

## 177th Session of the FAO Council

### **Item 8: Report of the Joint Meeting of the 140th Session of the Programme Committee and 203rd Session of the Finance Committee (Rome, March 2025)**

Chairperson, Members of the Council,

I am pleased to present the Report of the Joint Meeting of the 140th Session of the Programme Committee and 203rd Session of the Finance Committee. This Report is submitted to the Council in document CL 177/8.

I would like to highlight the following matters your attention, recognizing that three items – the *Reviewed Strategic Framework 2022-31*, the *Medium Term Plan 2026-29 and Programme of Work and Budget 2026-27* and *FAO emergency interventions in crisis settings* – will be reviewed by the Council as standalone items.

Regarding to the *Reviewed Strategic Framework 2022-31*, the Joint Meeting appreciated that it provides agility and flexibility to adapt and respond to current and future global challenges; and requested Management to provide updates within the existing reporting mechanisms, in particular about the impact uncertainties in achieving the envisaged outcomes.

Regarding, the *Medium Term Plan 2026-29 and Programme of Work and Budget 2026-27*, the Joint Meeting appreciated Management's efforts to continue to deliver the Programme of Work in the context of increasing needs and unprecedented challenges, welcomed the increased allocations to support the work of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) and the Codex Alimentarius Commission and re-emphasized the critical importance of the Technical Cooperation Programme for delivering FAO's mandate on the ground.

Regarding the *FAO emergency interventions in crisis settings*, the Joint Meeting appreciated the effectiveness and impact of FAO's emergency and resilience programmes, highlighted the need for increased investments, and appreciated and encouraged FAO's continued and stronger collaboration with relevant stakeholders, and encouraged FAO to strengthen communication and build strong narratives to secure sustained commitment from the international community for FAO's capacity to address food crises.

The Joint Meeting appreciated the *Update on the World Food Forum* in 2024, and looked forward to further updates on the planning of the 2025 edition.

The Joint Meeting welcomed the *Update on the Global Working Conference of FAO Representatives* and Management's effort deployed to make sure that FAO Representatives have the tools and frameworks they need to overcome constantly evolving challenges, in particular when it comes to the transformation of agrifood systems.

Finally, the Joint Meeting welcomed the *Update on the Transparency Portal* and commended Management for launching the Transparency Portal and Project Dashboard.

Dear Members of the Council, I would like to invite you to review the full *Report of the Joint Meeting of the 140th Session of the Programme Committee and 203rd Session of the Finance Committee*. For your convenience, this report includes an executive summary and suggested action.

I am pleased to provide any further explanations you may have regarding this Report.

*Mr Mina Rizk, Chairperson of the Joint Meeting of the 140th Session of the Programme Committee and 203rd Session of the Finance Committee.*