

## 176th Session of the Council

### Written Correspondence Procedure – inputs from Members - Original version

Item 20 – Status of implementation of decisions taken at the 175th Session of the Council (Rome, 10-14 June 2024)

Member Name	Comments
Japan (Wednesday, 20 November 2024 – 11.31)	<p>Japan appreciates the FAO for sharing the status of Status of implementation of decisions taken at the 175th Session of the Council (Rome, 10-14 June 2024).</p> <p>On this agenda, Japan would like to submit the following comments;</p> <p><u>On paragraphs 16-18;</u></p> <p>Japan appreciates that FAO has repeatedly called for urgent measures to save the Gaza residents, and that it has been conducting all kinds of analyses related to food security and other issues and disseminating information about the situation in the Gaza Strip to the world.</p> <p>Japan has been providing assistance to Palestine, including the Gaza Strip, in conjunction with the FAO by providing necessary equipment and materials for agriculture and fisheries, as well as technical assistance, training and guidance to related sectors.</p> <p>Japan would like to request FAO to further monitor the impact of the situation in Gaza, including the implementation status of such ongoing assistance.</p> <p><u>On paragraphs 19-22;</u></p> <p>Japan appreciates that FAO has been conducting all kinds of analyses and report regarding the situation in Ukraine related to food security and other issues. in collaboration with the Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS) and other organizations.</p> <p>Russia's aggression against Ukraine caused a significant impact on access to food around the world especially for vulnerable populations.</p> <p>Japan has provided food assistance to Middle East and African countries and others, as well as support for the restoration of agriculture and grain exports from Ukraine, including through the FAO.</p> <p>Japan would like to request FAO to further monitor the situation of global food security affected by Russia's aggression against Ukraine.</p> <p>Japan would like to continue to strengthen its cooperation with the FAO and address the issue of global food security.</p>
European Union	<p>I have the honour of writing to you on behalf of the European Union and its 27 Member States.</p> <p>We acknowledge the comprehensive report outlining FAO's actions and ongoing efforts to address global food security challenges. We commend FAO's commitment to implementing decisions from the 175th session of the Council and</p>

<p>(Wednesday, 20 November 2024 – 16.47)</p>	<p>welcome its initiatives in key areas, such as advancing science-based standards, mainstreaming biodiversity and enhancing support for family farming.</p> <p>We support the strengthened commitment to transparency in resource allocation and we recognise the steps taken to improve clarity with regard to extrabudgetary resources, and emphasise the importance of voluntary funding to support FAO’s strategic priorities.</p> <p>The European Union and its Member States commend the progress made in providing emergency assistance to Sudan, addressing the acute food insecurity in Haiti, and supporting Ukrainian agriculture. These initiatives are crucial for mitigating the impact of crises on vulnerable populations. We also recognise the proactive approach FAO has taken in managing the ongoing food security crisis in Gaza and the occupied Palestinian territories.</p> <p>The European Union and its Member States note with appreciation FAO’s efforts to analyse, evaluate and report on the impact of Russia’s illegal and unjustified war of aggression against Ukraine on global food security and nutrition, an issue already raised under item 4.2.</p> <p>We strongly encourage FAO to continue fostering regional collaborations and enhancing its work through initiatives such as the Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP). We look forward to further updates on the development of decentralised offices, which will anchor FAO’s presence and efficacy at a regional and local level.</p> <p>We also acknowledge FAO’s dedication to organisational efficiency, in particular with regard to streamlining recruitment to improve geographical representation and gender balance.</p> <p>Finally, the EU and its Member States request that FAO maintain its efforts on the issues still ongoing from the mandate of the 175th FAO Council, so that they can be evaluated in the next cycle of meetings of the Governing Bodies in the spring of 2025.</p>
<p>Canada (Wednesday, 20 November 2024 – 16.59)</p>	<p>Canada appreciates these status updates on previous Council decisions, and has the following comments:</p> <p>Canada would like to see an additional category of “forthcoming” (or similar), to more accurately represent the implementation status of some of the decisions. In this document, Items 1 and 2 are marked as “addressed” with the indication that information <i>will be included in</i> the forthcoming PWB 2026-27, which is not yet available to Members; Item 4 follows the same pattern, but points to the PIR 2024-25. Therefore, Members are not yet able to accept that these matters have been addressed to Members’ satisfaction. This challenge persists from earlier Councils. In that light, Canada reiterates our earlier proposal, from the WCP for Council 175 Agenda Item 15: The binary status column may not provide sufficient nuance in this regard – “Complete” and “Ongoing” do not reflect all options. Consideration could be given to including an additional column such as “Completion expected by” or “To be addressed by” (tagging CL176, COFO 27, etc.), which could be more accurate and insightful for Members.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Item 4: in addition to the comment above, Item 4 is listed as “addressed” but only mentions the work on Biodiversity strategies and action plans, while Council “requested FAO to report on <i>all</i> FAO strategies, <b>including</b> on Mainstreaming Biodiversity across Agricultural Sectors, measures taken towards mainstreaming country-wise anticipatory actions, and the Vision and Strategy for FAO’s Work in Nutrition [..]” (emphasis added).</li> <li>• Item 28: when Council “encouraged Management to take into account relevant findings and recommendations [...]”, it is insufficient to provide as a status update that this item is “addressed,” saying that “All relevant findings and</li> </ul>

