

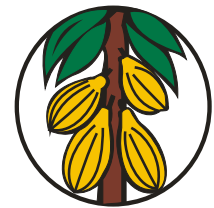


*A group picture of some of the conference participants*



TCC

AMAJARO



COCOBOD

## HOW DID SOME PARTICIPANTS VIEW THE CONFERENCE?

**Marthilda Broni, Representative, Winrock International, Kumasi-Ghana:** “Very successful as the conference brought together farmers, NGOs, top management of Ghana Cocoa Board and industry players, under the same roof to discuss the sustainability of Ghana’s cocoa industry. Even though it was on a small scale it is the beginning of a good initiative and needs to be promoted”.

**Marian Thompson, MD, Bio-Tropical Cocoa Farms Ltd:** “In respect of attendance and discipline it was good because it cuts across board, people from the various sectors of the cocoa production (value chain) were present. And the content and delivery of the presentations were also good”.

**Francis Otoo, President, Cocoa Organic Farmers Association, Ghana:** “Very, very impressive and good in the sense that all stakeholders who attended got enlightened on what to do in their quest for sustainable cocoa economy in the country. I have also learnt a lot”.

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## Acronyms

NRSCE	- National Roundtable Conference on Sustainable Cocoa Economy
RSCE	- Roundtable on a Sustainable Cocoa Economy
ACC	- Africa Cocoa Coalition
TCC	- Tropical Commodities Coalition of the Netherlands
COCOBOD	- Ghana Cocoa Board
ICCO	- International Cocoa Organization
ISSER	- Institute for Social, Statistical and Economic Research

## Acknowledgment

Africa Cocoa Coalition wishes to acknowledge the support of Ghana Cocoa Board, Tropical Commodities Coalition (Netherlands) and Armajaro Holdings Ltd (UK). Your collaborative effort has contributed to the successful outcome of this First National Roundtable on Sustainable Cocoa Economy in Ghana. We are equally grateful to all participants for sharing their time, expertise and knowledge of the cocoa industry.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A two-day National Roundtable Conference on Sustainable Cocoa Economy (NRSCE) in Ghana was organized by Africa Cocoa Coalition (ACC) in collaboration with the Tropical Commodities Coalition (TCC) of the Netherlands, Ghana Cocoa Board (COCOBOD) and Armajaro International (UK). The purpose was to sensitize stakeholders in the cocoa sector about the “Key Elements to Enhance the Implementation of the Accra Agenda” on a sustainable global cocoa economy as agreed at the global level in Accra in October 2007, through a multi-stakeholder process facilitated by the International Cocoa Organization (ICCO). It was also to enable participants to prioritize the “Key Elements” and recommend actions for their internalization in Ghana in order to enhance a sustainable cocoa economy. A pre-conference meeting targeting NGOs, civil society, farmers and trade union representatives was organized on 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2010, for twenty-six (26) participants to prepare them for the main Roundtable Conference on 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2010.

In the main conference, seventy-nine (79) participants, representing the industry, government decision-makers, cocoa farmers, civil society, local buying agencies, financial institutions and the media were present. Others were from Standard and Certification Bodies, Trade Unions, Input providers, Development Partners and the Universities. Participants were introduced to the Key Elements to Enhance the Implementation of the Accra Agenda”.

Perspectives of a sustainable cocoa economy were respectively presented by representatives of government, cocoa farmers, non-governmental organizations and women. Others included the Standard Bodies and consumers.

Participants agreed that some aspects of each of the ten (10) Key Elements to Enhance the Implementation of the Accra Agenda”, were being implemented in Ghana. However, through a prioritization process, they identified four (4) of them as not sufficiently addressed and therefore needed more attention to contribute towards enhancing a sustainable cocoa economy. These were;

- Remuneration for quality cocoa, productivity and improved farmers’ income;
- Access to credit and rural development services and diversification;
- Support to farmers and workers organizations; and
- Conservation and wise-use of biodiversity

Finally, participants suggested actions that could be taken to implement the prioritized key elements and the roles of the major stakeholders. Participants further recommended that Africa Cocoa Coalition should liaise with COCOBOD to ensure that the outcome of the Roundtable is fed into the Strategic Plan of the Cocoa Sector which is currently under review by the Institute for Statistical, Social and Economic Research (ISSER) of the University of Ghana, Legon.

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

Africa Cocoa Coalition in collaboration with Tropical Commodities Coalition of the Netherlands, Armajaro International (UK) and Ghana Cocoa Board (COCOBOD) organized the First National Roundtable on Sustainable Cocoa Economy in Ghana at the Coconut Grove Hotel Regency in Accra, Ghana, on the 10<sup>th</sup> of March, 2010. The theme of the Conference was *“Combining Efforts to Enhance a Sustainable Cocoa Economy in Ghana”*. The purpose was to establish a national platform to facilitate stakeholder dialogue and consensus development on issues that will contribute to a sustainable cocoa economy in Ghana. It was attended by seventy-nine (79) participants represented by industry (4), cocoa farmers (7), local buying companies (3), financial institutions (4), government decision-makers (14), civil society (20) and the media (17). It also included Standard and Certification bodies (3), Trade Union (1), Development Partners (2), Input providers (3) and Universities (1). See list of participants in Appendix I. A pre-conference was held on 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2010, to prepare representatives of civil society, farmers and trade unions for the main Roundtable process. This report is a summary of the proceedings of the National Roundtable process. See Appendix II for details of the Conference Agenda.

### 1.1 Background

In October, 2007, the International Cocoa Organization (ICCO) in collaboration with the Government of Ghana and Ghana Cocoa Board organized the first global Roundtable on a Sustainable Cocoa Economy (RSCE) in Accra.

through a multi-stakeholder process, what measures could be taken to ensure a global cocoa economy. At the end of the four-day workshop, participants adopted the “Accra Agenda” for Enhancing a Sustainable Cocoa Economy. One of the outcomes of the “Accra Agenda” was the formulation of ten (10) “Key Elements to Enhance the Implementation of the Accra Agenda” on a sustainable cocoa economy. These were recommended guidelines that member countries of the ICCO

*The theme of the Conference was “Combining Efforts to Enhance a Sustainable Cocoa Economy in Ghana”*

were entreated to implement to ensure a sustainable cocoa economy. The Key Elements were further reviewed and refined at the second global Roundtable on Sustainable Cocoa Economy held in Trinidad and Tobago in March, 2009. The Declaration of Trinidad and Tobago, the communiqué issued at the end of the second RSCE, entreated, member countries of the ICCO to develop action plans to implement the Accra Agenda, particularly the Key Elements to enhance a sustainable global cocoa economy. The Tropical Commodities Coalition of the Netherlands, in collaboration with key partners in five leading cocoa producing countries, supported the organization of their respective National Roundtable Conference on a Sustainable Cocoa Economy.

The purpose is to facilitate the establishment of national stakeholder dialogue platforms in the respective countries to promote the internalization of the implementation of the “Accra Agenda”, particularly the Key Elements to enhancing a sustainable cocoa economy. The countries involved are: Indonesia, Ecuador, Cote d’Ivoire, Brazil and Ghana.

### **1.3 Objectives of the National Roundtable in Ghana**

The objectives of the First National Roundtable on Sustainable Cocoa Economy in Ghana were to:

1. Establish a national stakeholder dialogue platform on sustainable cocoa economy in Ghana;
2. Sensitize stakeholders on the Key Elements to Enhance a Sustainable Cocoa Economy in Ghana; and
3. Prioritize the Key Elements and recommend actions for their implementation in Ghana.

### **1.4 Expected Outputs**

The workshop was expected to deliver the following outputs:

1. Stakeholders are sensitized about the Key Elements to Enhance the Implementation of the Accra Agenda on a sustainable cocoa economy in Ghana
2. Insufficiently addressed Key Elements that need urgent attention are identified through a stakeholder prioritization process;
3. Based on the above, actions to address the prioritized Key Elements are recommended; and

4. The role of the main actors in implementing the prioritized Key Elements and the potential for partnerships are identified.

### **1.5 Roundtable Conference Methodology**

The Roundtable Conference was conducted in a participatory manner in three plenary and one group working sessions.

