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COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL MATTERS

Hundred and First Session

Rome, 21 - 23 October 2015

**Multi-year Programme of Work for the Committee on Constitutional and
Legal Matters (Progress Report)**

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters (“CCLM” or “the Committee”), at its 93rd Session, held from 21-23 September 2011, approved its Multi-year Programme of Work (“MYPOW”) 2012-15, noting there were no standing items on its agenda to be examined at pre-established dates.¹
2. The CCLM approved the MYPOW’s Progress Reports at its October sessions in 2012 (CCLM 95), 2013 (CCLM 97) and 2014 (CCLM 99), respectively, considering the Committee’s overall objectives and mandate, and proposed working methods and practices.

II. MULTI-YEAR PROGRAMME OF WORK 2012-15 - PROGRESS REPORT

3. The Progress Report on the MYPOW 2012-15, set out in **Annex I** hereto, outlines the CCLM's progress towards fulfilling its MYPOW 2012-15 since its last review conducted at the 99th Session in October 2014.

III. SUGGESTED ACTION BY THE COMMITTEE

4. The Committee is invited to:
 - a) examine this Progress Report, as set out in **Annex I**, taking into account its overall objectives and mandate and proposed working methods and practices, outlined in the approved MYPOW 2012-15; and

¹ CL 143/4, paragraphs 11-15.



b) reiterate the distinctive features of the Committee's work since, in view of its nature and mandate, the Committee holds sessions to consider items that are not foreseeable or recurrent but which are referred to it as they arise by the Council or by the Director-General, in accordance with Rule XXXIV, paragraphs 7 and 8 of the GROs.

Annex I-

CCLM Session	Agenda item	Subject-matter	Outcome of CCLM consideration of the item	Consideration by the Council	Further consideration by CCLM (if applicable) or other governing body
100 th Session 23-24 February 2015	2	Ethics Committee – Annual Report 2014	Reviewed document CCLM 100/2, the annual report 2014 of the Ethics Committee (CL 151/2, paragraphs 4-8)	CL 151/REP, paragraph 17 a): noted the CCLM’s review of the 2014 annual report of the Ethics Committee, recalled that in 2016 the relevant Governing Bodies of FAO would have to determine whether the Ethics Committee should be established on a permanent basis and looked forward to the implementation of the Financial Disclosure programme.	N/A
	3	Reform of the International Poplar Commission (IPC)	Examined document CCLM 100/3 “Reform of the International Poplar Commission” describing a process of amendment of the Convention placing the International Poplar Commission within the framework of FAO (IPC Convention), as well as the purpose and content of a set of amendments to the IPC Convention proposed by the Commission. The CCLM noted that the amendments would be referred to the Commission for adoption at a session due to be held in 2016 and that the amendments would become effective upon approval by the FAO Conference in	CL 151/REP, paragraph 17 b): noted the guidance provided by the CCLM on the proposed amendments to the IPC Convention and acknowledged that further negotiations would be required and that the CCLM would review again the draft amendments prior to referral to the Council and Conference in 2017.	Yes

			June 2017.		
	3 Cont'd		<p>The CCLM sought clarifications on, inter alia, the extent and implications of the proposed expansion of the scope of the Commission to cover poplars and other related trees and associated genera, the revised functions of the Commission, the relationship between the Commission and national commissions and other national bodies provided for in Article IV of the IPC Convention, the relationship between the Commission and the Committee on Forestry, and the content of the proposed amendments in light of the criteria developed by the CCLM, the Council and the Conference, to assess whether proposed amendments involved new obligations for the Parties. The CCLM noted that it would review the proposed amendments again, together with further information on the deliberations of the Commission after the adoption of the amendments by the Commission in 2016 and prior to the referral of the amended IPC Convention to the Conference in June 2017 for approval.</p>		

	4	Corrections of errors and editorial adjustments to the Basic Texts	Examined document CCLM 100/4 Rev.1 entitled "Correction of errors and editorial adjustments to the Basic Texts". The CCLM noted a discrepancy between the Spanish version of Rule XXXIV, paragraph 13 of the General Rules of the Organization (GRO) concerning reimbursement of expenditures of the Chairperson and the representatives of Members of the CCLM to attend sessions of the Committee and the versions of this GRO in other languages of the Organization.	CL 151/REP, paragraph 17 c): endorsed the proposal of the CCLM that an editorial adjustment be made to the Spanish version.	Yes
	4 Cont'd		The CCLM endorsed a proposal that the Spanish version of that Rule, which did not make reference to the Chairperson, unlike the versions in other languages, be corrected. The CCLM could not agree on whether some proposed adjustments set out in document CCLM 100/4 Rev. 1 were corrections of clerical errors or involved issues of substance and agreed to reconsider the matter at a future session.		