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Продовольственная и
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CONFERENCE

Forty-fourth Session

Rome, 28 June - 4 July 2025

Report of the 29th Session of the Committee on Agriculture (Rome, 30 September – 4 October 2024)

Executive Summary

The 29th Session of the Committee on Agriculture brings to the attention of the Council and the Conference its findings and recommendations.

Matters requiring the attention of the Council

The Council is invited to endorse the findings and recommendations of the Committee on Agriculture, and attention is drawn in particular to:

- *Report of the Second Session of the COAG Sub-Committee on Livestock*, paragraph 8.
- *Scaling up One Health through an integrated approach for food chain crisis management, agrifood systems and ecosystem health*, paragraph 9 b)-h).
- *Scaling up actions on agriculture and forestry linkages*, paragraph 10 c)-f).
- *FAO's role in improving the uptake and the scaling-up of technologies and innovations, for agrifood systems transformation*, paragraph 11 c)-d).
- *Emerging issues from FAO's report on the Status of Women in Agrifood Systems (SWAF)*, paragraph 12 b)-d).
- *The potential of neglected and underutilized species (NUS) and crop adaptation to climate change*, paragraph 13 c)-d), g)-h), and j).
- *Updating the FAO/WHO International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management*, paragraph 14 c)-e).
- *FAO's Work in Nutrition*, paragraph 15 b)-c).
- *FAO's work on the use and management of plastics in agriculture and the Voluntary Code of Conduct on the sustainable use and management of plastics in agriculture*, paragraph 16 a)-c).
- *Integrated water resources management and governance of tenure of water resources for food and agriculture*, paragraph 17 b), d)-e) and g)-h).
- *Bioeconomy for sustainable food and agriculture*, paragraph 18 c)-g).
- *FAO's work on the climate change, biodiversity, and food security nexus, with a focus on scaling up agrifood systems solutions for more sustainable and inclusive development*, paragraph 19 b)-e).
- *Report of the Global Soil Partnership (GSP)*, paragraph 20 b)-f).

Documents can be consulted at www.fao.org

- *Update on the Guidelines for Integrated Land Use Planning*, paragraph 21 b).
- *FAO's Programme of Work in the Agrifood Sectors under the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31*, paragraph 22 a)-d).
- *Implementation of the recommendations of the 28th Session of the Committee*, paragraph 23 a).
- *Multi-Year Programme of Work of the Committee (MYPOW)*, paragraph 24 b).
- *Proposal for an International Day of Milk*, paragraph 25 d)-e).
- *Proposal for an International Day of Fruits and Vegetables*, paragraph 26 d)-e).

Matters requiring the attention of the Conference

The Conference is invited to endorse the findings and recommendations of the Committee on Agriculture and attention is drawn in particular to:

- *Scaling up One Health through an integrated approach for food chain crisis management, agrifood systems and ecosystem health*, paragraph 9 b)-h).
- *Scaling up actions on agriculture and forestry linkages*, paragraph 10 c)-f).
- *Emerging issues from FAO's report on the Status of Women in Agrifood Systems (SWAF)*, paragraph 12 b)-c).
- *The potential of neglected and underutilized species (NUS) and crop adaptation to climate change*, paragraph 13 c)-d), g)-h), and j).
- *Updating the FAO/WHO International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management*, paragraph 14 b)-c).
- *FAO's Work in Nutrition*, paragraph 15 b)-c).
- *FAO's work on the use and management of plastics in agriculture and the Voluntary Code of Conduct on the sustainable use and management of plastics in agriculture*, paragraph 16.
- *Integrated water resources management and governance of tenure of water resources for food and agriculture*, paragraph 17 b), d)-e) and g).
- *Bioeconomy for sustainable food and agriculture*, paragraph 18 c), e)-g).
- *FAO's work on the climate change, biodiversity, and food security nexus, with a focus on scaling up agrifood systems solutions for more sustainable and inclusive development*, paragraph 19 b)-d).
- *Proposal for an International Day of Milk*, paragraph 25 d)-e).
- *Proposal for an International Day of Fruits and Vegetables*, paragraph 26 d)-e).

Suggested action by Council and Conference

The Council and Conference are invited to endorse the Report of the 29th Session of the Committee on Agriculture.

Queries on the substantive content of this document may be addressed to:

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I. Introduction

1. The Committee on Agriculture (COAG) held its 29th Session from 30 September to 4 October 2024. Of the 136 Members of the Committee, 112 registered their delegations for the Session, including one Minister and two Vice Ministers. Four Members of the Organization, the Holy See, the Sovereign Order of Malta, and Palestine, four United Nations (UN) agencies, four intergovernmental organizations and 14 non-governmental organizations participated as observers. The list of participants is available at <https://www.fao.org/governing-bodies/technical-committees/committee-on-agriculture/coag-2024/en>.
2. Ms Julie Émond (Canada), Chairperson of the 29th Session of COAG, opened the Session.
3. Dr QU Dongyu, the Director-General of FAO, addressed the Committee.
4. The Committee was informed that the European Union was participating in accordance with paragraphs 8 and 9 of Article II of the FAO Constitution.
5. The Committee adopted the Agenda and Timetable of the Session. The Committee was convened in a hybrid format, following the endorsement of its working methods as outlined in document COAG/2024/INF/1 Rev.1 *Provisional Timetable* and its Annex *Note on the working methods of the Committee on Agriculture*.
6. The Agenda is reproduced in Appendix B.
7. The Committee was assisted by a Drafting Committee composed of Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, India, Iraq, Japan, New Zealand, Portugal, the Russian Federation¹ and Zambia.

