



**EMBAIXADA DA REPÚBLICA DE ANGOLA
NA REPÚBLICA FEDERAL DA ALEMANHA**

NOTE VERBALE NR. 20/2026

The Embassy of the Republic of Angola presents its compliments to the Federal Foreign Office and all Diplomatic Missions accredited to the Federal Republic of Germany and has the honour to inform the decision of the Government of the Republic of Angola to present the candidature of H.E. Ambassador Josefa Leonel Correia Sacko for the position of Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) for the term beginning in 2027.

Ambassador Josefa Sacko is a distinguished Angolan diplomat and an experienced leader in international agricultural development. She served as Commissioner for Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy and Sustainable Environment of the African Union Commission, where she has led major continental initiatives aimed at strengthening food security, improving agricultural productivity, promoting sustainable fisheries and blue economy strategies, and advancing climate-resilient agricultural systems across Africa.

With more than three decades of experience in diplomacy, multilateral cooperation, and agricultural policy, Ambassador Sacko has built a strong record of fostering partnerships among governments, international organizations, development banks, research institutions, and the private sector.

Her leadership has consistently focused on inclusive growth, sustainable food systems, and resilience in the face of climate change and global food insecurity.

Her candidature is guided by the vision reflected in the motto: **“Transforming Global Food Systems: With Africa. For the World.”**

This vision underscores the importance of inclusive multilateral cooperation to transform agriculture and food systems globally to achieve food security.

Ambassador Sacko is committed to strengthening FAO’s capacity to support Member States in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly the eradication of hunger, the promotion of sustainable agriculture, and the resilience of rural communities.



The Government of Angola firmly believes that Ambassador Sacko's leadership, international experience, and strategic vision would greatly contribute to advancing FAO's mission and reinforcing global cooperation in addressing the pressing challenges facing food systems worldwide.

The Government of the Republic of Angola would therefore be honoured to request the valuable support for the candidature of H.E. Ambassador Josefa Leonel Correia Sacko for the position of Director-General of FAO.

The Embassy of the Republic of Angola avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Federal Foreign Office and all Diplomatic Missions accredited to the Federal Republic of Germany the assurances of its highest consideration.



Luanda, April 2, 2026

**FEDERAL MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS REPUBLIC OF GERMANY
ALL DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS ACCREDITED AND CONSULAR MISSIONS,
END OTHER INTERNACIONAL ORGANIZATIONS ACREDITED TO THE
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY.
BERLIN**



JOSEFA LEONEL CORREIA SACKO

Candidate for Director General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

Ambassador Josefa Leonel Correia Sacko is an Angolan engineer and agronomist with 35 years of experience in agriculture, rural development, environmental governance, and international cooperation. From 2017 to 2024, she served as African Union Commissioner for Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy and Sustainable Environment. During her tenure, she played a crucial role in advancing continental policies on food security, climate resilience, and sustainable development.

Before her election as AU Commissioner, Ambassador Sacko held senior leadership roles in various intergovernmental and national institutions. From 2000 to 2013, she served as the Secretary-General of the Inter-African Coffee Organization (IACO) in Abidjan, where she managed the coffee economy of 25 African producing countries and advocated for the empowerment of smallholder farmers.

During her tenure, she established Regional Centers of Excellence in Côte d'Ivoire, Uganda, Cameroon, and Zambia, improving African Coffee equality.

She later served as Special Advisor to the Minister of Environment of Angola and acted as Goodwill Ambassador for the negotiations of the Paris Agreement, participating in both COP21 (Paris, 2015) and COP22 (Marrakesh, 2016). Additionally, she advised the Minister of Agriculture on food and nutrition security and poverty reduction issues and served as the Executive Director of the Fund to Support Agrarian Development (FADA) of Angola in 2016.

Throughout her career, she has collaborated with major regional and international institutions, including the African Union (AU), World Trade

Organization (WTO), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), African Development Bank (AfDB), African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank), International Coffee Organization (ICO), United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), and AUDA-NEPAD.

Ambassador Sacko earned a bachelor's degree in Agricultural Science, specializing in Agronomy, with distinction from the University of Ife (now Obafemi Awolowo University Nigeria), in 1982, and afterwards she worked in an Angolan cooperative of agriculture production. She also holds postgraduate diplomas in Project Management, International Trade, International Relations, and Peace Keeping (Kofi Annan Institute), as well as a Master's Degree in General Management from the British Institute for Management.

.....///.....