

165th Session of the Council

Written Correspondence Procedure – inputs from Members - English version

Item 7.4 - Report of the 36th Session of the Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean (19-21 October 2020)

Member Name	Comments
Dominican Republic – Member (Thursday 26/11/2020 17:18)	<p>The Dominican Republic [a] expresses its appreciation of the document that has been presented, [b] welcomes the specific recommendations and [c] congratulates FAO and the host government for organizing this session, which was successfully held online as a result of the obstacles presented by the pandemic. We also wish to highlight [d] the participation of the 33 member countries of the region, and [e] the commitment of all participants to join forces, together with FAO to combat hunger and malnutrition (particularly given the impact of the pandemic), adopt innovative approaches to sustainable agrifood systems based on science and the use of digital technology, boost family farming and organizations, improve the data, strengthen value chains, support small farmers and the most vulnerable communities, design programmes to create jobs, foster social and productive inclusion, promote healthy eating and, in general, strengthen the Technical Cooperation Programme and the Hand-in-Hand Initiative. In addition, [f] we reaffirm the ministerial agreement to nominate FAO for the 2021 Nobel Peace Prize.</p>
Argentina – Member (Thursday 26/11/2020 18:47)	<p>Argentina welcomes the discussions and agreements reached on the occasion of the 36th Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean (LARC 36) as they reflect a common voice of 33 countries and three highly diverse and heterogeneous subregions. The consensus reached at LARC 36 should form the basis for the Organization's work in the region and be incorporated as input in developing the new FAO Strategic Framework, thus ensuring that a "bottom-up" approach is applied when setting programme priorities that takes into account each region's needs and characteristics. As was highlighted extensively at the Conference, the rural sector in Latin America and the Caribbean plays a key role in the fight against hunger, malnutrition and eradicating poverty, and therefore in achieving sustainable development. For FAO to support the region in the fight against hunger and malnutrition, the Regional Conference endorsed the framing of results and priorities around three regional initiatives for the 2020-21 biennium, namely <i>Sustainable Food Systems to provide healthy diets for all</i>; <i>Hand-in-Hand towards prosperous and inclusive rural societies</i>; and <i>Sustainable and climate resilient agriculture</i>. With regard to the process of developing these initiatives, the Conference requested a review of the consultations with Members. Argentina particularly stresses this point, which is essential so that all governments are able to play an inclusive and transparent role in formulating them.</p> <p>Argentina welcomes the fact that the region as a whole has ratified its desire to make a substantial contribution towards achieving food security and eradicating poverty and has recognized that rural youth and women, family farming, innovation, international trade, education and the reduction of food losses and waste all play a key role in achieving these objectives. It also highlights the central role that the Regional Conference gave to promoting healthy diets for all and to disseminating healthy consumer habits, issues that undoubtedly make a substantial contribution to the fight against hunger and malnutrition.</p>