II. Sustainable Food and Agriculture

2.1 *Report of the Second Session of the COAG Sub-Committee on Livestock*

8. The Committee:
 - a. commended the work of the Sub-Committee on Livestock and its successful Second Session, and endorsed the Report of the Second Session of the COAG Sub-Committee on Livestock and the recommendations therein;² and
 - b. recommended FAO to explore sustainable funding solutions for the Sub-Committee through the FAO Regular Programme budget so it can continue to deliver on its mandate.

2.2 *Scaling up One Health through an integrated approach for food chain crisis management, agrifood systems and ecosystem health*

9. The Committee:
 - a. welcomed the progress made towards a holistic application of the One Health approach across production sectors in FAO's 'One Health' Priority Programme Area (PPA);
 - b. recommended FAO to accelerate its support to Members, upon request, through the development, in consultation with Members, and implementation of a *Policy Framework on*

¹ Australia, Canada, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, European Union and its Member States, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Ukraine chose to disassociate themselves from the nomination of the Russian Federation as member of the Drafting Committee, while the Russian Federation chose to disassociate itself from the nominations of Australia, Belgium, Canada, Japan, New Zealand and Portugal that disassociated themselves from the nomination of the Russian Federation to the Drafting Committee.

² Australia, Brazil, Canada, and the United States of America disassociated themselves from paragraph 16 (a) of the Report of the Second Session of the COAG Sub-Committee on Livestock.

One Health in Agrifood Systems for Global Health and Food Security, including through mobilization of financial resources, as appropriate;

- c. recommended FAO to strengthen and scale up the implementation of the One Health approach in a coordinated manner among its technical units, Decentralized Offices network and relevant partners to reduce productivity losses and promote global health, and encouraged FAO to allocate adequate resources in support of the Technical Cooperation Programme for developing countries;
- d. recommended FAO, within its mandate, to strengthen Members' capacities, upon request, including on investment leverage, through a more integrated service offer, building on the successes and lessons from the FAO Emergency Prevention System (EMPRES), that coordinates and transcends sector-specific approaches and interventions on the upstream prevention and the sound management of biological and non-biological drivers of agrifood systems' risks through promoting context-specific and science-based good practices by leveraging the One Health Knowledge Nexus and the One Health Knowledge and Intelligence Hub;
- e. recommended FAO to promote a Multi-Hazard Early Warning System (MHEWS) and support Members, upon request, to integrate hazards to the agrifood systems in their national early warning systems using the Quadripartite One Health Intelligence System (OHIS); welcomed the launch of the 'Quadripartite One Health Joint Plan of Action'; and encouraged FAO, in cooperation with its partners, to support Members, upon their request, in the development of their national policies on One Health adapted to their contexts and advocate for investment in strengthening national One Health capabilities;
- f. requested that FAO works to strengthen the collaboration and partnership of the Quadripartite on One Health in line with the mandate of each organization, as well as, where relevant, through adopting a consultative and participatory process to accommodate the perspectives, priorities and context of Members;
- g. decided to set up an open-ended Working Group, chaired by the Co-Chairs of the FAO Group of Friends of Tackling Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)³ and supported by the FAO Animal Production and Health Division (NSA), to draft a Conference Resolution addressing the support FAO should provide to Members on AMR, building on Members' commitments made in the 2nd Political Declaration on AMR to be endorsed at the 79th Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), within FAO's mandate. The Resolution will be presented to the 44th FAO Conference; and
- h. called for FAO to further support the AMR Multi-Stakeholder Partnership Platform and took into account the role of FAO's Reduce the Need for Antimicrobials on Farms for Sustainable Agrifood Systems Transformation (RENOFARM) initiative and the International FAO Antimicrobial Resistance Monitoring (InFARM) system, and encouraged Members able to do so to contribute to the AMR Multi-Partner Trust Fund.

2.3 *Scaling up actions on agriculture and forestry linkages*

10. The Committee acknowledged the collaboration between the Committee on Forestry (COFO) and the Committee on Agriculture (COAG), and:

³ Kenya and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

- a. took note of the Working Group created internally within FAO between the Forestry Division and the Plant Production and Protection Division (NSP), and looked forward to receiving updates on the implementation of their 2024-2025 joint work plan in the appropriate Governing Bodies sessions;
- b. encouraged Members to strengthen cross-sectoral collaboration and promote policies, strategies and programmes to strengthen food security, agriculture and forestry linkages in landscape management and throughout relevant value chains, to mitigate deforestation and biodiversity loss, to not create unnecessary barriers to trade consistent with relevant provisions of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and to benefit the situation of small-scale producers who are key for global food production;
- c. recommended FAO to support Members, upon request, to improve their capacity, including through the voluntary sharing of knowledge and practices, research and technology transfer on mutually agreed terms, for integrating land-use planning and monitoring to achieve sustainable agriculture and forestry, addressing threats to forests, as well as significant drivers of deforestation and forest degradation by, *inter alia*, promoting sustainable practices across economic activities and sustainable patterns of consumption and production, reforestation, restoration, and the conservation and sustainable management of forests, taking into consideration the relevant commitments to halting and reversing deforestation and forest degradation and preventing land degradation by 2030, while achieving sustainable development, keeping in mind the necessity of poverty eradication and fighting hunger, and the needs of developing countries in terms of financial assistance and capacity building;
- d. recommended FAO to support Members, upon request, in their actions to scale up agroforestry through projects, knowledge products, tools and capacity development;
- e. encouraged FAO to support Members, upon request, to scale up agroecology and other innovative approaches, sustainable intensification and bioeconomy, and called on FAO to improve data collection and its utilization taking into account national and regional contexts, priorities and capacities; and
- f. invited FAO to include agriculture and forestry linkages in the Regional Conferences' agendas.

