and various organisations in the region and on the continent are very important and a need has arisen to formalise co-operation. The meaningful leadership role that Dr Theo de Jager plays in this regard within Southern African Confederation of Agricultural Unions (SACAU) (as president) as well as in the Pan African Farmers' Organisation (PAFO) has a major influence in harmonising relations at this point. It has already been decided in principle to invite SACAU for a joint working session during the second half of 2014, where both current and future opportunities for co-operation can be considered.

Bilateral investment treaties

The discussion with the Minister of Trade and Industry in December 2012 confirmed the government's position that existing BITs, based on agricultural co-operation with African countries, would not be continued and that no new agreements would be entered into. He indicated, however, that there were other ways to facilitate the support that agricultural investors need from the South African government and that BITs were not the only instrument for this. At the instructions of Agri SA's

toekoms dié tipe versoeke sal hanteer asook die aansoeke om by Agri SA te affilieer. Verder sal AgriAllAfrica Congo Agriculture bystaan met die verantwoordelikheid om deeglike seleksie-riglyne asook -prosesse te implementeer.

Ná behoorlike introspeksie het Congo Agriculture-lede tydens 'n inligtingsvergadering in Junie 2014 die algemene riglyne aanvaar om verder in die Republiek van die Kongo te boer, wat grootliks sal bydra om die fokus van Congo Agriculture terug te plaas op suksesvolle boerdery.

Verbeterde samewerking met die Suider-Afrikaanse Konfederasie van Landbou-unies en die NEPAD Business Foundation

Die raakvlakke wat die Afrika Beleidskomitee met verskeie organisasies in die streek en kontinent het, is van groot belang en 'n behoefte het ontstaan om samewerking te formaliseer. Die betekenisvolle leierskapsrol wat Dr Theo de Jager in dié verband binne die Suider-Afrikaanse Konfederasie van Landbou-unies (SACAU) (as president) asook in die Pan African Farmers' Organisation (PAFO) speel, het 'n groot invloed om op hierdie tydstip verhoudinge te harmonieer. In beginsel is daar reeds besluit om 'n uitnodiging aan SACAU te rig vir 'n gesamentlike werksessie in die tweede helfte van 2014 om na beide huidige en toekomstige samewerkingsterreine te kyk.

Wedersydse beleggingsooreenkomste

Die gesprek met die Minister van Handel en Nywerheid in Desember 2012 het bevestig dat dit die regering se standpunt is dat bestaande wedersydse beleggingsooreenkomste (BITs), gegrond op landboukundige samewerking met Afrikalande, nie voortgesit sal word nie. Geen nuwe ooreenkomste gaan ook gesluit word nie. Hy het egter aangedui dat daar ander maniere is om die steun wat landboubeleggers vanuit Suid-Afrika vanaf regeringskant benodig te bewerkstellig en dat BITs nie die enigste instrument daarvoor is nie. In opdrag van die Algemene Raad van Agri SA is daar tans ondersoeke aan die gang na welke ander maniere gevind kan word om SA boere se landboubeleggings in Afrika te ondersteun.

Minister Rob Davies het in dié verband ook onderneem om van sy senior personeel na die Afrika Beleidskomitee te sekondeer om ooreenkomste op laer vlakke te formuleer. Die voorbeeld is later ook deur die Departement van Internasionale Samewerking en Koördinering (DIRCO) gevolg.

'n Opvolggesprek met Minister Davies om die verwikkelinge sedert Desember 2012 met hom te bespreek, word vir later vanjaar in die vooruitsig gestel en is ook deur die Algemene Raad van Agri SA goedgekeur.

Hantering van versoeke om in landboubeleggingsgeleenthede buite RSA-grense betrokke te raak – opgradering van prioriteitstatus van sekere lande

In dié stadium bestaan daar steeds twee formele assosiasies. Die een is Congo Agriculture, wie se vorige naam van Congo Farmer's Union verander moes word weens plaaslike verwarring in die Republiek van die Kongo. Die nuwe president van Congo Agriculture wat in Mei 2014

General Council, inquiries are currently underway to find ways in which to support South African farmers' investments in Africa

Minister Rob Davies also undertook to second some of his senior staff to the Africa Policy Committee to formulate agreements at lower levels. This example was later also followed by the Department of International Co-operation and Co-ordination (DIRCO).

A follow-up discussion with Minister Davies to discuss developments since December 2012 is envisaged later this year and has also been approved by the General Council of Agri SA.

Dealing with requests to become involved in agricultural investment opportunities outside South Africa's borders – upgrading of priority status of certain countries

At this stage there are already two formal associations. One is Congo Agriculture whose previous name (Congo Farmer's Union) had to be changed because of local confusion in the Republic of the Congo. The new President of Congo Agriculture, Deon Lezar, was elected in May 2014. His secretary is Pieter Nienaber. Feedback has already been given on Congo Agriculture earlier in the report.

verkies is, is Deon Lezar en die sekretaris is Pieter Nienaber. Daar is reeds vroeër in die verslag terugvoering oor die Congo Agriculture gegee.