The welcome address was read on behalf of the Chief Executive of Ghana Cocoa Board, by Dr. Yaw Adu-Ampomah, the Deputy Chief Executive of Cocoa Board. The keynote address was read by Mr. Tei Quartey, the Technical Director for Cocoa at the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning, on behalf of the sector Minister.

The National Coordinator of Africa Cocoa Coalition, Rev. David Kpelle, provided an overview of the first and second Roundtable processes and highlighted the importance of the Key Elements to Enhance the Implementation of the “Accra Agenda” on sustainable cocoa economy. Perspectives of a sustainable cocoa economy were provided from the point of view of the representatives of the following:

- a. Government’s Perspective by Francis Osei-Owusu, Cocoa Board
- b. Cocoa Farmers Perspective by Francis Otoo Acquah, Cocoa Organic Farmers Association
- c. Industry’s Perspective by Representative of Nestle (Nestle failed to turn up)
- d. Consumers Perspective by Kofi Kapito, Consumer Protection Agency of Ghana

- e. Women’s Perspective by Marian Thompson, Bio-Tropical Farms Co Ltd.
- f. Perspective of Non-governmental organizations by Yaw Osei-Owusu, Conservation Alliance
- g. Perspective of Standard bodies active in the cocoa sector by Richard Perrin WAFF/UTZ and Ernest Adzim (FLO)

**1.6 Analysis of Roundtable Conference Participants**

The National Roundtable process was attended by a total of 79 participants, made up of the following:

**Government decision-makers - 14**

From the Ministries: Manpower and Social Welfare - 1; Finance and Economic Planning - 1; Public institutions included the Ghana Cocoa Board - 11; Forestry Commission - 1.

**Industry Practitioners - 4:**

ADM – 1; Cadbury Int., - 1; and West Africa Mills Co Ltd - 2

**Universities - 1**

From University of Ghana Department of Animal Biology and Conservation Science

**Financial Institutions 4:**

Bank of Ghana – 1; Apex Bank – 1; National Insurance Commission –1 and Customs, Excise and Preventive Services - 1

**Civil Society – 20**

NGOs active in the cocoa sector

**Trade Unions - 1:**

General Agricultural Workers Union (GAWU).

**Cocoa Farmers - 7:**

Two (2) women and six (6) men

**Local Buying Companies (3):**

Adwumapa Cocoa Buying Company Ltd; Armajaro – 2;

**Media - 17:**

Daily Graphic, Ghanaian Times, Ghana News Agency, Financial and Business Times, Choice FM Radio, Channel R (1), The Insight (1); Eastern FM (1), Video Prod (1) and Ghana Broadcasting Corporation Radio (4).

**Standard/Certification Bodies - 3:**

West Africa Fair Fruits/UTZ - 1, Rain Forest Alliance 1; and Fair Trade Labeling Org.- 1

**Input providers - 3:**

Yayra Glover (2) Cocoa Abrabopa (1)

**Development Partners –2:** Representatives of the Royal Netherlands Embassy in Ghana (1) and Vol. Services Overseas (VSO) of UK (1).



*Pictures of Participants during the group discussions*

## 2.0 OPENING SESSION

The purpose of this session was to enable the participants to gain a better understanding of the current sustainable initiatives in the cocoa sector. Participants were briefed on current government policies and initiatives to enhance a sustainable cocoa economy. The Key Elements to Enhance the Implementation of the Accra Agenda on sustainable cocoa economy were also presented. The detailed presentations and the discussions that ensued are presented in the next sections.

### *2.1 Welcome Address by Deputy Chief Executive of COCOBOD, Dr. Yaw Adu-Ampomah*

The Chief Executive of Ghana Cocoa Board commended Africa Cocoa Coalition and Tropical Commodities Coalition for collaborating with COCOBOD to organize the first National Roundtable Conference on Sustainable Cocoa Economy in Ghana. He highlighted the increasing global awareness of the need to pursue sustainable development based on the three pillars of sustainability: economic, environmental and social. He noted that the International Cocoa Agreement “encourages member countries to give due consideration to the development of a sustainable cocoa economy” and to include all three pillars in the issues related to cocoa production and consumption. He emphasized that the cocoa farmers, who are the most vulnerable in the cocoa supply chain, are key players and Ghana had made considerable efforts to secure better livelihood for them by ensuring equitable returns, improvement in

productivity schemes and working conditions. He was of the view that the National Roundtable Conference was timely and provided the opportunity for the stakeholders to develop consensus that will ensure the enhancement of sustainable cocoa economy in Ghana. See Appendix III for details



*Dr. Adu Ampomah given his address*

### *2.2 Statement by Africa Cocoa Coalition, David Kpelle, National Coordinator, ACC*

David Kpelle informed participants that Africa Cocoa Coalition had a commitment to work with all relevant stakeholders in the cocoa sector to ensure equitable returns for all players in the cocoa value chain. He defined “a sustainable cocoa economy as one in which each person investing time or money into the supply chain would be able to earn a decent income for themselves and their families, work in good conditions and in a manner that did not harm the environment”. He stated that the farmers were the most vulnerable to the inequity in the distribution of returns along the cocoa value chain.

He commended the Government of Ghana, COCOBOD, Cadbury International, Mars Chocolate and Sustainable Tree Crop Programme (STCP) for a number of initiatives to improve farmer’s income through capacity building. He also commended Barry-Callibaut, Archer Daniels Midlands, Armajaro and Cargil for investing in the grinding and manufacturing sectors and expressed doubt whether their demand of cocoa beans could be sustained from the current level of cocoa production in Ghana. He highlighted the “Accra Agenda” on Enhancing a Sustainable Cocoa Economy and emphasized on the need for wider stakeholder involvement in the dialogue on sustainability in the cocoa sector in Ghana. Touching on the theme of the Roundtable Conference “Combing efforts to enhance a sustainable cocoa economy in Ghana”, he emphasized that this first National Roundtable was intended to provide a platform for stakeholders to reach agreement on the way forward in internalizing the priority areas as recommended by the Accra Agenda and the Declaration of Trinidad and Tobago. See Appendix IV for details

*2.3 Overview of the Roundtable Developments: Accra Agenda to the Declaration of Trinidad and Tobago by David Kpelle, Coordinator, Africa Cocoa Coalition*

David Kpelle informed participants about the initiation of the ICCO First Roundtable on Sustainable Cocoa Economy in Accra in October, 2007. He explained that the outcome of the Roundtable Conference was the “Accra Agenda” on Enhancing Sustainable Cocoa Economy based upon which the ten (10) Key

Elements to enhance the implementation of the Accra Agenda were developed. These were reviewed by African cocoa producing states in February 2009 in Cote d’Ivoire and endorsed by the Second Roundtable on Sustainable Cocoa Economy in Trinidad and Tobago in March, 2009. He presented the Key Elements and explained their importance in enhancement of a sustainable cocoa economy in Ghana. Details are provided in Appendix V.

*2.4 Key Note address Hon. Minister of Finance and Economic Planning by Tei Quartey, Technical Director on Cocoa.*

The Honorable Minister of Finance and Economic Planning commended Ghana Cocoa Board for collaborating with Africa Cocoa Coalition and Tropical Commodities Coalition of Netherlands to organize the First National Roundtable on Sustainable Cocoa Economy in Ghana. He noted the importance of commodities trade as a source of revenue and livelihood particularly to producers in Africa. He however wondered how much of these benefits accrue to producers and what level of cocoa production could be deemed appropriate to compensate for the farmers toils and for importers who stalk pile to keep prices low. He also queried why the National Roundtable Conference took so long a time to be organized, since Ghana hosted the first global Roundtable Conference in 2007.

**“a sustainable cocoa economy is one in which each person investing time or money into the supply chain would be able to earn a decent income for themselves and their families, work in good conditions and in a manner that did not harm the environment” (Oxfam International, 2009)**

The Minister noted that there had been increasing concern for sustainability in the cocoa sector, particularly with focus on fair trade, fair prices and concern for labor practices. He therefore emphasized the need for identifying key areas of common interest to all the major stakeholders in the cocoa chain that could enable the attainment of the appropriate sustainable structures for the Ghanaian cocoa sector. He highlighted the importance of the three pillars of sustainable development (economic, social, and environmental) with regards to the cocoa sector indicating that the challenges were enormous for government alone to tackle.