2.4 *FAO's role in improving the uptake and the scaling-up of technologies and innovations for agrifood systems transformation*

11. The Committee:

- a. welcomed the work done by FAO in this area including the progress made in the implementation of the FAO Science and Innovation Strategy, and recognized the potential of technologies and innovations including Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization (SAM) and digitalization for transforming the agrifood systems;
- b. stressed the importance of addressing the risks, such as inequality in access, and encouraged FAO to support Members in creating enabling environments, mobilizing financial, scientific and technical resources, and improving capacities of agrifood innovation systems at the national level that are tailored to local needs and contexts;
- c. recommended FAO to continue integration of technologies and all types of innovations into its programmes of work to promote their uptake and scaling-up by relevant stakeholders, in particular by small-scale producers; and

- d. recommended FAO to further strengthen transformative partnerships with global and regional research fora, other UN entities, the private sector, resource partners and International Financial Institutions (IFIs), and civil society organizations, among others, mobilizing innovative financing and investment, including through South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) and the Hand-in-Hand (HiH) Initiative, to implement initiatives that enable the uptake and scale-up of technologies and innovations for more efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable agrifood systems.

2.5 *Emerging issues from FAO's report on the Status of Women in Agrifood Systems (SWAF)*

12. The Committee:

- a. noted the efforts of FAO in highlighting the findings and emerging issues presented in the document COAG/2024/12 and in the *Status of Women in Agrifood Systems* report;
- b. encouraged Members and FAO to step up efforts to address gender inequality and close gender gaps in agrifood systems using the findings outlined in the document COAG/2024/12 and in the *Status of Women in Agrifood Systems* report and the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) *Voluntary Guidelines on Gender Equality and Women's and Girls' Empowerment*;
- c. encouraged FAO to support Members' efforts, upon request, to ensure women have equal access to critical resources such as, *inter alia*, land, finance, insurance, technology, and agricultural inputs as well as know-how, information, education, and decision-making;
- d. noted the importance of collecting gender statistics, and sex-disaggregated data, using rigorous qualitative and quantitative research that take into consideration multiple and compounding forms of discrimination and violence against women and girls; and encouraged Members to invest in such statistics and data as well as policies, programmes and projects that accelerate gender equality and women's empowerment in agrifood systems; and monitor the progress made in closing gender disparities in rural areas;
- e. noted the launch of the Commit to Grow Equality initiative, and welcomed the UNGA resolution to declare 2026 as the International Year of the Woman Farmer (IYWF), and FAO as the implementing UN Agency, and called on Members to consider national actions to support the IYWF; and
- f. noted the importance of tackling the root causes of inequalities, including addressing discriminatory social norms, in particular, for women and girls.

2.6 *The potential of neglected and underutilized species (NUS) and crop adaptation to climate change*

13. The Committee:

- a. welcomed and appreciated the discussion document on *The potential of neglected and underutilized species (NUS) and crop adaptation to climate change*;
- b. took note of the critical opportunity of NUS in accelerating the transformation, when applicable, towards more diverse, inclusive, productive, resilient and sustainable agrifood systems, while conserving and sustainably using biodiversity;
- c. recommended FAO to strengthen its technical support to Members, upon request, and capacity development, in their effort to promote NUS as part of national agrifood systems

transformation, when applicable, and support awareness raising, knowledge sharing and policy dialogue at all levels, emphasizing the need to enhance the visibility, conservation and sustainable use of NUS;

- d. recommended that FAO provide further technical guidance on the development of NUS for climate adaptation and soil conservation;
- e. welcomed and appreciated FAO's efforts in creating awareness on NUS, including through the observance of International Days and Years, and encouraged FAO to continue its work for enhancing the uptake of these crops;
- f. invited FAO to regularly update the *Compendium of Forgotten Foods in Africa* and expand this work to other regions, upon request, in the interests of Members;
- g. recommended that FAO, upon request, include the integration of NUS in its support to Members when implementing relevant FAO's Strategies, such as the Strategy on Climate Change 2022–2031, the Strategy on Mainstreaming Biodiversity across Agricultural Sectors, and the Science and Innovation Strategy, and their Action Plans;
- h. recommended FAO to continue its close partnerships with other relevant stakeholders;
- i. encouraged Members to better adapt to climate change by integrating and promoting NUS into sustainable crop production systems;
- j. requested FAO to seek adequate resources to advance work on NUS, including in its Decentralized Offices; and
- k. recommended that Members and relevant stakeholders invest in the research and development of NUS, strengthen collaborations and synergies, and create enabling policy environments to strengthen their value chains.

