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Dear Partner,

Re: Invitation to the FANRPAN 2008 Regional Stakeholders Policy Dialogue and Annual General Meeting

The Food Agriculture Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network (FANRPAN) is pleased to invite you to the Annual Regional Stakeholders Dialogue to be held in Lilongwe, Malawi from Tuesday, 2 September to Friday, 5 September 2008.

“Regional Strategies for Addressing the Global food Crisis” is the theme for the 2008 Regional Stakeholders Dialogue, being held in Malawi for the first time. The Policy Dialogue presents an excellent opportunity for the southern African region to celebrate Malawi’s recent successes as a food secure and grain exporting country. More than 100 delegates who will include senior officials of regional governments, representatives of regional economic organizations such as SADC and COMESA, NEPAD, donor organizations, network partners, FANRPAN Board members and country nodes representing farmers organizations, agri-business, development partner agencies and parliamentarians.

As the Dialogue formal sessions begin on Wednesday 3 September 2008, delegates are requested to plan to arrive no later than Tuesday 2 September 2008 to facilitate registration and logistics. The FANRPAN research teams and node coordinators are however expected to arrive on Monday 1 September 2008 for the research pre-session meetings that are scheduled for Tuesday 2 September.

A registration form is included with this invitation, kindly complete and return the confirmation slip to the FANRPAN Secretariat no later than 8 August 2008. The Dialogue programme is also included. Please note that sponsorship is limited and we encourage partners to seek alternative sources of funding. I look forward to welcoming you to the Dialogue in Malawi and that your participation will be a rewarding experience.

Yours sincerely,

Lindiwe Majele Sibanda (PhD)
CEO and Head of Mission