



联合国
粮食及
农业组织

Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

Organisation des Nations
Unies pour l'alimentation
et l'agriculture

Продовольственная и
сельскохозяйственная организация
Объединенных Наций

Organización de las
Naciones Unidas para la
Alimentación y la Agricultura

منظمة
الأغذية والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة

FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR AFRICA

Thirtieth Session

Khartoum, the Sudan, 19-23 February 2018

**Multi-year Programme of Work 2016-2019 for the FAO Regional
Conference for Africa**

Executive Summary

The 29th Session of the Regional Conference for Africa (ARC) endorsed the Multi-year Programme of Work (MYPOW) 2016-2019. It encouraged the continuation of efforts to strengthen communication of programme outcomes with the Africa Group of Permanent Representatives to FAO, the African Union and the Regional Economic Communities. It also encouraged regular and systematic review of the performance and efficiency of the Regional Conference in implementing its recommendations.

This document provides the MYPOW 2016-2019 for the FAO Regional Conference for Africa. A report on implementation of recommendations of the 29th Session of ARC is presented in document ARC/18/INF/8.

Matters to be brought to the attention of the Regional Conference

The MYPOW 2016-2019 is presented to the Regional Conference for information.

*This document can be accessed using the Quick Response Code on this page;
an FAO initiative to minimize its environmental impact and promote greener communications.
Other documents can be consulted at www.fao.org*



mv649

I. Overall Objectives

1. The overall objectives reflect the enhanced role of the Regional Conference in the governance process of FAO. In particular, the Regional Conference reviews the situation in the region regarding matters pertaining to the Organization's mandate, and provides advice and action-oriented recommendations to the FAO Conference on global policy and regulatory matters, and to the Council on matters pertaining to the priorities, programmes and budgets of the Organization.
2. In this context, the Regional Conference for Africa (ARC) provides regional perspectives on FAO's strategies and priorities and formulates concrete recommendations on regional results, also contributing to enhanced efficiency and effectiveness. ARC also conducts regional-level assessments, to feed into improved sustainability of agriculture as well as food and nutrition security. The Regional Conference also exercises oversight of the functions and activities of FAO in the region, in accordance with the Basic Texts of the Organization.
3. The Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), serves as a foundation for the work of ARC. The FAO Multidisciplinary teams (MDT), organized at the subregional and regional levels in the Africa region, provide review for technical aspects and issues of importance to the CAADP and priorities for FAO's work in the region for consideration by ARC.
4. The 29th Session of the ARC in 2016 endorsed the MYPOW for the 2016-2019 period to frame the work of the Regional Conference and encouraged the continuation of efforts to strengthen communication of programme outcomes with the Africa Group of Permanent Representatives to FAO, the African Union and the Regional Economic Communities (RECs). It also encouraged regular and systematic review of the performance and efficiency of the Regional Conference in implementing its recommendations, put in place an operational and concrete mechanism of monitoring, and looked forward with interest to receiving a report at its next session.
5. This document provides the MYPOW 2016-2019 for the FAO Regional Conference for Africa. A report on implementation of recommendations of the 29th Session of ARC is presented in document ARC/18/INF/8.

II. Results

A. Priority setting, organizational structure and budget planning

Result 1: ARC recommendations and guidance on the regional priorities, programmes, regional initiatives, organizational structure and budgets, as well as on the CAADP and relevant programmes and issues pertaining to food and nutrition security, agriculture, natural resources and rural development, provide a sound basis for decision-making by the Council and the Conference.

Indicators and targets:

- Clear and specific recommendations made in a timely manner by ARC to the Council through the Programme and Finance Committees regarding FAO's priorities, programmes, regional initiatives, organizational structure and budgets of interest to the region, as appropriate, with relevant indicators. Indicators should be specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time bound (SMART).
- ARC recommendations relating to the regional priorities for FAO's work in the region, the FAO Strategic Framework, the Medium Term Plan (MTP) and the Programme of Work and Budget (PWB) are reflected in the Council and Conference reports.
- ARC guidance on regional issues receives due attention in the Council and Conference, as well as in other relevant Governing Bodies.