He thus stressed the need for public-private partnerships to address the challenges. Finally he confirmed the commitment of the Government of Ghana to the National Roundtable Conference and endorsed the establishment of platform to engage key stakeholders in dialogue on pertinent issues that will address the challenges of the sector. He indicated the readiness of the Government to give serious attention to the recommendations of the National Roundtable Conference. See Appendix VI for details of the keynote address



*Mr. Tei Quartey (left) & Rev. D. Kpelle (above) during their presentation with cross sections of the participants (below) paying attention*



### 3.0 Presentation on Perspectives

The opening session was followed by the presentation of the respective perspectives of key stakeholders on a sustainable cocoa economy in Ghana. The following provides a summary: Details are provided in Appendix VII to XII.

#### *3.1 Government's Perspective by Francis Osei-Owusu, Deputy Director, Research, Monitoring and Evaluation, Ghana Cocoa Board*

Outlining the Government's perspective on a sustainable cocoa economy in Ghana Francis Osei-Owusu enumerated the key issues under the three pillars of sustainable development: environmental, social and economic. These included the need for *economic*: improvement in soil fertility and management, access to credit and formation of farmer groups and associations; *Social*: elimination of the worst form of child labor and access to quality education and health facilities; environmental: intensification of cocoa production, without encroachment of reserved forests as well as promotion of alternative crops as shade to enhance suitable environmental conditions. He mentioned some of the challenges as limited access to credit, use of unapproved pesticides, lack of labor saving devices and poverty. The recommendations included the following: increase private participation in input and extension delivery to cocoa farmers including inputs to farmers on credit basis; farmer's access to improved planting, enforcement of legislation on bushfires and destruction of cocoa farms in reserved forests.

It also included formation of farmer groups, provision of educational and health services and facilitating the development of labor saving devices. Details are provided in Appendix VIII.

#### *3.2 Farmers' Perspective by Francis Otoo Acquah, Cocoa Organic Farmers Association*

Presenting the cocoa farmers' perspective on a sustainable cocoa economy in Ghana, Francis Acquah used a tree to illustrate the inequalities in the cocoa value chain. He indicated that the roots represented the farmers who were the producers of the raw materials to support the entire industry while the trunk represented governments, civil society and other intermediaries in the value chain. The Branches represented industry such as the manufacturers and processors. Francis Acquah explained that industry makes so much money but the appropriate benefits do not return to the farmers because of blockages by the intermediaries.



*Mr. Francis Otoo giving his presentation*

He therefore recommended that there should be interventions on the part of government and other key stakeholders to ensure that farmers receive appropriate returns to enable them acquire farm equipment/implements, have adequate access to credit and rehabilitate degraded cocoa farms. He also emphasized on the need to establish a Farmer Sustainability Fund and expand the extension services to cover all cocoa farmers. Monitoring should also be intensified to ensure that the extension agents deliver. Details are presented in Appendix IX.



*Ensuring the adoption of best practices in post-harvest crop management (Farmer preparing fresh cocoa bean for fermentation)*

### *3.3 NGOs Perspective by Yaw Osei-Owusu, Conservation Alliance*

Yaw Osei-Owusu mentioned some of the key issues as the threat of climate change impact, on cocoa production and sited decline in rainfall as an example and how it has affected production in recent times. He also mentioned that the changes in the behavior and distribution of pests and disease pathogens which negatively affected cocoa production. To address the issues, he recommended that NGOs should be involved with formation and strengthening of farmer organizations, harmonization of efforts to enhance farmers'

capacity and empowerment, particularly, of women. The establishment of an NGO Clearing House Mechanism was also suggested to ensure that capable NGOs work in the cocoa sector. The need for strong partnership among all the key stakeholders was also emphasized. Details are presented in Appendix X.

### *3.4 Perspective of Standard Bodies by Richard Perrin (WAFF/UTZ) and Ernest Adzim (FLO)*

Richard Perrin outlined key issues required to achieve voluntary standards. These included a recognized group of producers, credible and efficient information management system and annual audit by independent bodies. Some of the challenges he mentioned included awareness about future/trends of cocoa certification, appropriate human capacity and limited resources for investment. He informed participants that the private sector could play a role in providing feedback on the implementation of voluntary standard, co-funding of capacity building projects and investment and advocacy at the producer end of the supply chain. For the public sector he recommended engagement and advocacy of certification standards and feedback and support for capacity building initiatives. He also suggested that the development of the new extension system should be built around a new "Ghana standard" which meets 70-80% of all other standards. Ernest Adzim informed the participants that producer standards are aimed at ensuring sustainable production at the producer level and sustainable consumption for consumer markets. A detail of the presentation on the perspective of standard bodies is provided in Appendix XI.

**3.5 Perspective of Women Cocoa Farmers by Marian Thompson, Bio Tropical Farms Ltd**

In a more metaphoric presentation, Marian Thompson illustrated a sustainable cocoa economy using a woman cocoa farmer’s family. She explained that with appropriate economic empowerment and technologies now, by 2025 the woman cocoa farmer could support her daughter to pursue postgraduate studies in cocoa research. Another could collect her mother’s social security benefits to invest in bonds and shares, while she herself could be healthy enough to celebrate her 90<sup>th</sup> birth day, living in a 4-bedroom new house of her own. What more she could have been looking more beautiful and still living with a successful husband. She concluded that it is only then that we could confirm that the Roundtable Conference in Ghana has been successful.

**3.6 Consumers perspective by Kofi Kapito, Consumer Protection Agency of Ghana**

Kofi Kapito, who spoke “ex-tempore”, deplored the unacceptable conditions in which cocoa products are sold by vendors on the streets in Ghana. He blamed it on ignorance and the absence of a well-informed consumer public who do not realize the need to assert their rights. He suggested educational campaigns to effect appropriate behavioral change.

*Some of the farmers taking their turn in the Prioritization of the Key Elements*

The Perspective on industry could not be presented since the representative from Nestle failed to turn up for the Roundtable Conference.

**4.0 Prioritization of the Key Elements on Sustainable Cocoa Economy**

Participants through a prioritization process agreed that four (4) of the ten (10) Key Elements were insufficiently addressed in the Ghanaian cocoa sector and therefore needed more urgent attention.

- These were: 1) Remuneration for quality cocoa, productivity and improved farmers’ income
- 2) Access to credit and rural development services and diversification
- 3) Support for farmers’ and workers organizations; and
- 4) Conservation and wise use of biodiversity



## 5.0 Actions to address the Prioritized Key Elements

Participants were then reconstituted into four (4) Working Groups with each one addressing one of the identified key priority areas. Each group proposed actions to address each of the priority areas and also suggested the institutions or organizations responsible for carrying out the actions. Details are provided below:

### Group Reports

#### Key Priority Area 1: Remuneration for quality cocoa, productivity and improved farmers' income

Activity	By whom
<i>a. Quality</i>	
1. Introduce incentives to farmers	COCOBOD , Standard Bodies, NGOs
2. Ensure timely harvesting	Cocoa farmers, NGOs, and extension agents
3. Ensure appropriate fermentation and drying	Cocoa farmers and extension agents, NGOs, LBCs
<i>b. Productivity</i>	
Improve soil condition as well as yield with approved planting materials and necessary extension services	COCOBOD , NGOs, Extension agents
Provide farmers with inputs and innovative practices through appropriate investment schemes	COCOBOD, NGOs, Industry, LBCs
Use appropriate certification schemes to promote increase in productivity	Standard/Certification Bodies, NGOs, COCOBOD
Ensure observation of corporate social responsibilities	Industry, NGOs, COCOBOD
<i>c. Farmers Income</i>	
Promote additional livelihood and investment schemes	COCOBOD, NGOs, Industry, Standard Bodies
Ensure adequate market for certified produce	Standard/Certification bodies, NGOs
Pay more for quality produce	Industry , COCOBOD, Standard/Certification Bodies
Transparency in dealing with farmers	COCOBOD, Local Buying companies
Ensure timely payment for farmers' produce	LBCs, COCOBOD, NGOs, Farmer Associations
Farmers should be empowered to be business minded	COCOBOD, NGOs, Industry, LBCs
Ensure incentives flow back to farmers	Standard Bodies, COCOBOD, NGOs, Industry

