**DRAFT**

**Summary report**

**Official Visit of the AFAAS Officials Dr. Silim,N. and Mr. Olupot M. to Ministry Agriculture and Botswana College of Agriculture From 1-4 July, 2012**

**1.0 Introduction and background on the Courtesy Call**

The purpose of their visit was to pay a courtesy call to Ministry of Agriculture and Botswana College of Agriculture (BCA) to explore and concretize plans for the upcoming Africa-wide Symposium on Advisory/Extension Service to be held in Gaborone next year 2013. It is expected that in collaboration with AFAAS Secretariat, the coordination and management of the events will be jointly done between BCA with the Ministry of Agriculture. This first exploratory visit therefore was to have a look at the facilities and meet the partners, Botswana College of Agriculture (BCA) and Ministry of Agriculture (MoA).  The Agricultural Economics, Education, and Extension (AEE) department of the Botswana College of Agriculture brought the officials to meet with the college management at 2:00 pm and the officials were further accompanied by the AEE official to meet with Dr. M. Chimbombi, Permanent Secretary, and Dr.P.O.P. Mosupi, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture.  July 3rd, 2012 at 3:30 pm.

**2.0 Day 1 Sunday July 1, 2012: AFAAS Officials in Botswana**

Dr. Silim Nardy of AFAAS arrived in Botswana on Sunday July 1, 2012, while Mr. Max Olupot arrived on July 3rd, 2012 due to airlines failure to connect in Nairobi from Entebbe, Uganda. Dr. Silim was accommodated at Travel Lodge, plot 28295, Block 3. Gaborone, while Mr. Max Olupot got accommodation at Accommodation lodge.

**3.0 Day 2: Monday, July 2, 2012: Visit to Potential venues for Symposium and Conference**

Dr. Silim together with Dr. Hulela visited the following hotel /motels and conference facilities to have a look at their capacity to serve as venues for the 2013 AFAAS Symposium and Annual General Meeting.

1. The Gaborone International Conference center (GICC) located at Grand Palm Hotel. Please see costs forwarded to you.
2. Sunbeam motel: accommodation starting from BWP 600.00
3. Mmokolodi (No information obtained)
4. Fair ground holdings: BWP185.00 X450= 83250./Day= BWP333, 000.00
   1. PA BWP600/day= BWP 2, 400.00
   2. Breakaway rooms= BWP 5, 600.00

**BWP 341,000.00**

1. Planet lodge: starting from BWP660.00 standard rooms;
2. Gaborone sun

These were just random sampled to understand the type of facilities available in Gaborone. Due to time other hotels like Cresta Marakanelo were not reached.

**4.0 Day 3: Tuesday, July, 2012: Courtesy call to the Dept of Agricultural Economics, Education and Extension (AEE):**

On Tuesday morning at 8:00am Dr. Silim Nardy accompanied by Dr. K. Hulela met with the Head of Department of AEE, Dr. Patrick Malope in his office. The AEE head of department welcomed him to Botswana and also to the department. He also informed Dr. Silim that the AFAAS event was really coming at the right time when the Extension unit in his department was in need of more information particularly for the policies of extension. He also impressed upon the fact that perhaps the conference will be able to answer some of the concerns raised in extension in the country due to restructuring that has been done in the ministry. Dr. Silim informed the HoD that Botswana will be expected to perform two roles; (1) provide human resources and (2) provide local transport. This was welcome by the department as a function that would be that much difficult.

5.0 **Day 3: Tuesday, July 3, 2012: Courtesy Call to BCA College Management**

The Botswana College of Agriculture management team comprising of Mrs. K. Lecoge, the College Manager, Dr. Mataba Tapela, Acting Dean of Faculty of Agriculture, and Mr. Monametsi, acting college Principal met the AFAAS team, Dr. Silim Nardy and Mr. Max Olupot in the Faculty board room. The acting Dean, Dr. Tapela welcomed the AFAAS team to his department and thanked them for having seen it necessary to take AFAAS to Botswana. The college was positive and willing to provide support and coordination of the preparation for the 2013 event considering the two roles that they were expected to perform in preparation for the event.

**6.0 Day 3: Tuesday, July 3, 2012: Courtesy call to the PS, Ministry of Agriculture**

The AFAAS team accompanied by Dr. K. Hulela and a local farmer Mr. Cebani from the central district who had on regular basis attended AFAAS symposia and events. The Permanent Secretary OF THE Ministry of Agriculture, Dr. M. Chimbombi was accompanied by his deputy Permanent Secretary, Dr. P.O. Mosupi to meet with the AFAAS team. The Permanent Secretary welcomed the AFAAS team to Botswana and to the Ministry of Agriculture. He thanked AFAAS for having considered Botswana particularly Ministry of Agriculture to co-host such an international event. He also thanked the team for involving the local framer as he felt that it was important that farmers take a leading role in extension. Dr. Slim informed the PS that their mission to Botswana was two folds: (1) to show themselves the ministry and BCA and concretize their plan to hold the event, (2) to view and assess the possible venues for the symposium and conference. After giving the background and goal of AFAAS the team was able to hand over the two PS among other books a manual and publication entitled “*establishing and strengthening of AFAAS country forums”*  guidelines. This, they felt would help the Ministry of Agriculture to establish and form a national forum. Explaining the importance of AFFAS Dr. Silim encouraged the two PS to be encouraging the Ministry to be part of the formation of the national forum so that it can have strong basis.

6.0 Dr. Silim, Mr. Max Olupot and Dr. Hulela were able to brainstorm on important thematic areas which may form part of the symposium areas of interest; climate change, e-learning, value chain, marketing….

Program while in Botswana

1. Sunday July 1, 2012: Arrival of AFAAS Officials

Dr. Silim N. and Max Olupot

1. Monday July 2, 2012:
   1. 8-10 am: View possible conference venues

(GICC, Boipuso Hall, Gaborone Sun)

* 1. 2:30 4-30 pm: NAMPAAD farms- Lobatse
  2. 2:00- 4:30 pm : Glen Valley Horticulture farms

1. Tuesday July 3, 2012:
   1. 8-9am: The team meets with Dr. N. Tselaesele , Dr.

K. Hulela and [AEE HoD] Dr. P. Malope.

* 1. 11- 12 noon: AFAAS team meets AEE Department
  2. 2-3pm: The team meets College Management.
  3. The team meets with the PS. MoA (to be confirmed with Mrs. Molebatsi)

1. Thursday depart for Mozambique