



**Trade and Development Board
Forty-seventh executive session
30 June 2009**

**Interactive discussion on African food security
"The lessons from the recent global crisis"**



Keynote speaker: **Dr. Akinwumi Adesina**
Vice President for Policy and Partnerships,
Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa

Dr. Akinwumi Adesina is Vice President (Policy and Partnerships) for the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), a bold new entity established by the Rockefeller Foundation and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation with the goal of bringing a green revolution to Africa, and lifting millions of poor farmers out of poverty and food insecurity.

Dr. Adesina won the prestigious Rockefeller Foundation Social Science Research Fellowship in 1988, which initiated his career in international agricultural development. He is a distinguished agricultural economist, with over 20 years of professional experience. He has worked in several senior research positions within the international agricultural research and development arena.

He has published over 70 articles in international journals, conference proceedings and books on issues of agricultural development in Africa and serves as reviewer for several international journals. He is currently the President of African Association of Agricultural Economists and is an Executive Board member of the International Association of Agricultural Economists.

He helped to design, inspire and galvanize support of the international community behind the landmark Africa Fertilizer Summit, where 40 heads of states agreed to solve Africa's fertilizer crisis in the drive towards an Africa green revolution.

Dr. Adesina received the **Outstanding Black Agricultural Economist Award** from the American Agricultural Economics Association in recognition of distinguished academic and management contribution to the field of agricultural economics and international agriculture. He was awarded on September 1, 2007 the prestigious **Yara Prize for African Green Revolution**, for his leadership on the green revolution for Africa, and his pioneering work with developing rural input suppliers networks that are now supplying affordable farm inputs to millions of poor farmers across Africa.

Dr Adesina has also been recently honored with the **2008 College of Agriculture Distinguished Agricultural Alumni Award** by Purdue University in USA, for his inspiring leadership in spearheading transformative change in African Agriculture.