2.7 *Updating the FAO/WHO International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management*

14. The Committee:

- a. noted the background paper prepared by FAO as contained in document COAG/2024/19 in the context of updating the *FAO/WHO International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management*;
- b. noted that the Code is voluntary, and Members have the right to manage pesticides based on their national context, priorities, and regulatory frameworks;
- c. requested FAO, in collaboration with WHO, to conduct a review of the Code through the Joint Meeting on Pesticide Management (JMPPM) to assess the potential gaps of the Code as it pertains to the call made by the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) at their meeting, as described in paragraph 82 of the Report of the 21st Session of the UNPFII presented to the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), as appropriate;
- d. stressed that the findings of the review of the Code must be science-, evidence-, and risk-based, consistent with the current Code; and
- e. requested FAO to proactively consult in a transparent manner with Members and key stakeholders throughout the process of review and present the findings to the 30th Session of the COAG for consideration, as appropriate.

2.8 *FAO's Work in Nutrition*

15. The Committee:

- a. noted with appreciation the updates provided on FAO's work in nutrition and acknowledged FAO's plan to update the document *Vision and Strategy for FAO's Work in Nutrition* ensuring alignment to the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31, evolving priorities and emerging nutrition challenges with inputs sought on the progress at the 139th Session of the FAO Programme Committee;
- b. recommended FAO to enhance its work on mainstreaming nutrition across all of FAO's work and its support to Members, upon request, in accelerating policies and actions with impact across agrifood systems to enable healthy diets for all, and encouraged FAO to further strengthen its capacity in this regard;
- c. welcomed the joint work done by FAO and the World Health Organization (WHO) on a joint statement on the core principles of healthy diets, and recommended FAO to develop approaches that support countries, upon their request, to ground these principles in food-based dietary guidelines with agriculture and food systems considerations, taking into account national context, culture, eating habits and priorities;
- d. appreciated the important progress made by FAO in its nutrition-related normative work, including its contribution to international standard setting, and encouraged improved data access to all regions; and
- e. acknowledged FAO's efforts to work on an evidence base for sustainability and integrated actions across agrifood systems for nutrition outcomes in a positive way and FAO's involvement in preparations for the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Global Gathering in 2024 and the Nutrition for Growth Summit in 2025, among other efforts.

III. Climate and Natural Resources (biodiversity, land and water)

3.1 *FAO's work on the use and management of plastics in agriculture and the Voluntary Code of Conduct on the sustainable use and management of plastics in agriculture*

16. The Committee:

- a. welcomed the work of FAO; considered with appreciation the proposed *Voluntary Code of Conduct on the Sustainable Use and Management of Plastics in Agriculture* (VCoC) in response to the recommendations of the 28th Session of COAG; recommended⁴ the continuation of the process to further develop the proposed document, in consultation with Members, including after the adoption of a legally binding agreement on plastic pollution, for further consideration and endorsement at a future Council Session, while acknowledging Members' decisions to utilize the proposed VCoC in their national contexts, in the meantime, if they wish to do so; and invited FAO to support Members, upon their request, to provide technical assistance on the sustainable use of plastics in agriculture;
- b. acknowledged the scientific and evidence-based assessments undertaken by FAO to address knowledge gaps on plastics used in agriculture, and recommended FAO to address remaining knowledge gaps; and to support Members, upon request, with the development of policies and programmes to advance the sustainable use and management of plastics in agriculture; and
- c. encouraged FAO to continue engaging, as an observer and within its mandate, with the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) in their deliberations to develop an "International legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment" (ILBI) established by the United Nations Environment Assembly Resolution

⁴ The explanation of position can be consulted in Appendix D.

End plastic pollution: Towards an international legally binding instrument (UNEP/EA.5/Res.14) by providing guidance on the issues of plastics used in agriculture.

3.2 *Integrated water resources management and governance of tenure of water resources for food and agriculture*

17. The Committee:

- a. underlined the central role of integrated water resources management to achieve sustainable agrifood systems transformation, in a coherent manner, as appropriate, in accordance with, and dependent on national priorities, circumstances, context and capacities, food security and nutrition, climate change adaptation and biodiversity conservation and its sustainable use, as well as the impacts of agriculture on water quality;
- b. acknowledged *FAO's Conceptual Framework for Integrated Land and Water Resources Management*, and progress made to date in its implementation and, where relevant, encouraged FAO to continue its work, noting that the CFS has produced policy recommendations on water for food security and nutrition;
- c. took note of progress made by FAO in assessing water tenure arrangements, and organizing the Global Dialogue on Water Tenure;
- d. encouraged Members to actively engage in the Global Dialogue on Water Tenure, and according to its mandate given by COAG 28⁵ including consideration of, among other issues, gender equality and the empowerment of women, youth, Indigenous Peoples, local communities, and persons with disabilities, in a participatory manner;
- e. encouraged Members, in line with national priorities and frameworks, to support the implementation of FAO's Conceptual Framework and related decisions of the FAO Governing Bodies on: (i) integrated land and water resources management in a UN System-wide approach to achieve the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with the particular focus on strengthening coordination with UN-Water and the UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy on Water; (ii) the Global Framework on Water Scarcity in Agriculture (WASAG); and (iii) FAO's work on water tenure governance, as appropriate;
- f. encouraged Members and all relevant stakeholders, as appropriate, to join WASAG and participate in its activities, including in the High-Level Dialogue on WASAG to be held on 17 October 2024;
- g. requested that FAO Management explore options to present to the relevant Governing Bodies in order to secure adequate resources to support FAO's work in water, including WASAG; and
- h. reaffirmed that WASAG would continue to report to COAG.