**Key Priority Area 2: Access to credit and rural development services and diversification**

Activity	By whom
Promote suitable credit schemes	COCOBOD, Industry, LBC, NGOs, LBCs
Restructure existing paying systems to ensure easy access to cash (e.g. review the akuafo cheques and cash system)	COCOBOD ,Farmers' Ass, Industry , LBCs
Ensure availability of basic data/information on farmers	Cocoa farmers, NGOs, COCOBOD, Industry and Standard bodies , LBCs
Intensification of farmer education on credit schemes	COCOBOD, Farmers, NGOs, Standard Bodies
Facilitate the creation of land banks and encourage farmers on land title registration	COCOBOD, NGOs, Industry and Farmers, Traditional Authorities, Land owners
Support public sector in the administration of credit to farmers	COCOBOD, Industry, Farmers, NGOs, LBCs
Improve rural infrastructure such as roads, schools, clinics, potable water etc	Industry, NGOs, COCOBOD, LBCs
Build farmer capacity to diversify crop production	COCOBOD, NGOs, Industry
Ensure improvement in yields	COCOBOD, Farmers, Industries, NGOs and Standard bodies
Establish cocoa sustainability fund for farmers	COCOBOD, Industry, LBCs, NGOs

**Key Priority Area 3: Support for farmers' and workers' organizations**

Activity	By whom
Strengthen and upscale existing farmer groups	NGOs, Farmers' Association,
Form new farmer associations	NGOs, Farmers' Associations
Promote networking amongst farmers' association	COCOBOD, NGOs, Farmers' organizations, LBCs
Legislation to protect the farmer/workers' rights	NGOs, Labor Unions
Enhance capacity building of farmer organizations	NGOs, COCOBOD, Industries, Standard Bodies

**Key Priority Area 4: Conservation and Wise-use of Biodiversity**

Activity	By whom
*Ensure rehabilitation of old and abandoned cocoa farms in Brong Ahafo and Eastern Regions	COCOBOD, Industry and NGOs using appropriate models, Financial Institutions
Discourage the establishment of new farms in forest reserves	Government/Forestry Commission in close collaboration with COCOBOD
Encourage planting of cocoa under optimum shade, (ensure that “no-shade” cocoa is avoided)	COCOBOD, Forestry Commission, Ministry of Environment and Science and Technology (MEST), NGOs
Farmers should be encouraged to plant trees in their boundaries as shelter belts and as “cordon sanitaire” to prevent the spread of swollen shoot disease	COCOBOD, Forestry Commission, Certification Bodies
Incentives should be provided for planting these trees	MEST, NGOs, Forestry Commission, Industry
Organic farming should be promoted to conserve the ecosystem (e.g. use of organic pesticides and fertilizers should be encouraged)	NGOs, Standard/Certification Bodies; MOFA, COCOBOD
Shelter belts should be rehabilitated by the forestry commission	Forestry Commission, Forest Industries, MLNR
There should be strategies to minimize bush fires	District Assemblies, Ghana National Fire Service, Forestry Commission, Traditional Authorities, COCOBOD
Sacred groves should be protected	Traditional Rulers, COCOBOD
Mining operations in cocoa producing areas and forest reserves should be discouraged	MLNR, District Assemblies, Traditional Authorities, Chamber of Mines,
General education and capacity building of NGOs to provide extension and other services to cocoa farmers	COCOBOD, NGOs, Industries, Standard Bodies, Trade Unions (all relevant stakeholders)

\*Farmers proposed that a special task force should be set up to undertake the rehabilitation of degraded areas and maintain them till they start producing fruits. They could then be handed over to the owners and the cost of rehabilitation be deducted from the proceeds of the yield over a period of time.

Apart from the above, participants also agreed on common areas for short-term interventions.

These include:

1. The establishment of an NGO Clearing House Mechanism at COCOBOD
2. Scaling up of the Cadbury-Cocoa Board Partnership programme on cocoa extension to reach all farmers;
3. The development and implementation of generic training programmes on farmer organization ;
4. Enhancing the capacity of cocoa farmers for improved quality cocoa production;
5. Ensuring fair pricing of cocoa beans;
6. Establishment of the cocoa sustainability fund to support farmers to improve quality and productivity.
7. Involvement of the universities in cocoa research;
8. Diversification of the use of cocoa products to attract incentives to farmers and industry; and
9. Small scale training of farmers on by-products of cocoa at Cocoa Research Institute of Ghana to enhance farmer livelihoods.

**NEXT STEPS:** Finally, participants recommended that Africa Cocoa Coalition (ACC) should liaise with COCOBOD to ensure that the outcome of the Roundtable Conference is fed into the Strategic Plan of the Cocoa Sector which is currently under review by the Institute for Social, Statistic and Economic Research (ISSER) of the University of Ghana, Legon. ACC was also mandated to organize another Roundtable Conference before the global Third Roundtable on Sustainable Cocoa Economy in 2011 in the Netherlands.

## APPENDICES

### Appendix 1: List of Participants

#### PRE-CONFERENCE: NGO ATTENDANCE LIST FOR 9/03/10

No.	Organization	Name	Tel./Email	Location
1	Conservation Alliance,	Yaw Osei-Owusu	0244277795	Accra
2	Agro-Eco Ghana,	W. Albert Toase	0243955702	Aviation House, Accra
3	Centre for Human & Environmental Security,	Delali Dovie	0242576987	Kissemann Jn. Accra
4	Friends of the Nations- Ghana,	D. A. Movuta	0244520686 friendsofthenation@gmail.com	Takoradi
5	Winrock International- Gh,	Matilida Broni	0244220688; Winrock.mbroni@yahoo.com	Box 11294, Kumasi Nserie St. Adum
6	World Vision Ghana,	Harry Akama	0244328951;Harry_akami@wvi.org	PMB, Accra North
7	Voluntary Services Organ.	Thelma Dekyi	0208177525	Labone, Accra
8	GOAN	Ivy Osei-Sampa	0244275928; ivysampa@yahoo.com <a href="mailto:i.sampa@goan-networld.net">i.sampa@goan-networld.net</a>	Box 6342, Kumasi
9	NCRC	James Agyei-Ohemang	0244721985;jaohemeng@yahoo.com	Accra
10	Cocoa Abrabopa,	Eliseus Opoku- Boamoah	0244338310 Eopoku-boamoah@abrabopa.com	Dunkwa
11	GAWU,	Paschal Kaba	0244980241; chalkaba@yahoo.com	Box 701, Accra
12	COFA	Francis Otu Acquah	0243805068; cofaorganic@yahoo.com	
13	National Best Farmer,	Mr. E.O. Nsenkyere,	0207623468	Box CT 5006,Accra
14	Rep, Women in Cocoa Farming, Suhum	Mad. Georgina Anseh,	0243777056	COFA, Akwadum, Koforidua
15	Biotropical Farms	Marian Thompson	024514824	Accra
16	Media - GBC	Augustine Apik	0277410652	Accra
17	Media - GBC	Assibi B. Ekelleh	0207814949	Accra
18	Independent Producer	Henry Asamoah	0242175288	Accra
19	TCC	Dr. Barbell Welligmann	b.wellingmann@teacoffeecocoa.org	The Netherlands
20	Oxfam-novib,	Frank Mechielsen	Frank.mechielsen@oxfamnovib.nb	The Netherlands
21	ACC – AgroEco	Samuel Adimando	<a href="mailto:s.adimado@agroeco.net">s.adimado@agroeco.net</a> ; 0244580720	Accra
22	ACC - CHES	Afia Asamoah Owusu	0277603102;asamoah@yahoo.com	Accra
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24	University of Ghana	Erasmus Owusu	0244656359;erasmus@yahoo.com	Accra
25	ACC - CHES	Patience Adzo	0205133186	Accra
26	Video Production	Aaron Narh	0289519191	Accra

