



COUNCIL

Hundred and Seventy-second Session

Rome, 24-28 April 2023

Arrangements for the 43rd Session of the Conference (1-7 July 2023)

Executive summary

This document contains the Tentative Timetable for the 43rd Session of the Conference, lists the Officers of the Conference for which candidates need to be nominated, and provides information on the Round Tables that are scheduled to take place during the week of the Conference.

Suggested action by the Council

- a) Endorse the Tentative Timetable for the 43rd Session of the Conference set out in *Appendix A*;
- b) Propose candidates for the following Officers of the Conference:
 - Chairperson of the Conference
 - Chairperson of Commission I;
 - Chairperson of Commission II;
 - Three Vice-Chairpersons of the Conference;
 - Seven elected Members of the General Committee; and
 - Nine Members of the Credentials Committee; and
- c) Take note of Round Table discussions to place during the Plenary sessions of the 43rd Session of the Conference.

Queries on the substantive content of this document may be addressed to:

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I. Introduction

1. As decided by the 42nd Session of the Conference (14-18 June 2021), the 43rd Session of the Conference will be held in Rome from Saturday 1 to Friday 7 July 2023.¹ The Provisional Agenda for the Session was approved by the 171st Session of Council (5-9 December 2022).

2. This document complements the arrangements for the 43rd Session of the FAO Conference approved by the Council at its 171st Session, which are contained in C 2023/12, including the proposal that the topic for the General Debate of the Conference under item 10 “*Review of the State of Food and Agriculture*” be “*Water resources management for the four betters: better production, better nutrition, better environment and better life, to achieve Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals*”.

II. Tentative Timetable

3. The Tentative Timetable for the Conference (*Appendix A*) is submitted for consideration by the Council, and subsequent submission to the Conference for approval.

4. The General Committee of the Conference shall review the Tentative Timetable at its first meeting to be held on the first day of Conference, and make a recommendation to the Conference for its approval (Rule X.2(a-b) of the General Rules of the Organization (GRO)), it being understood that the appointment of the Director-General shall begin and be effected within three working days following the opening date of the session (Rule XXXVII.1(d) of the GRO).

5. As set out in document CL 172/12/Rev.1, *Address by Candidates for the post of Director-General*, and in line with provisions of the relevant GROs, the appointment of the Director-General by secret ballot vote is scheduled to take place on Sunday 2 July 2023. This is consistent with past practice, including at the 41st Session (June 2019), the 37th Session (June-July 2011) and the 33rd Session (November 2005), when secret ballot votes for appointment of the Director-General were held on the first Sunday of the Conference week.

6. The address by the sole candidate for the post of Director-General at the Conference has been scheduled on Saturday 1 July 2023 in the afternoon, subject to approval by the Conference.

III. Officers of the Conference

7. In keeping with the practice of regional rotation, the FAO North America Regional Group is expected to submit to the 172nd Session of the Council the name of a representative of the North America Region as Chairperson of the Conference. Furthermore, the Council is invited to take into consideration the established practice of regional rotation regarding the chairpersonship of the Commissions whereby, in this instance, the Chairperson of Commission I would be from a country that is not a member of the G77 and China, and the Chairperson of Commission II would be from a country belonging to the G77 and China.

8. In accordance with Rule XXIV-5(b) of the General Rules of the Organization, the Council is requested to nominate candidates for the following positions:

- i. Chairperson of the Conference
- ii. Chairperson of Commission I;
- iii. Chairperson of Commission II;
- iv. Three Vice-Chairpersons of the Conference;
- v. Seven elected Members of the General Committee; and
- vi. Nine members of the Credentials Committee.

9. Following past practice, the nominated members of the Credentials Committee will commence their work in the 15 days leading up to the Conference.

10. Additionally, in line with the recommendation of the 165th Session of the Council and the approval by the 42nd Session of the Conference, the nominated Members of the General Committee

¹ C 2021/REP para. 81

may meet informally ahead of the opening of the Conference session in order to undertake preparatory work, noting that such work would not constitute formal decisions of the Committee until its membership is elected by the Conference.

IV. Round Tables

11. In accordance with the decision of the 165th Session of the Council,² Round Table discussions are envisaged to take place at the 43rd Session of the Conference to foster interaction and dialogue among senior level officials in attendance.

12. The focus of the Round Table discussions will be on the General Debate topic and on matters related to the mandate of the Organization. Accordingly, panellists will be guided by a moderator and invited to take part in discussions, including in relation to *Water Resources Management for the four betters: better production, better nutrition, better environment and better life, to achieve Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals*.

13. Three Round Tables are scheduled to take place in the Plenary session, in conjunction with the General Debate under item 10 of the Provisional Agenda.

² CL 165 REP para. 33(c)

Appendix A**Provisional Timetable of the 43rd Session of the Conference****Saturday 1 July 2023****Morning (9.30-12.30) – Plenary (Plenary Hall)**

- Item 1** Election of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons
- Item 2** Appointment of the General Committee and Credentials Committee
- Item 31** Any Other Matters
 - 31.1** McDougall Memorial Lecture

(First Meeting of the General Committee)**Afternoon (14.30) – Plenary (Plenary Hall)**

- Item 3** Adoption of the Agenda and Arrangements for the Session
- Item 4** Admission of Observers
- Item 5** Applications for Membership in the Organization (Vote)
- Item 6** Appointment of the Director-General (Address by candidates for the post of Director-General)

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- Item 5** Applications for Membership in the Organization (Admission Ceremony)

Sunday 2 July 2023**Morning (10.30) – Plenary (Plenary Hall)**

- Item 6** Appointment of the Director-General (cont'd) (Vote)