3.3 *Bioeconomy for sustainable food and agriculture*

18. The Committee:

- a. recalled paragraph 29 of the Report of the 43rd Session of the FAO Conference;⁶
- b. welcomed FAO's work on sustainable bioeconomy for sustainable agrifood systems in the context of the Programme Priority Area (PPA) in the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31;
- c. stressed the importance of continued discussions on sustainable bioeconomy in relevant FAO Governing Bodies, including Regional Conferences;

⁵ [COAG 28 Report](#), paragraph 21(f)

⁶ [Report of the 43rd Session of the Conference](#), paragraph 29

- d. requested FAO, within its mandate and subject to available resources, to develop possible options, in consultation with and with guidance from the COAG Bureau, on ways to engage Members in dialogue during the intersessional period of COAG on approaches to bioeconomy for sustainable food and agriculture to be presented for consideration at a future FAO Council Session;
- e. encouraged Members to formulate and implement national, regional, and global sustainable bioeconomy policies, strategies, and action plans fully incorporating production of crops and livestock, forestry, fisheries, and aquaculture and the associated value chains, with a view to promote cross-sectoral collaboration and inclusive engagement of stakeholders, including small-scale producers and marginalized groups;
- f. recognized FAO's leadership in advancing work on bioeconomy for sustainable agrifood systems and encouraged FAO to build upon its comparative advantages working across agricultural sectors to improve data, promote policy coherence, and scale up technical support and capacity development for Members, upon request, to advance sustainable bioeconomy practices across agrifood systems and to mobilize resources for this purpose; and
- g. recognized the need to initiate a multistakeholder global bioeconomy partnership for sustainable agrifood systems to serve as a catalyst for the development of policies, strategies, and plans, building capacities, knowledge systems, and incentives at global, regional, national, subnational and local levels and encouraged FAO, subject to available resources, to develop a proposal to this end, including the envisaged engagement of Members, UN entities and other stakeholders, as appropriate, to be presented for consideration at a future FAO Council Session, while taking into account the views expressed during COAG 29 in this regard.

3.4 FAO's work on the climate change, biodiversity, and food security nexus, with a focus on scaling up agrifood systems solutions for more sustainable and inclusive development

19. The Committee:

- a. welcomed the presentation and took note of the progress made in the implementation of the FAO's Strategies and Action Plans on Mainstreaming Biodiversity across Agricultural Sectors, on Climate Change, and on Science and Innovation to provide integrated support to Members across the food security and nutrition, biodiversity and climate agendas;
- b. invited FAO to scale up technical and policy support for the climate change, biodiversity, food security and nutrition nexus approach, recognizing the equal importance and balance of all the dimensions of this nexus, including through an in-depth study on agrifood systems interventions and holistic and integrated solutions that bring together multiple benefits recognizing that solutions need to be context-specific, acknowledging the importance to address food security and nutrition challenges particularly of developing countries;
- c. invited FAO to continue to support Members, at their request, to facilitate access to climate and environment finance and other financing mechanisms, science and innovation, for the implementation of integrated programmes and interventions addressing food security and nutrition, National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs), Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), and National Land Degradation Neutrality Targets (LDNs);
- d. called on FAO to continue enhanced collaboration with the three Rio Conventions (The Convention on Biological Diversity [CBD], United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change [UNFCCC], and United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification [UNCCD]); and
- e. encouraged FAO to continue working with Members to explore, support and promote good practices in the climate change, biodiversity, food security and nutrition nexus, within national and regional contexts.

3.5 Report of the Global Soil Partnership (GSP)

20. The Committee:

- a. welcomed the Reports of the 11th and 12th Sessions of the GSP Plenary Assembly and expressed appreciation of the progress made in combating soil degradation and promoting sustainable soil management at all levels;
- b. welcomed the progress made in the implementation of the GSP Action Framework 2022-2030, and, noting the need to update the Terms of Reference (ToRs) of the GSP in line with the new Action Framework, invited the GSP Secretariat to prepare revised ToRs, following an open consultation with GSP partners, for endorsement by the GSP Plenary Assembly, and subsequently by COAG at its 30th Session and the Council;
- c. urged the Intergovernmental Technical Panel on Soils (ITPS) and the GSP Secretariat to facilitate the prompt finalization of the Global Soil Health Indicator System (GSHIS) and encouraged Members to contribute to its development and reporting as soon as the system is available;
- d. noted the recommendation of the 12th Session of the GSP Plenary Assembly to establish an open and inclusive Working Group to prepare an analysis on the proposed COAG Sub-Committee on Soils, while noting that no consensus was reached among Members to establish the Sub-Committee, looked forward to the outcome of the review of the matter by the GSP Plenary Assembly at a future Session of COAG;
- e. called on Members to continue to support and facilitate the implementation of GSP initiatives and programmes aimed at improving soil health, agricultural productivity, and resilience, through both financial and in-kind contributions; and
- f. welcomed the proposal by the Government of Thailand, endorsed by the GSP 12th Plenary Assembly, for the establishment of a United Nations Decade on Soil Health for the period 2031–2040, and encouraged Members championing the proposal, to submit it, in line with relevant FAO policies and processes, formally to the FAO Director-General and for COAG's consideration at its 30th Session.