Outputs:

- Clear, precise and action-oriented recommendations for Council on priorities, programmes, organizational structure and budgets for the region.

Activities:

- Review implementation of the regional priorities and Strategic Programmes in the region
- Review decisions and recommendations from the Regional Technical Commissions, and other relevant institutions and meetings in the region.
- Review the performance of the Organization in the region, including effectiveness and efficiency of the network of FAO offices in support of country programmes, taking account of related performance indicators and pertinent evaluations.
- Make recommendations on the plans, programmes and projects carried out by the Organization in the region, including specific priorities for FAO's work.

Working methods:

- Collaborate with relevant statutory bodies, technical commissions, RECs and other institutions in the region.
- Informal consultations among member countries as appropriate to foster dialogue during the intersession period.
- Regular contacts between the Chairperson of ARC and the ADG/Regional Representative, including for informal coordination meetings with the Secretariats of the subregional and regional technical commissions.

B. Monitoring of and Advice on Policy and Regulatory Matters

Result 2: ARC recommendations provide a sound basis for decisions by the FAO Conference on regional policy and regulatory matters.

Indicators and targets:

- Clear, action-oriented recommendations included in the ARC report.
- Regional Conference recommendations taken up by the FAO Conference.

Output:

- Clear recommendations for the FAO Conference on regional policy and regulatory frameworks.

Activities:

- Review the status of key international instruments of relevance to the region, and major developments and initiatives in other fora impacting the mandate of FAO.
- Consider the recommendations from FAO statutory bodies, including the regional technical commissions, and meetings of relevance to the region.
- Periodically address new and emerging issues and recommend possible concerted action by FAO and other relevant bodies in the region.
- Consider the desirability of developing international agreements for the region.

Working methods:

- Review of regional and global trends in policies and regulations of relevance to the region.
- Liaise with relevant FAO statutory bodies, regional technical commissions, RECs and other institutions in the region.
- Informal consultation meetings of senior staff of the Regional Office with relevant Subregional Groups.
- Regular contacts between the Chairperson of ARC and FAO Management.

C. Work Planning and Working Methods

Result 3: ARC operates effectively and efficiently, in an action-oriented, inclusive way.

Indicators and targets:

- ARC agendas are focused.
- ARC decisions are taken by consensus.
- ARC reports are concise, consisting mostly of specific, results-oriented recommendations, and are made available to Members in a timely manner.
- ARC documents adhere to new corporate presentation standards and are made available in the required languages six weeks before the session commences.
- 90-100 percent of countries participate at the appropriate level in ARC.

Outputs:

- MYPOW for ARC adopted in 2018.
- Methods of work of ARC kept under review and improvements sought regularly.

Activities:

- Consult with Members on agenda and format of ARC.
- Consider ways to improve the conduct of sessions, including enhanced focus and efficient use of the time available.
- Review Rules of Procedure for ARC.
- Preparation of the ARC MYPOW with performance indicators and progress reports to Council and Conference on the MYPOW.
- Regular review of methods of work, including performance measurement.
- Review of the status of implementation of ARC recommendations.

Working methods:

- Consult with Members, through the Chairperson of ARC.
- Intersessional activities facilitated by the Chairperson of ARC through the Bureau, with support from the Secretariat.
- Intersessional work through the AUC-NEPAD/NPCA and its Executive Committee for continuity between biennial meetings.
- Structured and focused deliberations and interventions during sessions.
- Efficient drafting arrangements for reports.
- Secretariat support for the implementation of, and follow up to, the MYPOW.
- Informal meetings of the Chairpersons of the Regional Groups and senior members of the Secretariat, facilitated by the Independent Chairperson of Council.