Monday 3 July 2023

	Plenary (Plenary Hall)	Commission I (Green Room)	Commission II (Red Room)
09.00-12.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director-General's Statement • Independent Chairperson of the Council's Statement <p>Roundtable 1</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>10.00-12.30</u></p> <p>Item 11: Regional and Global Policy and Regulatory matters arising from:</p> <p>11.1: Report of the 32nd Session of the Regional Conference for Africa (Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, 11-14 April 2022)</p> <p>11.2: Report of the 36th Session of the Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific (Dhaka, Bangladesh, 8-11 March 2022)</p> <p>11.3: Report of the 33rd Session of the Regional Conference for Europe (Łódź, Poland, 10-13 May 2022)</p> <p>11.4: Report of the 37th Session of the Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean (Quito, Ecuador, 28 March-1 April 2022)</p> <p>11.5: Report of the 36th Session of the Regional Conference for the Near East (Baghdad, Iraq, Senior Officers Meeting 10- 13 January 2022 and Ministerial Meeting 7-8 February 2022)</p> <p>11.6: Report of the Seventh Informal Regional Conference for North America (United States of America, 12-14 April 2022)</p>	
14.00-16.30	Item 10: Review of the State of Food and Agriculture		Item 20: Medium Term Plan 2022-25 (Reviewed) and Programme of Work and Budget 2024-25 (Draft Resolution on budget level)
17.00-19.30	Item 10 (cont'd): Review of the State of Food and Agriculture	<p>Item 12: Global Policy and Regulatory matters arising from:</p> <p>12.1: Report of the 28th Session of the Committee on Agriculture (18-22 July 2022)</p> <p>12.2: Report of the 75th Session of the Committee on Commodity Problems (13-15 July 2022)</p>	

Tuesday 4 July 2023

	Plenary (Plenary Hall)	Commission I (Green Room)	Commission II (Red Room)
09.30-12.00	Roundtable 2		Item 20 (cont'd): Medium Term Plan 2022-25 (Reviewed) and Programme of Work and Budget 2024-25 (Draft Resolution on budget level)
14.00-16.30	Item 10: Review of the State of Food and Agriculture	<p>Item 12 (cont'd): Global Policy and Regulatory matters arising from:</p> <p>12.3: Report of the 35th Session of the Committee on Fisheries (5-9 September 2022)</p> <p>12.4: Report of the 26th Session of the Committee on Forestry (3-7 October 2022)</p> <p>Item 13: Reports of the 48th (Special) (4 June 2021), 49th (11-14 October 2021) and 50th (10-13 October and 19 December 2022) Sessions of the Committee on World Food Security</p>	
17.00-19.30	Item 10 (cont'd): Review of the State of Food and Agriculture		<p><i>Written Correspondence Procedure – draft conclusions only</i></p> <p>Item 18: Programme Implementation Report 2020-21</p> <p>Item 19: Programme Evaluation Report 2023</p>

Wednesday 5 July 2023

	Plenary (Plenary Hall)	Commission I (Green Room)	Commission II (Red Room)
09.30-12.00	Roundtable 3	<p><i>Written Correspondence Procedure – draft conclusions only</i></p> <p>Item 16: United Nations/FAO World Food Programme</p> <p>Item 14: Progress report on the Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review of Operational Activities for Development of the United Nations System</p> <p>Item 15: International Years and Days:</p> <p> 15.1: Evaluation of the International Year of Plant Health 2020</p> <p> 15.2: Evaluation of the International Year of Fruit and Vegetables 2021</p> <p> 15.3: Evaluation of the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture 2022</p> <p> 15.4: Proposal for an International Day of the Potato</p> <p>Item 17: Biennial Theme 2024-25</p>	
14.00-16.30	Item 10: Review of the State of Food and Agriculture	<i>(Drafting Committee Commission I)</i>	<i>(Drafting Committee Commission II)</i>
17.00-19.30	Item 10 (cont'd): Review of the State of Food and Agriculture	<i>(Drafting Committee Commission I)</i>	<i>(Drafting Committee Commission II)</i>

Thursday 6 July 2023

	Plenary (Plenary Hall)	Commission I (Green Room)	Commission II (Red Room)
9.30-12.00	<p>Item 21: Draft Code of Conduct for Voting Procedures under Rule XII of the General Rules of the Organization</p> <p>Item 22: Technical Cooperation Programme's resource allocation shares (Draft Resolution)</p> <p>Item 23: Guidelines for the participation of the private sector as observers in FAO Governing Body Sessions (Draft Resolution)</p> <p>Item 24: Restoration by the Conference of the voting rights of Member Nations in arrears in the payment of their financial contributions to the Organization (Draft Resolution)</p> <p>Item 25: Other Constitutional and Legal Matters</p>		
14.00-16.30	<p>Item 26: Audited Accounts 2020 and 2021 (Draft Resolutions)</p> <p>Item 27: Scale of Contributions 2024-25 (Draft Resolution)</p> <p>Item 28: Payment by the European Union to cover administrative and other expenses arising out of its Membership in the Organization</p> <p>Item 29: Other Administrative and Financial Matters</p> <p>Item 9: Appointment of Representatives of the FAO Conference to the Staff Pension Committee</p> <p>Item 31: Any Other Matters 31.2: In Memoriam</p> <p>Item 30: Date and Place of the 44th Session of the Conference</p>	Adoption of the Report of Commission I (time to be announced)	Adoption of the Report of Commission II (time to be announced)
17.00-20.00	<p>Item 20 (part of): Adoption of the Draft Resolution on Budgetary Appropriations 2024-25 (vote)</p> <p>Item 7: Appointment of the Independent Chairperson of the Council</p> <p>Item 8: Election of Council Members</p>		

Friday 7 July 2023**Time to be announced (Plenary Hall)**

Adoption of the Report of:

- Commission I
- Commission II
- Plenary