

175th Session of the Council

Written Correspondence Procedure – inputs from Members - Original version

Item 17 – Calendar of FAO, IFAD and WFP Governing Bodies 2024-2025

Member Name	Comments
New Zealand (Friday, 24 May 2024 – 14.41)	[New Zealand] notes the updated calendar of dates for 2024/2025 and seeks clarification of the dates for the 178th session of the FAO Council?
Australia (Tuesday, 28 May 2024 – 22.14)	<p>Australia appreciates visibility of the calendar of Rome-based Agency Governing Bodies and other main sessions for the rest of the 2024-25 biennium.</p> <p>We note that several meetings are scheduled back-to-back, (for example, the World Food Forum and Committee on World Food Security and CCLM in October 2024) which may make it challenging to have time to fulsomely prepare for engagement and discussion at all meetings.</p> <p>We also note that the calendar does not include the many other conferences and events organised by FAO, for which we are often only provided very short notice. We would appreciate more notice of these events, in particular to coordinate attendance and representation between Capital, the Southwest Pacific region and our Permanent Representation.</p> <p>Finally, looking forward to 2026 when the Regional Conferences will next be scheduled, Australia requests early and iterative consultation with Regional Groups (through the regional chairs and co-chairs) on the proposed timing of Regional Conferences in 2026, before dates are published.</p> <p>Noting that a number of Members in the Asia and the Pacific region have summer holidays in January (similar to the August period in Rome), and a number of Members celebrate the lunar new year in February, there may be value in reconsidering the order of the regional conferences to have (APRC) occur later in the calendar to facilitate effective preparation and participation.</p>