Die ander assosiasie is AgriSaMoz, wat SA boere in Mosambiek verteenwoordig. Die huidige president is Lester Mouton. Beide assosiasies se presidente vorm deel van die Afrika Beleidskomitee en word ook na Agri SA se Algemene Raadsvergadering en na die Agri SA Kongres genooi.

Die voorlopige werksaamhede van die AaA het egter 'n verskeidenheid van ander lande in Afrika binne die bereik van SA landboubeleggers geplaas. In dié verband het besoeke in Junie 2014 aan Ethiopië en aan Nigerië in Julie 2014 groot potensiële beleggingsgeleenthede geïdentifiseer. Die versameling van data oor die landboupotensiaal asook aanbiedinge in verskeie ander lande word deurlopend bygehou en behels onder meer lande soos Botswana, Swaziland, Tanzanië, Angola, Demokratiese Republiek van die Kongo, Uganda, Rwanda, Soedan en Suid-Soedan, Eritrea, Egipte, Tjaad, Ghana, Gaboen en Sierra Leone.

Na aanleiding van verbeterde verhoudinge met verskeie Afrika-state asook die toename van Suid-Afrikaanse boere se belange het die Algemene Raad van Agri SA die byvoeging van Zambië en Malawi as beleggingsbestemmings by die reeds goedgekeurde lys (Mosambiek en die Republiek van Kongo), goedgekeur. Besoeke word in die tweede helfte van die jaar – in noue samewerking met SACAU – na die twee lande beplan. 'n Beleidsriglyn is ook opgestel wat reeds gemandateer is, ingevolge waarvan enige instansie wat betrokkenheid van Agri SA, die Afrika Beleidskomitee of AaA verwag, aan bepaalde voorwaardes moet voldoen alvorens daar byvoorbeeld besoek in die betrokke lande afgelê sal word.

AGRISAMOZ EN MOSAMBIEK

AgriSaMoz het in 2013/2014 voortgegaan om te fokus op strategiese beplanning en die konsolidering van die projekte wat in die land van stapel gestuur is. Die stewige verhoudinge met die landboubemarkingsliggame in Mosambiek is op beide nasionale en provinsiale vlakke versterk en uitgebou. AgriSaMoz-lidmaatskapsgetalle het vir die derde agtereenvolgende jaar toegeneem.

AgriSaMoz het vir die eerste keer beide 'n beleggingskonferensie asook Algemene Raadsvergadering in Maart 2014 op Mosambiekse grondgebied aangebied. Die gebeurtenis was ter uitvoering van 'n besluit van die uitvoerende bestuur dat die fokus van AgriSaMoz moet verskuif na die bestaande lede wat tans reeds aktief in Mosambiek boer, ten einde hul geleenthede vir suksesvolle boerderye te versterk en finansieringsgeleenthede vir uitbreiding van hulle besighede te versterk.

Die onvermoë van die Mosambiekse regering om die opflikkering van vyandelikhede en die gewapende insidente en militêre konflik met Renamo by te lê, het wel negatief op kort termyn geïmpakteer maar nie ontwikkelingsplanne op lang termyn ooglopend beïnvloed nie.

The solid relationships with agricultural marketing bodies in Mozambique were strengthened and expanded at both national and provincial level. AgriSaMoz membership increased for the third consecutive year.

The other association is AgriSaMoz, which represents South African farmers in Mozambique. The current President is Lester Mouton. The Presidents of both associations form part of the Africa Policy Committee and are also invited to Agri SA's General Council meetings and the Agri SA Congress.

The preliminary activities of the AaA, however, have brought various other African countries within the reach of South Africa agricultural investors. During visits to Ethiopia in June and to Nigeria in July 2014, huge potential investment opportunities were identified. Gathering of data on agricultural potential as well as offers in various other countries are constantly monitored. These countries include Botswana, Swaziland, Tanzania, Angola, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Uganda, Rwanda, Sudan and South Sudan, Eritrea, Egypt, Chad, Ghana, Gabon and Sierra Leone.

In the light of improved relations with various African states as well as the increasing interests of South African farmers, the General Council of Agri SA approved the addition of Zambia and Malawi as investment destinations to the previously approved list (Mozambique and Republic of the Congo). The plan is to visit these two countries during the second half of the year – in close collaboration with SACAU. A policy guideline, to which every organisation expecting the involvement of Agri SA's Africa Policy Committee or AaA must adhere, has already been drafted and mandated. Such guideline must be complied with before, for example, a particular country will be visited.

AGRISAMOZ AND MOZAMBIQUE

In 2013/2014 AgriSaMoz went ahead and focused on strategic planning and consolidation of the projects launched in the country. The solid relationships with agricultural marketing bodies in Mozambique were strengthened and expanded at both national and provincial level. AgriSaMoz membership increased for the third consecutive year.

In March 2014 AgriSaMoz for the first time held both an investment conference and a general council meeting in Mozambique. This was to give effect to an executive management resolution that the focus of AgriSaMoz should shift to existing members who are already farming actively in Mozambique, in order to strengthen their chances of success and to improve financing opportunities for expansion of their businesses.

The inability of the Mozambican government to address rising hostilities and armed incidents and military conflict with Renamo has had a negative impact in the short term, but no obvious influence on longer term development plans.