**MAIN CONFERENCE: LIST OF ATTENDANCE FOR 10/03/10**

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18	Rain Forest Alliance Cocoa Programme,	Kwame Osei Boateng	0544350101 <a href="mailto:k.osei@louisbolk.org">k.osei@louisbolk.org</a>	Aviation House, Box 317, KIA, Acc
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70	Times	Kingsley Asare	0246943864	Accra
71	Ghana News Agency	William Fiabu	0243854458	Accra
72	Ghana News Agency	Hannah Asomaning	0277969988	Accra
73	GBC Radio	Jemima Hanson	0249364010	Accra
74	GBC Radio	Agatha Asamoah	0246225177	Accra
75	Choice FM	Martin Adu	0245020786	Accra
76	Bus. & Fin. Times	Kwame Mensah	054272692	Accra
77	Eastern FM 105.1	Stephen Banda	0279258306	Koforidua
78	Channel R	Bernard Asamoah	0249224838	Accra
79	The Insight	Pearl Agbemor	0243483351	Accra

### Appendix II: Main Conference Agenda

No.	TIME	ITEM
1	08:30 – 09:00	Registration of Participants
2	09:00 – 10:00	Opening Session: Welcome address by Chief Executive <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Statement by Africa Cocoa Coalition</li> <li>• Overview of the Roundtable Developments from Accra-Abidjan-Trinidad &amp; Tobago-The Netherlands</li> <li>• Keynote Address by Minister of Finance &amp; Economic Planning</li> </ul>
3		GROUP PHOTOGRAPH
4	10:00 – 10:30	COCOA BREAK <b>(Each perspective: max 5 slides 10 min + 2 questions from plenary)</b>
5	10:30 – 10:40	Government’s perspective on sustainable cocoa economy in Ghana
6.	10:40 – 10:50	Farmers perspective on sustainable cocoa economy
7	10:50 – 11:00	Industry’s perspective on sustainable cocoa economy
8	11:00 – 11:10	Standard bodies’ perspective on sustainable cocoa economy
9	11:10 – 11:20	NGOs: perspective on sustainable cocoa economy
10	11:20 – 11:30	Gender perspective on sustainable cocoa economy
11		
12	11:30 - 11:40	Consumers’ perspective on sustainable cocoa economy
13	11:40 – 12:00	Identification and Prioritization of Key Issues
14.	12:00 – 13:00	Group Discussion (on Prioritized Key Issues)
15	13:00 – 14:00	Presentation of Group Discussion
16	14:00 – 14:30	LUNCH
17.	14:30 – 15:00	Discussion on Establishing and Sustaining National Roundtable on Sustainable Cocoa
18	15:00 – 15:30	THE WAY FORWARD
19.	15:30 – 16:00	Presentation of Communiqué
20.		Closing Remarks/COFFEE/COCOA

### Appendix III: Welcome Address

THE FIRST NATIONAL ROUNDTABLE ON SUSTAINABLE COCOA ECONOMY IN GHANA  
MARCH 10, 2010 AT THE COCONUT GROOVE REGENCY HOTEL  
BY DR. YAW ADU-AMPOMAH, AG. DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE, GHANA COCOA BOARD

Mr. Chairman

Honorable Minister of Finance and Economic Planning, Fellow participants, distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen

I am highly honored to deliver this address at this maiden National Roundtable on behalf of Mr. Anthony Fofie, the Chief Executive of Ghana Cocoa Board. On behalf of the Chief Executive, I wish to apologize for his inability to be here with you today due to his tight schedule.

I will like to thank Africa Cocoa Coalition and Tropical Commodity Coalition for initiating Ghana's version of the global roundtable on Sustainable Cocoa Economy. This emphasizes Ghana's leading role in cocoa production in terms of quantity and quality. We are proud to be part of this noble initiative.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, in recent times, there have been an increasing global awareness of the need to pursue development in a sustainable manner. The guiding principle is that development must satisfy present needs without compromising the ability of future generations to also satisfy their needs. This principle dovetails into the three pillars of sustainability namely, economic, environmental and social.

It is also worth noting that The International Cocoa Agreement, 2001, Article 39 makes specific reference to the issue of sustainability and "encourages its members to give due consideration to the development of a sustainable cocoa economy". In the light of this mandate, it is incumbent upon all interested parties including the governments of cocoa producing and consuming countries, and other stakeholders to work together to find ways to include all three pillars of sustainable development in the decision-making process on issues related to cocoa production and consumption.

The sustainability encounters a major challenge in the area of the production of cocoa beans with emphasis on cocoa farming. Cocoa farmers are key players in the cocoa supply chain, but also the most vulnerable link in the chain. Ghana has made giant strides in improving productivity and ensuring an equitable return for our cocoa farmers as a key factor in sustainable cocoa production. We believe that the end result of a sustainable cocoa economy is to secure better livelihoods for cocoa farmers through modernization of cocoa farming methods by way of productivity improvement schemes and improvements in working conditions.

I believe that this roundtable being held today is timely and significant, because it will provide us with an opportunity to discuss and pool our ideas towards measures that would ensure sustainable cocoa economy. I am happy to also note that this forum will allow significant stakeholders in the world cocoa industry to present their perspective on sustainable economy.

I urge participants to discuss the issues dispassionately and arrive at consensus which will ensure that sustainable cocoa economy is enhanced in Ghana.

Mr. Chairman, I now have the singular pleasure and honor to welcome all participants to this Roundtable. For those of you visiting Ghana for the first time, I hope the organizers will make it possible for you to enjoy the beautiful scenery of Accra and the countryside. Thank You.

**Appendix IV: Statement by Africa Cocoa Coalition**

FIRST NATIONAL ROUNDTABLE ON SUSTAINABLE COCOA ECONOMY IN GHANA  
STATEMENT BY AFRICA COCOA COALITION  
DAVID KPELLE, NATIONAL COORDINATOR

Mr. Chairman, Chief Executive of the Ghana Cocoa Board, Representative of the Hon. Minister of Finance and Economic Planning, Members of the Diplomatic Corps, Development Partners Representative of Cocoa Farmers, Representatives of NGOs active in cocoa, Representative of Trade Union, Representative of Consumers, Media fraternity, Representative of Tropical Commodities Coalition, Representative of Oxfam-novib,

On behalf of Africa Cocoa Coalition, Tropical Commodities Coalition and Oxfam-novib, I take this opportunity to welcome you to this First National Roundtable on Sustainable Cocoa Economy in Ghana. We of Africa Cocoa Coalition, have a mission to “work with all relevant stakeholders to ensure the adoption of sustainable best practices in the cocoa sector and to promote equitable returns to all players in the cocoa value chain”. We have therefore been following and participating actively in the developments around the issue of promoting a sustainable global cocoa economy, particularly the initiatives of the International Cocoa Organization, the World Cocoa Foundation and those of the Tropical Commodities Coalition of the Netherlands.

Beginning with the ICCO 1<sup>st</sup> RSCE in Accra in October, 2007, there has been a widening stakeholder concern for a sustainable global cocoa economy. We define “a sustainable cocoa economy as one in which each person investing time or money into the supply chain would be able to earn a decent income for themselves and their families, work in good conditions and in a manner which did not harm the environment”.

While this can be said to be true of workers in the industry and government institutions and other key stakeholders in the supply chain, the same cannot readily apply to many of the almost 800,000 cocoa farmers in Ghana. When we take a critical look at the current status of the global cocoa economy it is skewed towards favoring industry when it comes to benefits in the cocoa chain. The farmers of the producing countries, particularly in Ghana and Cote d’Ivoire appear to be the most vulnerable to the inequity in the distribution of the returns along the cocoa value chain. Yet so much is demanded of them in terms of increased productivity and improvement in quality by industry and governments. They are ageing and their cocoa farms as well. There is not enough incentives to encourage the youth to take over from the ageing cocoa farmers. How do we ensure that the benefits from the industry trickle down enough to so that the producers are empowered to increase productivity and improve quality and their well-being and at the same time ensure environmental sustainability? We have noted with satisfaction the actions that the Government of Ghana has taken in recent times to improve income for the cocoa farmers by ensuring that they are paid more than 70% of the global price per tonne of cocoa. It is also worth-noting that major efforts are being made to address the issue of inadequate extension services, particularly the public – private partnership programme of the Government and Cadbury International.

