

172nd Session of the Council

Written Correspondence Procedure – inputs from Members - Original version

Item 18 – Status of implementation of decisions taken at the 171st Session of the Council

Member Name	Comments
Argentina (Wednesday, 29 March 2023 – 12.39)	<p>En el marco del procedimiento de comentarios escritos, establecido para abordar temas específicos de la agenda del 172º período de sesiones del Consejo de FAO, la Representación de la República Argentina tiene a bien compartir los siguientes elementos:</p> <p>En el documento CL 172/LIM/3 se enumeran las decisiones adoptadas en su 171º período de sesiones, junto con una referencia a los párrafos pertinentes y el estado de aplicación de cada decisión. Es vital que se tome en cuenta esta información y se actúe en consecuencia para asegurar que las medidas propuestas se implementen de manera adecuada y efectiva.</p> <p>Sin embargo, es importante señalar que la falta de rigor en el seguimiento de las decisiones anteriores al 171º por parte de la Administración de FAO es un tema que debe ser tomado en cuenta. Como organización de los miembros, es esencial que se lleve a cabo un seguimiento riguroso de las decisiones tomadas en el pasado, y no solo en el último Consejo, para asegurar su implementación adecuada en el futuro y mayor eficiencia en los debates. A modo de ejemplo, la Argentina destaca la omisión de parte de la FAO del documento C2021/LIM/4 en el que se saldaron entre los miembros los conceptos no acordados multilateralmente y su uso en los documentos programáticos de la FAO, más allá del Marco Estratégico, conforme los lineamientos del propio Consejo.</p> <p>La Argentina reitera su más enérgica solicitud a que la Administración de la FAO actúe conforme el documento C2021/LIM/4, conforme lo acordado por la Conferencia.</p> <p>En resumen, es crucial que la Administración de FAO tome en cuenta la importancia de seguir rigurosamente las decisiones anteriores y su implementación, ya que esto es fundamental para el éxito de la organización y para el beneficio de todos sus miembros.</p>
Russian Federation (Thursday, 30 March 2023 – 9.31)	<p>The Russian Federation takes note of the presented comments of the Secretariat to the decisions taken at the 171st Session of the Council. However, we reserve the right to make any additional comments and proposals during the session if needed.</p>
United States of America	<p>The United States supports FAO’s continued work and analysis documenting the global food security impacts of Russia’s war against Ukraine, including its use of polling and the Food Insecurity Experience Scale to assess food insecurity at the regional, national, and sub-national levels.</p> <p>The United States also appreciates FAO’s recent publications and analysis requested by Council about the damage to</p>

<p>(Friday, 31 March 2023 – 16.53)</p>	<p>Ukraine’s agricultural sector and needs for rehabilitation and reconstruction, and its recently web-posted update of the Ukraine Response Plan and priorities for 2023.</p> <p>We commend the Organization’s collaboration with the International Monetary Fund on the launch and implementation of the Food Shock Window, and appreciate the update provided about initial disbursements to import-dependent countries.</p> <p>The United States encourages FAO to continue updating its publications and analysis, following from the conclusions and decisions of Councils 169, 170 and 171.</p> <p>The United States appreciates FAO’s support to the sustainment and extension of the Black Sea Grain Initiative and welcomes further updates to Members about its technical support to this essential initiative.</p> <p>We appreciate FAO’s update and management’s publication of all current Country Programming Frameworks (CPFs) on the Members Gateway, with status updates about those under negotiation. The need for Members to understand FAO’s country-level efforts and impact has never been more critical as the world continues to grapple with a global food crisis. Publication of CPFs was an important step forward by FAO in building a culture of transparency. We encourage continued proactive discussions with Members about the development, approval and review processes for CPFs, including how they are funded, as well as opportunities for donors to create synergy and complement FAO’s work at country level.</p> <p>With regard to the Action Plan development for FAO’s Science and Innovation, and Climate Change Strategies, the United States reiterates its request that FAO solicit North America Regional Group input at every stage of the development of these Action Plans as a matter of standard practice, consulting with the informal regional group to the same extent as with other regional groups. North America has significant expertise, innovation experience, and private sector investment to potentially leverage with FAO in the implementation of these strategies, and the region welcomes the opportunity to participate in the Action Plans’ development.</p> <p>Finally, with regard to the development of temporary proxy indicators for Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicator 2.4.1, the United States underlines Management’s commitment to convene an informal briefing with Members in 2023 and additional consultations in this regard prior to further implementation of the proxy measures, as agreed at the 135th Programme Committee, and looks forward to these discussions.</p>
<p>European Union (Wednesday, 5 April 2023 – 18.39)</p>	<p>I have the honour to write to you on behalf of the European Union and its 27 Member States.</p> <p>We thank FAO for updating Members on the status of implementation of the decisions taken at the 171st Session of the Council.</p> <p>The European Union and its Member States note with appreciation FAO’s efforts to evaluate the impact of Russia’s war of aggression against Ukraine on global food security, especially in vulnerable countries.</p> <p>We would emphasise the urgent need to implement the Ukraine Rapid Response Plan in an effective way as soon as possible, once the assessment of the needs is completed. It is especially important to provide support and help to rural household in all front-line oblasts, coastal territories and other heavily impacted rural areas. Furthermore, we encourage FAO to maintain efforts to update the estimates of the needs of the Ukrainian agricultural sector, for both reconstruction and recovery, in close collaboration with relevant UN agencies.</p>