3.6 Update on the Guidelines for Integrated Land Use Planning

21. The Committee:

- a. noted the efforts of FAO in updating the Guidelines for Integrated Land Use Planning for enhancing food production and food security while achieving global commitments set in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Rio Conventions; and
- b. encouraged FAO to continue to update the Guidelines, in close consultation with Members, in view of presenting them for consideration and endorsement to the 30th Session of COAG.

IV. Other Matters

4.1 FAO's Programme of Work in the Agrifood Sectors under the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31

22. The Committee:

- a. noted with appreciation the achievements made by FAO to support and advance the food and agriculture sectors during the 2022-2023 biennium including resource mobilization efforts, invited FAO to address the gaps and incorporate lessons learned during the past biennium, and acknowledged the identified developments and trends that are likely to influence FAO's future work with respect to the food and agriculture sectors;

- b. took note of the Programme Priority Areas (PPAs) of FAO's work in food and agriculture in 2024-2025 and acknowledged that these fully contribute to the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31 and are derived from the global trends and developments identified by FAO;
- c. took note of the programmatic priorities emphasized by Members in FAO's programme of work in the agrifood sectors for the 2024-2025 biennium and to be considered for the 2026-2027 biennium; and
- d. emphasized the importance of FAO's normative, standard-setting, technical work, and called on FAO to continue its efforts in these areas of work.

4.2 *Implementation of the recommendations of the 28th Session of the Committee*

23. The Committee:

- a. commended FAO on the implementation of the recommendations of the 28th Session of the Committee on Agriculture, and invited FAO to continue its efforts and report to the Committee regularly; and
- b. appreciated the progress made in several areas, including for the One Health approach, the FAO Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) 2021-2025, agriculture and forestry linkages, the State of World's Land and Water Resources (SOLAW) report, sustainable water management, the sustainable use and management of plastics in agriculture, the UN Decade of Family Farming 2019-2028 (UNDF), and the strengthening of the Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS).

4.3 *Multi-Year Programme of Work of the Committee (MYPOW)*

24. The Committee:

- a. took note of the 2022-2025 Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPOW) report and the proposed programme for 2024-2027, and:
 - i. recognized the progress made by the COAG Sub-Committee on Livestock in implementing its workplan; and
 - ii. welcomed the continued involvement of Members in the intersessional period and the increased collaboration and coordination with other FAO Technical Committees, in particular with the Committee on Forestry (COFO), and other Governing Bodies.
- b. considered and approved the proposed MYPOW 2024-2027, as set out in its Annex.

4.4 *Proposal for an International Day of Milk*

25. The Committee:

- a. welcomed with appreciation the proposal by the governments of Ireland and India to establish the observance by the United Nations of an International Day of Milk, to be held annually on 1 June;
- b. recognized the global importance of milk for healthy diets, food security and nutrition, and inclusive economic growth, as well as its role in achieving the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);
- c. acknowledged that the International Day of Milk can increase awareness of the importance of milk and dairy products to human nutrition, as well as of their social, cultural and economic value;
- d. endorsed the draft Conference Resolution for the observance of the International Day of Milk, as contained in Appendix E; and

- e. invited the Council at its 176th Session and Conference at its 44th Session to approve the draft Conference Resolution.

4.5 *Proposal for an International Day of Fruits and Vegetables*

26. The Committee:

- a. reviewed the proposal by the Government of Chile to establish the observance by the United Nations (UN) of an International Day of Fruits and Vegetables;
- b. recognized the importance of increased cultivation, availability and consumption of a wide variety of fruits and vegetables for improving human nutrition and food security, hence achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);
- c. appreciated the success of the International Year of Fruits and Vegetables celebrated in 2021 and the possibility of an International Day of Fruits and Vegetables to continue efforts to further raise awareness and to promote and facilitate actions towards increased availability, accessibility and consumption of fruits and vegetables;
- d. endorsed the draft Conference Resolution for the observance of the International Day of Fruits and Vegetables, as contained in Appendix F; and
- e. invited the Council at its 176th Session and Conference at its 44th Session to approve the draft Conference Resolution.

4.6 *Date and place of the Next Session*

27. The Committee was informed that the Thirtieth Session of the Committee on Agriculture will take place in Rome. The date would be communicated by the Director-General of FAO at a later stage.

4.7 *Election of the Bureau Members of the 30th Session of the Committee*

28. The Committee elected by acclamation:

- a. Her Excellency Carla Barroso Carneiro, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Federative Republic of Brazil to FAO, as Chairperson of the Committee; and
- b. the following six members of the incoming bureau of the Committee: Australia (Southwest Pacific); Japan (Asia); Lebanon (Near East); Netherlands (Kingdom of the) (Europe); United Republic of Tanzania (Africa); United States of America (North America).⁷

4.8 *Any other matters*

29. None.

⁷ The Russian Federation disassociated itself from the support for the election of Australia, Japan, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), and United States of America as members of the Bureau of the Committee.

