

170th Session of the Council

Item 4: FAO thematic Strategy on Climate Change

The Programme Committee, at its 127th Session in November 2019, commissioned an Evaluation of FAO's contribution to Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 13 on climate action, including an assessment of the implementation of the FAO Strategy on Climate Change adopted in 2017. The Evaluation report - together with its management response - were presented for discussion to the 130th Session of the Programme Committee in March 2021 and to the 166th Session of the Council in April 2021.

A key **recommendation** (Recommendation 2) of the Evaluation report urges FAO to formulate a new Strategy on Climate Change to improve its contribution to SDG 13. In April 2021, the **166th Council** Session requested “regular updates to be provided to the Governing Bodies” and “inclusive consultations ahead of the 168th Session of the Council to start the development of the new FAO Strategy on Climate Change”. In June 2021, the FAO Conference at its 42nd Session, requested full implementation of the recommendation of the 166th Session of the Council relating to the FAO Strategy on Climate Change. Following those requests, an [update on the development of the new Strategy on Climate Change](#) was presented for the consideration of the 132nd Session of the Programme Committee (8-12 November 2021), and of the 168th Session of the Council (29 November-3 December 2021). In its conclusions, the 166th Council “supported the outline and roadmap of the new FAO Strategy on Climate Change, and looked forward to continuing the inclusive process with Members on the development of this thematic strategy”.

The new FAO Strategy on Climate Change was prepared through a highly transparent, inclusive and consultative process. A series of internal and external consultations with FAO technical experts, senior management, FAO Members and partners were conducted throughout the process. In particular, consultations were conducted virtually by FAO Regional Offices, involving FAO Decentralized Offices and external regional partners in January and February 2022. Regular informal consultations were held with FAO members and Regional Groups. Additionally, the Review Task Force (FAO experts across divisions) and the Advisory Board, comprising FAO Senior Management, provided technical and high-level inputs, respectively. All the contributions received during the consultation process informed the drafting of the new Strategy on Climate Change.

The Council document CL 170/4, *FAO Strategy on Climate Change 2022-2031*, presents the FAO new Strategy on Climate Change for 2022-2031. The Strategy will focus on FAO's climate action under three pillars (global and regional levels, country level, and local level) and will guide FAO in providing strengthened support to countries in their ambitions to address climate change in agrifood systems. The Strategy is informed by science, prioritizes innovative solutions and inclusiveness, and is aligned with the Agenda 2030, the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31, as well as other FAO thematic Strategies. The Strategy on Climate Change will, subject to its endorsement, be complemented by an Action Plan to be developed in collaboration with all FAO units.

The 170th Session of the Council is invited to endorse the FAO Strategy on Climate Change 2022-2031, following review by the 133rd Session of the Programme Committee.

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