Other programmes that are making positive impact are the Mars – Chocolate and Sustainable Tree Crop Programme which is building capacity of farmers to increase productivity and improve quality and enhance their well-being. Africa Cocoa Coalition through one of its members WWF West Africa Programme has secured funding from the Global Environment Facility to design and implement a trans-boundary biodiversity corridor initiative which also has a component on rehabilitating degraded forest areas through best practices in cocoa agro-forestry. The purpose is to scale up capacity building of cocoa farmers in best known cocoa agro-forestry practices initiated in cocoa farms around the Kakum National Park in 2002, through a partnership of Conservation International and the Cocoa Research Institute of Ghana. This component will be implemented by Conservation Alliance, one of the members of the Africa Cocoa Coalition with technical support from the FAO. All these capacity building efforts are making positive impact at very small-scale. They therefore need the involvement of more of the key stakeholders to enable scaling up to cover all other cocoa farmers to ensure that they benefit from these initiatives and contribute to sustainability.

We have also noted the efforts of major industries such as Barry-Callebaut, Acher Daniels Midlands, Armajaro, Cargil and others have made in investing in the grinding and manufacturing sectors of the cocoa economy in Ghana. They have succeeded in creating job opportunities for many Ghanaians and expanded the demand for the cocoa produced in Ghana. But the question is these processing industries that are investing in Ghana and other outside who source cocoa from this country, are they assured of adequate supply of cocoa beans? Is cocoa production in Ghana expanding enough to meet the growing global and national demand? Global demand for cocoa is projected to reach about 4.3m tones per year by 2012. How is Ghana positioning herself to take advantage to meet this global demand? These and many other issues are what ACC and our collaborating partners intend to address by facilitating a national dialogue platform which could promote stakeholder consensus and action to give them appropriate attention.

There have been a number of positive developments in the ICCO sustainable cocoa initiatives. Beginning with the Accra Agenda up to the Declaration of Trinidad and Tobago, key priority areas for enhancing sustainability in the global cocoa economy have been identified and the actions to address them recommended. We are of the view that it is important for all key stakeholders to be made aware of them so as to support their implementation. It is also imperative that producing countries like Ghana, concerned about ensuring a sustainable cocoa economy internalize these developments particularly with wide stakeholder involvement. This is what Africa Cocoa Coalition in collaboration with COCOBOD, TCC and Oxfam-novib has decided to facilitate. It is for this reason that we have adopted the theme “combining efforts to enhance a sustainable cocoa economy in Ghana”.

**This first Roundtable is therefore to enable the key stakeholders in the cocoa sector to be well-informed about the developments on attaining a sustainable cocoa economy at the global level. It is particularly to enable us reach agreement on the way forward on the internalization of the key priority areas of action with the appropriate stakeholder participation, as recommended by the Accra Agenda and the Declaration of Trinidad and Tobago.**

Distinguished Guest, Ladies and Gentlemen, we therefore call for your active participation and cooperation in achieving these objectives. THANK YOU

## Appendix V: Overview of the Roundtable Developments by David Kpelle, ACC Coordinator

The first Roundtable on Sustainable Cocoa Economy was organized by the ICCO in collaboration with Ghana Government and Cocoa Board in Accra October, 2007. It was attended by more than 200 participants. At this first conference participants developed consensus on a number of priority thematic areas. This resulted in the Key Elements to Enhance the Implementation of the Accra Agenda on Sustainable Cocoa Economy (Accra Agenda). The Key Elements were initially called Guiding Principles. But at the Second Roundtable in Trinidad and Tobago in February, 2009, they were refined and re-labeled “Key Elements to Enhance the Implementation of the Accra Agenda”. Details are as follows:

### Key Elements to Enhance the Implementation of the Accra Agenda

#### **Element 1: Transparency**

*This element relates to promoting priority actions in the field of: provision and sharing of basic information (including statistics), matters of governance, cooperation among stakeholders, tracking and tracing, price development (including the role of subsidies and taxes), public investment and information between farmers and consumers.*

#### **Element 2: Compliance with applicable laws and regulations**

*This element relates to full implementation of international and national laws and regulation in all related aspects of the cocoa chain.*

#### **Element 3: Remuneration for quality cocoa, productivity and improved farmers’ income**

*This element addresses the need to promote adequate remuneration for quality cocoa brought to the market and improvement of farmers’ income, through priority actions such as the production of high quality cocoa, increased productivity and the promotion of consumption, including in producing countries. It also implies the enhancement of the use of such cocoa through marketing, transparency in markets, increased efficiency in the supply chain, development of new markets, price development and proper or equitable remuneration, and price risk management.*

#### **Element 4: Access to credit and rural development services, and diversification**

*This element addresses the diversification within cocoa farming, promoting off-farm employment, and a broader economic basis within rural areas producing cocoa. It also underpins the need for additional sources of rural income and innovative financing mechanisms of economic initiatives, such as through micro-credit and pre-financing arrangements.*

#### **Element 5: Market access and market information**

*This element provides an umbrella to priority actions in the field of market and trade information, trade rules, and the development, implementation and information sharing of quality standards. The element furthermore relates to cooperation among stakeholders to comply with changing regulations and to respond more quickly to market opportunities and changing consumer preferences.*

**Element 6: Decent working conditions**

*This element encompasses priority actions to ensure decent labour conditions of farmers and workers along the chain, equal rights and opportunities of women and men, non-discrimination, and the protection and promotion of the rights of the child. As such, this element also underlines that rules for decent labour in the cocoa economy are to be developed, and fully implemented, and that the worst forms of the use of child labour and forced adult labour are to be eliminated.*

**Element 7: Support for farmers' and workers' organizations**

*This element addresses the rights of farmers and workers within the context of national law to organize themselves, including through alliances, and freedom of expression. It encompasses educational activities and training through extension services.*

**Element 8: Clear land use planning and proper infrastructure**

*This element covers the priorities related to the inclusion of cocoa in agricultural and land use planning, clear land (use) rights that are suitable given the nature of cocoa farming, and the need for proper infrastructure.*

**Element 9: Rational natural resource management**

*This element covers the priority actions on good agricultural practices, and matters related to efficient natural resource use in transport, processing, manufacturing and retailing. It addresses sound management of soil, water and air along the supply chain.*

**Element 10: Conservation and wise-use of biodiversity**

*This element highlights the role of cocoa farming in preventing negative impacts on biological diversity within and outside the cocoa farm. Expansion should not take place in habitats with high conservation values. There is a need for a broad diversity basis for further improvement of cocoa. There are also good opportunities for cocoa farming to contribute to ecological zoning and other ecological services (e.g. climate, water) and make use of financial compensation mechanisms for such services.*

**DECLARATION OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO**

1. At the generous invitation of the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, the Second meeting of the Roundtable for a Sustainable Cocoa Economy (RSCE2) took place at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago from 24-26 March 2009.
2. The second Roundtable meeting was sponsored and facilitated by the Governments of Côte d'Ivoire, Germany, the Netherlands, Switzerland and Trinidad and Tobago and by the International Cocoa Organization.
3. The Roundtable brought together almost 300 participants from 29 countries spanning the five continents of the world. They included representatives from the Cocoa Producers' Alliance and its Member governments, cocoa farmers, co-operatives, traders, exporters, processors, chocolate manufacturers, wholesalers, retailers, governmental and non-governmental organizations.
4. The meetings were conducted over three days in seven plenary sessions and three focus groups. Each focus group meeting discussed the way forward, building on the Accra Agenda from a different perspective: one from the perspective of farmers, one from the perspective of

governments and one from the perspective of the industry and civil society. Delegates were allowed to participate in whichever Focus Group was of most interest to them.