APPENDIX A – Members of the Committee on Agriculture

Afghanistan	France	Pakistan
Algeria	Gabon	Panama
Angola	Germany	Paraguay
Argentina	Ghana	Peru
Armenia	Greece	Philippines
Australia	Guatemala	Poland
Austria	Guinea	Portugal
Azerbaijan	Haiti	Qatar
Bangladesh	Honduras	Republic of Korea
Belarus	Hungary	Romania
Belgium	India	Russian Federation
Benin	Indonesia	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Samoa
Botswana	Iraq	San Marino
Brazil	Ireland	Saudi Arabia
Bulgaria	Israel	Senegal
Burkina Faso	Italy	Serbia
Burundi	Jamaica	Sierra Leone
Cabo Verde	Japan	Slovakia
Cameroon	Jordan	Slovenia
Canada	Kenya	South Africa
Chad	Kuwait	Spain
Chile	Latvia	Sri Lanka
China	Lebanon	Sudan
Colombia	Lesotho	Sweden
Congo	Liberia	Switzerland
Costa Rica	Libya	Syrian Arab Republic
Côte d'Ivoire	Lithuania	Thailand
Croatia	Madagascar	Togo
Cuba	Malaysia	Tunisia
Cyprus	Maldives	Türkiye
Czechia	Mali	Uganda
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Malta	Ukraine
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Mauritania	United Arab Emirates
Denmark	Mexico	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Dominican Republic	Mongolia	United Republic of Tanzania
Ecuador	Montenegro	United States of America
Egypt	Morocco	Uruguay
El Salvador	Mozambique	Uzbekistan
Equatorial Guinea	Myanmar	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
Eritrea	Netherlands (Kingdom of the)	Yemen
Estonia	New Zealand	Zambia
Ethiopia	Nicaragua	Zimbabwe
European Union (Member Organization)	Niger	
Finland	Nigeria	
	North Macedonia	
	Norway	
	Oman	

APPENDIX B - Agenda

1. Procedural Matters

- 1.1. Opening of the Session
- 1.2. Adoption of the Agenda and Timetable
- 1.3. Nomination of the Drafting Committee

2. Sustainable Food and Agriculture

- 2.1. Report of the Second Session of the COAG Sub-Committee on Livestock
- 2.2. Scaling up One Health through an integrated approach for food chain crisis management, agrifood systems and ecosystem health
- 2.3. Scaling up actions on agriculture and forestry linkages
- 2.4. FAO's role in improving the uptake and the scaling-up of technologies and innovations for agrifood systems transformation
- 2.5. Emerging issues from FAO's report on the Status of Women in Agrifood Systems (SWAF)
- 2.6. The potential of neglected and underutilized species (NUS) and crop adaptation to climate change
- 2.7. Updating the FAO/WHO International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management
- 2.8. FAO's Work in Nutrition

3. Climate and Natural Resources (biodiversity, land and water)

- 3.1. FAO's work on the use and management of plastics in agriculture and the Voluntary Code of Conduct on the sustainable use and management of plastics in agriculture
- 3.2. Integrated water resources management and governance of tenure of water resources for food and agriculture
- 3.3. Bioeconomy for sustainable food and agriculture
- 3.4. FAO's work on the climate change, biodiversity, and food security nexus, with a focus on scaling up agrifood systems solutions for more sustainable and inclusive development
- 3.5. Report of the Global Soil Partnership (GSP)
- 3.6. Update on the Guidelines for Integrated Land Use Planning

4. Other Matters

- 4.1. FAO's Programme of Work in the Agrifood Sectors under the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31
- 4.2. Implementation of the recommendations of the 28th Session of the Committee
- 4.3. Multi-Year Programme of Work of the Committee (MYPOW)
- 4.4. Proposal for an International Day of Milk
- 4.5. Proposal for an International Day of Fruits and Vegetables
- 4.6. Date and place of the Next Session
- 4.7. Election of the Bureau Members of the 30th Session of the Committee
- 4.8. Any other matters

5. Adoption of the Report

APPENDIX C – List of Documents

COAG/2024/1/Rev.3	Provisional Agenda
COAG/2024/2	FAO's Programme of Work in the Agrifood Sectors under the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31
COAG/2024/3	Implementation of the recommendations of the 28th Session of the Committee
COAG/2024/4	Multi-Year Programme of Work of the Committee (MYPOW)
COAG/2024/5	Report of the Second Session of the COAG Sub-Committee on Livestock
COAG/2024/6	Scaling up actions on agriculture and forestry linkages
COAG/2024/7	Integrated water resources management and governance of tenure of water resources for food and agriculture
COAG/2024/8	FAO's work on the use and management of plastics in agriculture and the Voluntary Code of Conduct on the sustainable use and management of plastics in agriculture
COAG/2024/9	Report of the Global Soil Partnership (GSP)
COAG/2024/10	Scaling up One Health through an integrated approach for food chain crisis management, agrifood systems and ecosystem health
COAG/2024/11	Bioeconomy for sustainable food and agriculture
COAG/2024/12	Emerging issues from FAO's report on the Status of Women in Agrifood Systems (SWAF)
COAG/2024/13	FAO's Work in Nutrition
COAG/2024/14	FAO's work on the climate change, biodiversity, and food security nexus, with a focus on scaling up agrifood systems solutions for more sustainable and inclusive development
COAG/2024/15	Proposal for an International Day of Milk
COAG/2024/16	The potential of neglected and underutilized species (NUS) and crop adaptation to climate change
COAG/2024/17	FAO's role in improving the uptake and the scaling-up of technologies and innovations, for agrifood systems transformation
COAG/2024/18	Update on the Guidelines for Integrated Land Use Planning
COAG/2024/19	Updating the FAO/WHO International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management
COAG/2024/20	Proposal for an International Day of Fruits and Vegetables
COAG/2024/INF/1/Rev.1	Provisional timetable
COAG/2024/INF/2/Rev.1	Provisional list of documents
COAG/2024/INF/3	Statement of competences and voting rights submitted by the European Union
COAG/2024/INF/4	Outcomes of the FAO Global Conference on Sustainable Plant Production (GPC)
COAG/2024/INF/5	Update on the implementation of the Action Plan 2024-2027 for the implementation of the FAO Strategy on Mainstreaming Biodiversity across Agricultural Sectors
COAG/2024/INF/6	Update on The Future of Food and Agriculture: FAO's strategic foresight activities, including at regional level
COAG/2024/INF/7	Progress towards the implementation of the FAO Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance 2021-2025
COAG/2024/INF/8	Update on the Global Framework on Water Scarcity in Agriculture (WASAG)