	<p>recommendations are being taken into consideration.” There needs to be some demonstration of how this decision is being implemented; some examples of where the relevant findings and recommendations have been taken into account.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finally, Canada re-iterates our request for additional insights on items from previous Councils which were set as “on-going” or pending further work, at the time. Expanding the scope of the document to include other remaining outstanding items from previous Sessions of Council could be beneficial (rather than limiting the scope to only the preceding Session of Council (in this case CL175)).</li> </ul>
<p>Switzerland (Wednesday, 20 November 2024 – 17.57)</p>	<p>Recommandation 5: La Suisse avec impatience de nouvelles modalités de financement flexibles, pour lesquelles ils estiment qu’il existe une grande marge d’amélioration.</p> <p>Recommandation 6: La Suisse est très intéressée par l’inclusion de niveaux de référence et de jalons pour les indicateurs dans le cadre axé sur les résultats. La Suisse estime que pour le prochain PTB, la FAO devra introduire davantage de changements pour mieux mesurer ses résultats. Comme le note le MOPAN, il faut un système de gestion axé sur les résultats qui permette à la FAO de démontrer sa propre contribution.</p>
<p>Australia (Wednesday, 20 November 2024 – 22.16)</p>	<p>Australia appreciates FAO’s work in addressing the Council’s recommendations.</p> <p>We note that a number of actions arising from the Programme Implementation Report 2022-23 remain ongoing, and we urge FAO to continue working closely with Members to progress key objectives.</p> <p>We are pleased to note that the Programme of Work and Budget for 2026-27 will address resourcing issues for the essential science – and evidence – based normative and standard setting work done by Codex Alimentarius and the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), and look forward to hearing further updates in the leadup to the 44th Session of Conference.</p> <p>We note FAO’s ongoing efforts to address instructions regarding the food security situation across key hotspots, including Ukraine, Haiti, Sudan and the Occupied Palestinian Territories, and are appreciative of further updates at this Session of Council.</p> <p>Regarding recommendation 25, we note that FAO has yet to undertake consultations with Members regarding the timing, format and modality of Regional Conferences. Noting that the first Regional Conferences begin in early 2026, just over a year away, we encourage FAO to be proactive in organising these consultations to take on board members proposals and preferences, to ensure that adequate time is allocated for finalising and agreeing on the timing, format and modality, with particular regard to not disadvantaging Members in preparing for the early Regional Conferences. We also request FAO to consider the sequencing of Regional Conferences as part of these consultations.</p> <p>We note that recommendations regarding the JIU Review of management and administration in FAO are to be addressed in CL 176/13, and look forward to a fruitful discussion.</p> <p>We are pleased that FAO has addressed recommendation 43 in providing a background paper in CL 176/INF/7, and look forward to further informal consultations on the basis of this document in line with CL175.</p>
<p>New Zealand</p>	<p>We appreciate transparency on the implementation of the Council decisions and note that several actions arising from the Programme Implementation Report 2022-23 remain ongoing, and we urge FAO to continue working closely with Members to progress key objectives.</p>

<p>(Wednesday, 20 November 2024 – 22.17)</p>	<p>We are pleased to note that the Programme of Work and Budget for 2026-27 will address resourcing issues for the normative and standard setting work of Codex Alimentarius and the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) including its ePhyto solution, and look updated progress reports on the resourcing of this work.</p> <p>Regarding recommendation 25, we note that FAO has yet to undertake consultations with Members regarding the timing, format and modality of Regional Conferences. We recommend that FAO undertake early consultations with Members to ensure that adequate time is allocated for finalising and agreeing on the timing, format and modality, with particular regard to not disadvantaging Members in preparing for the early Regional Conferences. We also request FAO to consider the sequencing of Regional Conferences as part of these consultations.</p>
<p>Norway on behalf of the Nordic countries</p> <p>(Thursday, 21 November 2024 – 17.14)</p>	<p>Recommendation 5: the Nordics look forward to seeing new flexible funding modalities, where we see a lot of room for improvement.</p> <p>Recommendation 6: the Nordics are very interested in the inclusion of baselines and milestones for indicators in the results-based framework. The Nordics believe that for the next PWB, FAO will need to introduce more changes to better measure FAOs results. As noted in MOPAN A results-based management system that allows FAO to demonstrate its own contribution is needed.</p> <p>I.e., the number of countries reached provides more information on the scope of the activities than the results, and stakeholder perception alone is not a strong result indicator and should be complemented by other indicators.</p>