	<p>We reiterate the need to maintain the political and technical support for the Black Sea Grain Initiative, noting its importance to ensuring availability of and access to food for countries in all regions, especially for the most vulnerable populations.</p> <p>We note FAO’s efforts in providing up-to-date and objective data and information, market assessments and outlooks in the context of the work under the Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS), as an essential pillar for informed policy decisions and the coordination of policy responses.</p> <p>We commend the launching of the Food Shock Window by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), and we appreciate FAO’s efforts in highlighting the food import costs and their effects on the affordability for lower and lower-middle-income countries, as well as for vulnerable households.</p> <p>We commend FAO for having established the Country Programming Framework Repository, accessible from the FAO Members Gateway.</p> <p>We commend FAO’s efforts to finalise the Action Plans for the Science and Innovation Strategy, and for the Climate Change Strategy in good time with a view to their prompt implementation.</p> <p>Finally, we request FAO keep up its efforts on the issues still ongoing from the mandate of the 171st FAO Council, so that they can be evaluated in the next cycle of Governing Bodies meetings in the autumn of 2023.</p>
<p>Japan (Wednesday, 12 April 2023 – 4.39)</p>	<p><u>Decision 1</u> Regarding the Black Sea Grain Initiative (BSGI), we appreciate UN’s leadership and efforts to realize and maintain it. Japan considers it crucially important to effectively and continuously implement this initiative. We understand FAO support is in political and technical aspects. Therefore, we expect FAO to provide the update information to Members regularly, in particular, we would like to ask FAO about the view for Russia’s claim that the extension renewed on March 18 is only for 60 days.</p> <p><u>Decision 4</u> For the continuation and strengthening of efforts to support the information based decision-making and the promotion of policy coordination. Japan has been giving priority to further utilization and enhancement of neutral and objective statistical information that are provided by FAO and other international organizations in order to ensure global food security and build more resilient, sustainable and inclusive food systems.</p> <p>In this regard, Japan expects FAO to play a major role in further strengthening the transparency of agricultural markets through platforms such as the Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS) and in collecting timely and appropriate data from each country.</p> <p><u>Decision 5</u> We would request FAO to open with Members the updated working schedule of assessments on distributions, benefits, trade-offs and risks of plastics for agricultural use and the alternatives as well as development of a Voluntary Code of Conduct on the sustainable use of plastics in agriculture, based on the current progress statuses of the relevant activities.</p> <p><u>Decision 9</u> Regarding proxy Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicators utilized by FAO, we will ask FAO when an informal consultation with Members will be organized as recommended at the 171st plenary session. We will request FAO to</p>

provide background documents such as information note in advance as early as possible because it is important for the Members to have time enough, at least two months, to prepare for consultation on the proxy indicators. We also encourage FAO leaderships to be proactively engaged in the 2025 Comprehensive Review of the SDG indicator framework and provide the Members with necessary information ahead of relevant deliberation and decision makings.

Decision 10

Regarding continuity of consultation to form consensus on the Code of Conduct for voting, Japan expects the FAO Secretariat to administrate elections based on their mandates including the upcoming election of the Director-General at the 43rd FAO Conference in July, in an appropriate manner in accordance with the Code of Conduct that is agreed by Members and FAO regulations.

Decision 13

Regarding the next project budget plan and mid-term plan, we hope to further contribute to ensuring global food security by collaboration and cooperation with FAO and Members. Japan in collaboration with FAO has been already providing assistance to Ukraine and its neighbouring countries as well as Africa and the Middle East since recognizing food security as a crucial topic under the Japan's G7 presidency this year.