



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

COUNCIL SIDE EVENT LAUNCH OF THE GLOBAL ACTION FOR FALL ARMYWORM CONTROL

Wednesday, 4 December 2019

14:30 - 16:00

Sheikh Zayed Centre

A threat to Food Security and the Environment

The Fall Armyworm (FAW), an insect pest native to the Americas, was first detected in West and Central Africa in early 2016 and has quickly spread across virtually all of Sub-Saharan Africa. This pest causes considerable yield losses in cultivated maize and in 80 other crops, including rice, sorghum, millet, sugarcane, vegetable crops and cotton.

FAW has already arrived in the Near East and Asia, and is likely to continue to spread, threatening food and nutrition security and the livelihoods of hundreds of millions of smallholders. Only for 12 African countries, it is estimated that FAW causes losses of up to 17.7 million tonnes of maize annually, which could feed tens of millions of people.

A Global Action to respond to a Global Threat

FAO's response is a three-year Global Action programme for FAW control (FAW-GA 2020-2022). The ultimate goal is to reduce harmful effects on agriculture production by a massive effort to scale up

FAW programmes and activities to reach hundreds of millions of affected farmers in the affected regions.

The three key objectives are:

- Establish a global coordination and regional collaboration on monitoring, early warning, and Integrated Pest Management of FAW.
- Reduce crop yield losses caused by FAW.
- Lower the risk of further spread of FAW to new areas.

A total budget of USD 500 million needs to be mobilized to implement the Global Action in a coordinated and harmonized manner in Africa, the Near East and Asia-Pacific with a focus on the countries of the Hand-in-Hand Initiative.

A **Global Steering Committee** chaired by the FAO Director-General and a **Technical Committee** will constitute the main bodies for the overall supervision of the Global Action and its impact at country level.

The Director of the Plant Production and Protection Division will be responsible for day-to-day implementation, coordination and monitoring of the Global Action.



SIDE EVENT OBJECTIVES

It will present the FAO Global Action for Fall Armyworm Control and its potential impact at economic, social and environmental levels, including reduction of economic losses, improvement of smallholders' livelihoods in terms of income capacity, health, conserved

biodiversity, reduced ecological pollution, and increased resilience to climate change impact. The side event has the overall objective of raising awareness on the Fall Armyworm global threat to food security. It will offer the opportunity to seek interest and support of the Member Countries.

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Launch of the Global Action for Fall Armyworm Control
Wednesday, 4 December, from 14.30 to 16.00, Sheikh Zayed Centre

Moderator: Mr Hans Dreyer, Director, Plant Production and Protection Division

TIME	ITEM	SPEAKER
14:30 - 14:35	Video	
14:35 - 14:45	Opening Remarks and Launch of FAW Global Action	Mr Qu Dongyu Director-General, FAO
14:45 - 15:00	Key elements of the Global Action for Fall Armyworm Control	Ms Elisabetta Tagliati Chief Technical Adviser, Plant Production and Protection Division Mr Jingyuan Xia Secretary, Secretariat of the International Plant Protection Convention
15:00 - 15:50	Special Remarks	H.E. Gilberto Silva Minister of Agriculture and Environment, Cabo Verde
		H.E. Rodolfo V. Vicerra Undersecretary, Ministry of Agriculture, The Philippines
		H.E. Mohammad Hossein Emadi Ambassador, Permanent Representative to FAO, Islamic Republic of Iran, and Chair COAG
		Mr Robert Bertram Chief Scientist, USAID
		H.E. Aslak Brun Ambassador and Permanent Representative to FAO, Norway
15:50 - 16:00	Closing Remarks	Mr Qu Dongyu Director-General, FAO

A light lunch will be offered at 14:00 by Arbre de la Vie

CONTACT US

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MORE INFORMATION

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