5. Participants reviewed the progress achieved in the implementation of the Accra Agenda and discussed major issues contained in a number of presentations. It was recognized that the Accra Agenda had raised awareness on the need to work towards a sustainable cocoa economy and had made considerable progress in that direction by establishing priority areas of action towards a sustainable cocoa economy. Participants in the second Roundtable expressed the strong wish to reach agreement on the way forward to better implement the priority areas of action contained in the Accra Agenda.

6. The presentations stimulated active and useful discussions amongst the different stakeholders, facilitated by the Chair. From the brainstorming sessions, each group developed a list of recommendations/areas for priority actions seen from their group's perspective. The Roundtable arrived at the following conclusions:

***On Key Elements to Enhance the Implementation of the Accra Agenda***

7. The Roundtable agreed on a working document containing ten key elements to be further discussed at future meetings.

***On the Guidelines on Best Known Practices in the Cocoa Value Chain***

8. The Roundtable noted with appreciation the document presented and encouraged its authors to further improve it by widening its scope to include all stages such as processing, manufacturing, retailing and consumption.

***Modus Operandi of the RSCE***

9. The Roundtable agreed to continue its work as a Coalition of Stakeholders hosted and facilitated by ICCO. The negotiations on the new International Cocoa Agreement provide Members with the opportunity to examine the ways and means of providing the appropriate legal framework for the Roundtable.

***On the Creation of a Cocoa Sustainability Fund***

10. The Roundtable agreed to set up an Expert Working Group to thoroughly study the feasibility of establishing a Cocoa Sustainability Fund to provide additional direct and timely financing of relevant projects and programmes in the cocoa sector, primarily for the benefit of producers. This Fund should also support the use of non-financial measures to support producers. It was further agreed that there should be closer cooperation and coordination at national level between the public sector and private sector stakeholders to enhance the development of the cocoa sector.

**Next Steps**

11. Participants expressed their resolve to continue working together in a spirit of cooperation and respect for the roles to be played by the different stakeholders. Action on the way forward suggested by many participants included support and encouragement for producing and consuming countries to develop and implement national plans for achieving a sustainable cocoa economy. Among others, it was also suggested to develop a system of monitoring of activities aimed at achieving sustainability in the cocoa sector.

12. Participants agreed to continue the process initiated in Accra and to hold a Third Roundtable for a Sustainable Cocoa Economy (RSCE3) in the Netherlands, at a time to be determined.

13. Participants would like to express their heartfelt gratitude to the Government and to the people of Trinidad and Tobago for their warm hospitality and for the perfect organization of the Roundtable, thus contributing to making it a resounding success. Port of Spain, 26 March 2009

Appendix VI: Keynote Address by Minister of Finance and Economic Planning  
Delivered by Mr. E. Tei Quartey

“COMBINING EFFORTS TO ENSURE A SUSTAINABLE COCOA ECONOMY IN GHANA”

Director at the MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC PLANNING Delivered BY Mr. Tei Quartey

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Diplomatic Corps, Development Partners, Chief Executive of Ghana Cocoa Board, Representatives of Cocoa Farmers, Members of the Media, Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen;

It is my distinguished pleasure on behalf of the Honorable Minister of Finance and Economic Planning to deliver this keynote address. I wish to take this opportunity to congratulate the Ghana Cocoa Board and her collaborators, the Africa Cocoa Coalition of Ghana and the Tropical Commodities Coalition of the Netherlands for combining their efforts to organize this first ever National Roundtable on Sustainable Cocoa Economy in Ghana. Commodities such as cocoa are traded on a daily basis and exported worldwide for billions of dollars. Part of this constitutes the major source of revenue and livelihood for millions of producers many of whom are in the developing world.

In Ghana, the question being asked these days is what kind of incentives will keep our cocoa farmers at work and what level of output is deemed optimal for the market at any point in time. A key issue is the sustainability of the various components of the cocoa systems and for that matter, the cocoa economy. What constitutes the appropriate management of cocoa production - appropriate both for producers like us, who want a reasonable return on the toils of our farmers and for importers, who want to, ensure that cocoa stocks do not fall so low as to drive up prices. The theme of this first National Roundtable is “*Combining Efforts to Enhance a Sustainable Cocoa Economy in Ghana*”. One may ask why it has taken us so long to internalize some of the objectives of a sustainable cocoa economy in Ghana considering the fact that Ghana hosted the first International Roundtable on a Sustainable Cocoa Economy in 2007. The country also participated actively at the second Roundtable on a Sustainable Cocoa Economy in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago.

Since the coming into force of the 2001 International Cocoa Agreement, there have increasingly been efforts by various stakeholders to stimulate sustainable developments in the global cocoa sector. Recent developments in the commodity markets point to Trans-national corporations coming under intense pressure from consumer organizations and Non-Governmental organizations to be transparent with regards to their product chain. It is believed that the underlying reason behind this demand is the need for ‘fair trade’, ‘fair price’ and ‘fair labor practices’. At the production level in Ghana, there are many stakeholders involved, all with specific roles, responsibilities and interests. To what extent do these numerous stakeholders respond to sustainable production initiatives and can this be optimised to achieve a sustainable cocoa economy? There is strong inter-dependence between producers, industry and consumers and it would be interesting to find where their interests converge so as to reach a situation where the three groups can co-exist in a sustainable partnership.

From the producer perspective, a critical issue that needs to be considered in the cocoa supply chain is sustainable improvement in farmer incentive structure. The question, however, is how

and under what conditions can this be achieved. Farmer incentive structure hinges strongly on farmer incomes, which in turn involves issues such as cocoa quality, market price, niche market, productivity, environmental protection, child labour, etc.

It is therefore necessary that this National Roundtable on a Sustainable Cocoa Economy in Ghana identifies and assesses convergences of interest for stakeholders, both internationally and locally, in the cocoa chain so as to attain the appropriate sustainable structures for the Ghanaian cocoa economy – economic, social and environmental.

Commodity production and trade have significant public finance implications for many commodity-dependent economies. Ghana like most African countries which rely heavily on the commodity sector face loss of state revenue due to worsening terms of trade.

Socially, commodity plays important role in livelihood and stability of farming communities in terms of job creation and distribution of income among rural communities. Market developments which negatively affect the interests of farmers tend to move people, especially the youth to the urban centres in search of non-existent jobs. This has the tendency to disrupt production processes in the farming communities.

Low productivity and falling market prices put undue pressure on the environment as farmers are forced to expand production to new areas including forest lands. Reduction in earnings also does not encourage the carrying out of programmes to enhance soil fertility and farmer education.

Despite the fact that the cocoa production means so much to our economy, there are enormous challenges which government alone cannot tackle effectively. For example Government welcomes the new public private partnership for extension delivery as a means of improving the delivery of extension to cocoa farmers. Given the above challenges, we consider the theme for this Roundtable: *Combining efforts to enhance sustainable cocoa economy* most appropriate.

Ladies and Gentlemen, the Government of Ghana is fully committed to ensure a sustainable cocoa economy and is prepared to cooperate with development partners and other groups committed to sustainability. The Government of Ghana will continue to provide the appropriate support to the cocoa sector to ensure that cocoa production is moved to a higher level.

Ladies and Gentlemen, the Government is particularly happy for the establishment of this platform to engage stakeholders in a positive dialogue on pertinent issues that will contribute to address the challenges of the cocoa sector. We look forward to the recommendations of this Roundtable particularly the process that would lead to the implementation of the recommendations.

On behalf of the Minister for Finance and Economic Planning, I wish you fruitful deliberations and formally declare this first National Roundtable on Sustainable Cocoa Economy in Ghana duly opened.

THANK YOU.

