

**165th Session of the Council - written Correspondence Procedure**

**Item 7.3: Report of the 32nd Session of the Regional Conference for Europe**

**Secretariat response to written questions from the Council**

FAO expresses appreciation for the submission of comments by Members.

FAO notes the strong support for continuing to promote the transformation of food systems to build resilient and sustainable food systems, giving emphasis to youth and women to maximize, with their potential, the importance given to rural development and innovation, the opportunities presented by digitalization, and the protection of the environment and natural resources, through nature based solutions, Agroecology and food loss and waste prevention. FAO supports the need to strengthen research, development and innovation and ensuring all contributing to the food system have access to the information and skills needed.

FAO will continue to promote the One Health approach as an integral element of the transformation process, recognizing that health, ecosystems, food supply chains and consumption patterns are all inter-linked. As stated by many, the Covid-19 pandemic has only served to reaffirm the importance of the One Health approach. FAO is committed to supporting countries to fight the threat of Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR), and together with our Tripartite partners, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), FAO encourages governments to phase out the use of antibiotics as growth promoters in animals.

The procedural suggestion for report adoption of the Regional Conference for Europe to align with the method of the FAO Council and other Governing Bodies is noted, and can be followed in the future.

Finally, FAO appreciates the contribution from Members to the upcoming UN Food Systems Summit, and is fully committed to an open and participatory dialogue and information exchange with all stakeholders, during preparation, implementation and follow up to the Summit.