



Media Advisory

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CELEBRATING 70 YEARS OF SUSTAINED PARTNERSHIPS AND POLITICAL SUPPORT FOR ENHANCED COOPERATION OF ANIMAL RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA

AU-IBAR 70th Anniversary Commemoration & 10th Year of Rinderpest Eradication

NAIROBI, KENYA— The African Union-InterAfrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) 70-year journey brings the common voice of the people and institutions that have shaped African Union (AU) member states' animal resources policies and development decisions over the years. AU-IBAR will be commemorating its 70th anniversary from 17-18 March 2022, under the theme "*70 years of sustained partnerships and political support for enhanced coordination of animal resources development in Africa*". The celebrations will be in the form of a hybrid event with over 300 stakeholders expected to attend physically at the Movenpick Hotel in Nairobi, Kenya and many more expected to attend virtually.

The programme for the two-day event includes:

- (i) The launch of a Pan-African flagship programme on Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR).
- (ii) Panel discussions on (a) Drawing lessons learnt and best practices from rinderpest for the prevention, control and eradication of current and emerging transboundary and zoonotic animal diseases, and (b) Showcasing the contribution of interventions in the Animal resources sector to Africa's development goals. The 70th Anniversary coincides with the 10th year of the eradication of rinderpest, a milestone achievement that generated many lessons in mobilizing stakeholders in addressing challenges in the animal resources sector. The panelists comprising of key sector players will be at hand to share their wisdom and provide insights to create value and takeaways for the audience. Notable panelists will include former Directors of AU-IBAR, and some former Coordinators of the major intervention programmes that resulted in the eradication of rinderpest.
- (iii) Recognition awards will be given to key sector players that have contributed to AU-IBAR's success. The awards testify to the successful stakeholder partnerships across the continent, ranging from local institutions to government agencies international technical institutions and Development assistance agencies, all with the same goal: to improve animal resources development on the African continent.
- (iv) A monumental bull will be unveiled to symbolize the leadership that AU-IBAR and its stakeholders have portrayed in the past 70 years and going forward in their contribution to animal resources development.

Some of the event attendees will include Ministers of Agriculture and Livestock from the Republics of Kenya, Chad, Senegal, Guinée, Uganda, and Cote d'Ivoire; Director General AUC; former Commissioners of the African Union Commission; Donors, Cooperating partners, Regional Economic Communities, Directors of Animal production; Chief Veterinary Officers; Fisheries and Aquaculture sector stakeholders.

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Founded in 1951, AU-IBAR is a specialised technical office under the Department of Rural Development, Blue Economy, and Sustainable Environment (DARBE) of the African Union Commission. AU-IBAR provides leadership in the development of animal resources for Africa. By working closely with the AU Member States, and the RECs, AU-IBAR's vision is an Africa in which animal resources contribute significantly to integration, prosperity, and peace. Learn more at www.au-ibar.org. Further information on the event, including the registration link is available at: <https://bit.ly/3KCJhxn>