**Appendices VII – XII Perspectives on sustainable cocoa economy**

**APPENDIX VII: GOVERNMENT'S PERSPECTIVE**

FIRST NATIONAL ROUNDTABLE FOR A  
SUSTAINABLE COCOA ECONOMY IN GHANA

**GOVERNMENT PERSPECTIVES ON A  
SUSTAINABLE COCOA ECONOMY IN  
GHANA**

BY  
**FRANCIS OSEI-OWUSU**  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR  
RESEARCH MONITORING & EVALUATION  
GHANA COCOA BOARD  
10<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2010

**KEY ISSUES**

- **ECONOMIC PILLAR:**
- Improvements in farm yields to economic levels:
  1. Improved soil fertility and management
  2. Crop losses due to diseases and pests
  3. Access to credit facilities
  4. Effective extension delivery
  5. Ageing cocoa farmers and cocoa farms
  6. Replanting old, abandoned and destroyed farms
  7. Availability of recommended inputs
  8. Use of improved planting materials
  9. Lack of business culture in cocoa farming
  10. Formation of farmers groups/association
  11. Adoption of alternative crops as additional source of income

**KEY ISSUES (Cont.)**

- **Social Pillar:**
  1. Elimination of the worst forms of child labour from cocoa farming
  2. Access to quality education in cocoa growing communities
  3. Access to health facilities-cocoa farmers
  4. Lack of infrastructure & social amenities in cocoa growing communities
- **Environmental Pillar:**
  1. Increasing cocoa production through intensification rather than expansion
  2. bushfires
  3. Encroachment of reserved forests
  4. Proper post-harvest practices
  5. Destruction of cocoa farms by timber concessionaires
  6. Cultivation of alternative crops as shade for environmental enhancement

**Challenges**

- **ECONOMIC PILLAR:**
- Long distances of farms to cocoa stations in relation to access to improved planting materials
- Weather dependency of cocoa production
- Limited access to credit facilities and high cost of credit to smallholder cocoa farmers
- Smuggling of cocoa and cocoa inputs
- **ENVIRONMENTAL PILLAR:**
- Distribution and use of unapproved pesticides on cocoa
- Recurring menace of bushfires
- **SOCIAL PILLAR:**
- Lack of labour saving devices/technologies
- Poverty
- Social commitment
- Financing of interventions
- Illiteracy

**Recommendations**

- **ECONOMIC PILLAR:**
- Increase private participation in inputs and extension delivery to cocoa farmers
- Support the private sector to deliver inputs to cocoa farmers on credit basis
- Implement measures that will make smuggling of cocoa or cocoa inputs unattractive
- Enhance incentives for informants relating to cocoa smuggling
- Increase farmers' access to improved planting materials and technology transfer
- Implementation of youth in agriculture programmes
- **ENVIRONMENTAL PILLAR:**
- Enforce legislation on illegal bush burning, destruction of reserved forests and cocoa farms

**Recommendations (Cont.)**

- **SOCIAL PILLAR:**
- Facilitate development of labour saving devices/technologies
- Intensify farmer education on elimination of the worst forms of child labour from cocoa and responsible labour practices
- Provision of educational infrastructure and related inputs in cocoa growing communities
- COCOBOD should support government in the provision of health facilities in cocoa growing communities
- Collaboration with social partners to provide social amenities
- Encourage formation of farmer associations/groups

APPENDIX IX: FARMERS' PERSPECTIVE

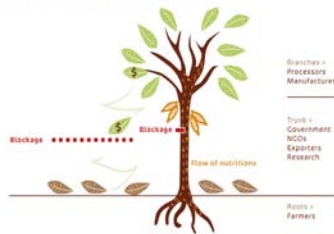


NGO, farmer and union pre-conference workshop



For a healthy cocoa sector:  
Remove the blockages

For a healthy Cocoa sector:  
Remove the blockages



Functions of the roots

**The roots (farmers) need:**

- Farm implements/equipments
- Access to credits
- Farmer Sustainability Fund
- Rehabilitation of degraded cocoa farms
- Extended extension + monitoring

APPENDIX X: PERSPECTIVE OF NGOS

National Round Table Conference on Sustainable Cocoa Economy  
Accra, Ghana  
March 10, 2010

**Do we need to wait any longer?**

- Cocoa produced in 6 regions in Ghana.
- Over 50% produced in Western Region
- Climate change brings another set of challenges, as if traditional problems are not adequate.
- Mean annual rainfall values in cocoa producing areas are declining (eg deciduous forest 2.8% in year 2020)
- Rise in temperatures (0.8% rise in 2020)
- Stages and rates of development of pests and pathogens are changing
- Shifts in the geographical distribution of host and pathogen/pests
- Decline in production

### What can NGOs contribute to sustainable cocoa economy?

- Form/strengthen/empower farmer organizations
- Assist establishment and coordination: Clearing House Mechanism
- Harmonization of efforts to enhance capacity of farmers
- Enhance women empowerment


### Partnership to achieve a sustainable cocoa economy in Ghana

```


graph TD
    COCOOD --- Industry
    COCOOD --- Farmers
    COCOOD --- NGOs_unions[NGOs/unions]
    Industry --- Farmers
    Industry --- NGOs_unions
    Farmers --- NGOs_unions
    
```

APPENDIX XI: PERSPECTIVE OF STANDARD/CERTIFICATION BODIES

#### Voluntary Standards as tools towards a sustainable cocoa economy




Richard Perrin  
Cocoa Programme Manager




#### What's required to achieve voluntary standards?

- Group of producers
- Strong commitment
- Behavioural change to meet criteria
- Credible and efficient information management system
- Investment
- Annual audit by independent body




#### Key challenges for scaling up voluntary standards in Ghana

- In-country knowledge (& ownership) of certification initiatives
- Awareness about future/trends of cocoa certification
- Cooperation between certification initiatives
- Human capacity
- Information about individual farmers
- Few existing, strong producer groups
- Behavioural change
- Limited resources for necessary investment
- Marketing of certified cocoa




#### Potential private sector role

- Public commitments to demonstrate demand
- Feedback on voluntary standards
- Co-funding of capacity building projects
- Investment and advocacy at producer end of supply chain



#### Potential public sector role

- Engagement and advocacy of certification standards
- Feedback on certification standards
- Support capacity building initiatives
- Include information about certification in new extension material
- Provide supportive environment for marketing and transport of certified cocoa
- Work with supply chain stakeholders, and credit suppliers, to develop (financial) incentives for farmers to take part
- "If build the new extension system around a newly developed 'Ghana standard' that meets 70-85% of all other standards?"



National Roundtable On Sustainable Cocoa Economy in Ghana: Accra, 10th March 2010

**What can we learn from Fairtrade to achieve the development of a sustainable cocoa economy in Ghana**



Ernest K. Adzim, Liaison Officer  
Fairtrade Labelling Organizations International (FLO)

**Fairtrade vision**

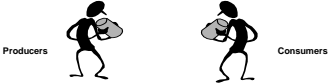
The vision of Fairtrade is a world in which all producers can enjoy secure and sustainable livelihoods, fulfil their potential and decide on their future.



**Linking sustainable production & consumption: Producer Standards**

Fairtrade certified and labelled products represent:



- **Sustainable production at producer level:**
  - Minimum and progress requirements capturing social and environmental concerns (development approach)
  - A tool for development and empowerment
- **Sustainable consumption for consumer market**
  - An informed choice in shopping behaviour
  - Conscious and engaged consumption



**Price intervention**

To sustain a viable business for the weakest in the supply chain:

- **Fairtrade Minimum price as safety net**  
→ If market price > FT Minimum Price: market price must be paid
- **Premium to invest in social, economic or environmental projects**

**Conclusion**

**A mix and balance of all these is essential to create a true sustainable option in the cocoa economy that is economically viable, ecologically sound and socially responsible**

APPENDIX XII: WOMEN'S PERSPECTIVE

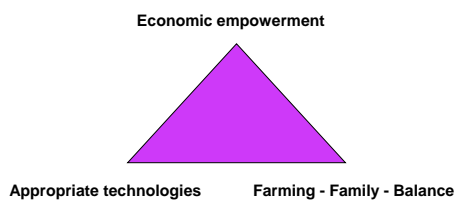
**Marian Thompson**  
**Cocoa farmer**  
**in the central region**

2025

Aged  
.... mothers,  
..... sisters,  
..... wives,  
..... daughters

with insufficient income + security

## Triangle of Happiness



## 2025 with successful Round Table in Ghana

- Daughter => Post graduate cocoa researcher
- Sister => Collected social security payment and savings to buy bons/shares from companies
- Mother => 90 birthdays, happy retirement in her 4 bedroom new house
- Wife => grown more beautiful and proud of her successful husband