COAG/2024/INF/9	United Nations Decade of Family Farming 2019-2028 (UNDF) - Enhanced data collection and analysis for evidence-informed public policies for family farming
COAG/2024/INF/10	Scaling up Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization (SAM) and Digitalization

APPENDIX D – Argentina and Brazil – Explanation of position

Argentina and Brazil are able to join consensus on endorsing the conclusions for this Agenda item, with the understanding that the draft Voluntary Code of Conduct on the Sustainable Use and Management of Plastics in Agriculture was not endorsed by the Committee on Agriculture in its 29th Session. The current version of the draft Voluntary Code of Conduct and any future amendments do not set any kind of precedent for the deliberations of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) in charge of developing an internationally legally binding instrument (ILBI) on plastic pollution, including the marine environment, established by the United Nations Environment Assembly Resolution UNEP/EA.5/Res. 14.

APPENDIX E – Draft FAO Conference Resolution on the Proposal for an International Day of Milk

Recognizing that milk and dairy products contribute to healthy diets, food security and nutrition;

Recognizing the decisive importance of milk and dairy products for agricultural development, highlighting improved livelihoods and inclusive economic growth;

Recognizing that milk production supports efforts to reduce hunger, malnutrition and poverty;

Recalling the urgent need to raise awareness of the contribution of milk and dairy products as a valuable food resource and as a generator of income and employment, with a view to achieving the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);

Trusting that such an initiative would create a comprehensive platform to assess the challenges and dynamics of dairy value chains to sustainably transform agrifood systems;

Emphasizing that costs of activities related to the observance of the International Day of Milk would be covered by voluntary contributions, including from the private sector;

Requests the Director-General to present this Resolution to the President of the General Assembly of the United Nations (UNGA) and the President of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations for informational purposes;

Encourages FAO Member Nations to take the requisite steps to ensure the consideration of the Resolution to observe 1 June as an International Day of Milk at forthcoming sessions of the UNGA, as appropriate.

APPENDIX F – Draft FAO Conference Resolution on the Proposal for an International Day of Fruits and Vegetables

Recalling that the International Year of Fruits and Vegetables in 2021 successfully highlighted the importance of increased cultivation, availability and consumption of fruits and vegetables for improving human nutrition, food security, and hence achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);

Recognizing the urgent need to further raise awareness and to promote and facilitate actions towards increased availability, accessibility and consumption of fruits and vegetables in order to achieve the SDGs by 2030;

Affirming that adequate fruit and vegetable consumption is a cornerstone of healthy diets and leads to the prevention of several nutrient deficiencies and non-communicable diseases, and that consuming a variety of fruits and vegetables is key to obtain the health and nutrition benefits they offer;

Recognizing that worldwide fruit and vegetable intake falls short of recommendations and accounts for more than an estimated five million deaths annually;

Recognizing that promoting the sustainable production of fruits and vegetables in a changing climate requires cropping system diversification (including neglected and underutilized species) and offers opportunities to generate income, protect the environment, and create social equity and decent jobs;

Recognizing women's critical role in household food production, procurement, preparation and child feeding, as well as in production, sale and distribution of locally produced fruits and vegetables;

Recognizing that the development of the fruit and vegetable sector can positively impact income generation especially for smallholders and family farmers, as well as for rural and urban consumers;

Recognizing that fruits and vegetables are highly perishable and suffer high levels of losses and waste when there are no adequate post-harvest services and market linkages;

Acknowledging that strengthening of agrifood systems that includes the important role of fruits and vegetables can support all pillars of sustainability;

Recognizing that the celebration of an International Day of Fruits and Vegetables is an opportunity to promote healthy diets and sustainable production and that it will allow focused attention on global and national level policies to overcome challenges of production, value chains, consumption and losses and waste of these products;

Trusting that such an initiative would establish a platform and encourage actions to promote and implement activities in favour of preserving and sustaining global fruit and vegetable resources, as well as raise awareness of the importance of fruits and vegetables for health and in addressing issues of global concern, including hunger, malnutrition, inequities, poverty and threats to the environment;

Stressing that additional costs of activities arising from the implementation of the International Day of Fruits and Vegetables be met through voluntary contributions, including from the private sector;

Requests the Director-General to present this Resolution to the President of the General Assembly of the United Nations (UNGA) and the President of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations for informational purposes;

Encourages FAO Member Nations to take the requisite steps to ensure the consideration of the Resolution to observe 4 March as an International Day of Fruits and Vegetables at forthcoming sessions of the UNGA, as appropriate.