



INGABO SYNDICATE

Southern province - Muhanga District-Nyamabuye Sector

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CASSAVA WEEK2022 RESOLUTIONS

From 06th up to 09th December 2022 INGABO Syndicate, in collaboration with its partners among others, the East Africa Farmers Federation (EAFf) through the Farmers' Organizations Caribbean and Pacific (FO4ACP) program, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO Rwanda), Rwanda Agriculture Board (RAB), AGRITERRA-Rwanda, and Kinazi Cassava Plant (KCP), it was organized, as usual an annual event named cassava week.

Since Cassava week is conducted, it has been an utmost opportunity to bring together partners who have a close connection with agriculture, especially the cassava crop, to analyze the common challenges facing this value chain and seek together sustainable and participatory solutions all in a conducive environment.

The 2022 cassava week is themed: **"Strengthening cassava value chain partnerships for sustainable and innovative solutions"**.

As usual, this event was attended by officials of government institutions including the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources (MINAGRI), the Ministry of Trade and Industry (MINICOM), the Rwanda Agriculture Board (RAB), Rwanda Inspectorate, Competition and Consumer Protection Authority (RICA).

It was also attended by the representatives of the Southern Province and its districts of KAMONYI, MUHANGA, RUHANGO and NYANZA; Eastern Province from BUGESERA and KAYONZA Districts, and representatives from NYAMASHEKE and RUSIZI districts of Western Province.

The event has registered also the participation of international organizations such as Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) and FAO, insurance and financial companies like RADIANT Insurance company, CPF – INEZA, CLECAM EJO HEZA. representatives of the National Cooperative Confederation of Rwanda (NCCR), Anglican Church of Rwanda-Shyogwe Diocese have also participated to the event.

Farmers cooperatives, from different districts where INGABO is operating have been involved in 2022 Cassava week activities. More particularly the event was attended by the representatives of “Union Paysanne pour le Développement de Kisangani” UPDKIS from the Democratic Republic of Congo in Kisangani Province. The buyers and processors like KCP have been invited and attend the event.

Lastly, INGABO syndicate side was represented by its leaders from both board of directors, different commissions and the executive secretariat and the forum of young farmers which operates inside INGABO.

Throughout its agenda, the event, which lasted for four days, registered crucial activities all grounded on cassava value chain development. They include presentations and discussions led by experts on Research development on cassava quality seeds, finance and insurance, production, commercialization, processing, climate Change, and Food systems.

In addition to discussions held during the event, an exhibition of key achievements in the value chain and a field visit were also conducted.

After the discussions, topic presentations, and other different activities conducted during this event, the following resolutions have been formulated:

- 1) MINAGRI, MINICOM, RAB, local governments together with INGABO Syndicate committed to pursue their cooperation to support farmers' easy access to cassava quality seeds and provide capacity building to cassava seeds multipliers,



- 2) Ingabo Syndicate and its partners decided to continue their advocacy process so that banks and financial institutions can reduce interest rates on agricultural projects and tailor loan structures based on the nature of each crop.
- 3) In the framework of increasing productivity and bear with climate resilience, Muhanga district, in collaboration with its partners commit to establish farmer field schools (FFS) in every sector.
- 4) In order to strengthen the multiplication sector and make healthy cassava seeds available and accessible, the participants recommend to RICA and INGABO farmers Syndicate to work together to increase the number of professional multipliers, more specifically, in areas with high cassava production.
- 5) Cassava week 2022 participants plead to local governments to be more involved in maintaining the quality of cassava seeds especially by preventing other cassava plantations close to multiplication sites as stated by standards
- 6) Farmers appreciate AGRA's contribution in securing sustainable food systems, and take this opportunity to seek increased knowledge and information on climate change. they are reaffirming their position as a vital player in the process of climate change effects management.
- 7) The 2022 cassava week participants claimed to research institutes and the KINAZI Cassava plant to extend researches so that we can get diversified cassava sub products other than flour.
- 8) The representatives of farmers from KAYONZA, RUSIZI, NYAMASHEKE, and BUGESERA districts requested that more efforts should be made in Cassava improvement mostly in getting quality seeds, good agriculture practices and farmers' organization.



- 9) With the aim to improve the collaboration and synergies among partners involved in the cassava value chain development, FAO agreed to provide support to their meetings from the beginning of 2023. During these gatherings, they will also monitor and evaluate how cassava week resolutions are being implemented.
- 10) Due to several irregularities still present in the determination and implementation of the fresh cassava tubers prices that are processed at Kinazi Cassava Plant, MINICOM has agreed to facilitate the process of setting seasonal reference prices and allow their permanent public dissemination.
- 11) Kinazi Cassava Plant was requested to comply with the terms and conditions in the selling contract with farmers, especially those related to payment deadlines.
- 12) Ingabo Syndicate and its partners were requested to support the upgrade of E-Cassava Market digital platform so that it can fulfill its mission of collecting and sharing information on seeds and production price and availability for the benefit of farmers.
- 13) INGABO Syndicate, MINAGRI, and Insurance companies commit to actively participate in the campaign of the Government program known as "TEKANA MUHINZI URISHINGIWE"

Done at Muhanga, December 12, 2022

Mrs. Césarie KANTARAMA

Chairperson of INGABO Syndicate

