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Organización
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para la
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y la
Alimentación

FINANCE COMMITTEE

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2009 Summit on Food Security: Review of Financial Arrangements

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

➤ The 136th Session of the Council (15-19 June 2009) agreed that a World Summit on Food Security be held in November 2009, in close proximity to the FAO Conference. It underlined that the Summit should be fully funded from extra-budgetary contributions, in order that the FAO's established Programme of Work was not negatively affected. An Open-Ended Working Group was established in the week following the Council session to decide on necessary arrangements for the Summit.

➤ The World Summit on Food Security will build on the work of the High-Level Conference (HLC) on "How to feed the World in 2050". Most of the technical documents will be prepared in advance as part of the preparation for the 2050 HLC and also using expert group meetings on subjects covered by normal activities of the Organization, in cooperation with partners and in relation to other ongoing processes.

➤ Drawing on past experience, the budget for the logistics of the Summit is estimated to be around USD 2.5 million.

➤ The Technical Cooperation Department (TC) has opened a dedicated account for the World Summit on Food Security in 2009 (multilateral Trust Fund project MTF/GLO/265/MUL '*World Summit of Heads of State of Government on Food Security in 2009*'). A letter has been addressed to all FAO Member Nations requesting their financial support for funding the logistical and organizational costs of the Summit. No firm commitments are expected by end-July 2009.

➤ Special events are proposed in the days preceding the Summit with: (i) NGOs, CSOs and Farmer's Organizations; (ii) the Private Sector; and (iii) national parliaments. Contacts are underway aiming to ensure that the costs of these Pre-Summit events will be covered by the hosts: respectively the City of Rome, the City of Milan and the Italian Parliament. The Private Sector Partnership Advisory Committee (PSPAC) is also involved in seeking extra-budgetary resources.

GUIDANCE SOUGHT FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

➤ The Finance Committee is invited to take note of the information provided in the document and to invite FAO Member Nations to take urgent decisions on possible contributions for the multilateral Trust Fund project to cover the costs of organising the Summit.

Introduction

1. In his statement to the Thirty-fifth (Special) Session of the FAO Conference, the Director-General proposed the convening of a World Summit of Heads of State of Government on Food Security in 2009, with the aim to reach a broad consensus for the total eradication of hunger from the planet. The idea was initially launched by the Director-General at the World Food Day celebration in New York on 23 October 2008 in the presence of the UN Secretary-General and President Clinton, when a meeting of the G20 leaders was already called in November 2008 to discuss financial and economic issues. The proposal was subsequently submitted to Heads of State and Government of Member Nations for their consideration.
2. The 126th Session of the Finance Committee (11-15 May 2009) noted the preliminary information given on the organizational and financial aspects of the proposed World Summit of Heads of State and Government on Food Security in 2009 and welcomed the document provided by the Secretariat describing FAO's objectives of the proposed Summit. The Committee was assured that incremental funding for the Summit in November 2009 would be entirely financed from extra-budgetary sources, in full compliance with the Financial Regulations, and with no negative impact on the Programme of Work.
3. The 136th Session of the Council (15-19 June 2009) agreed that a World Summit on Food Security be held in November 2009, in close proximity to the FAO Conference. It underlined that the Summit should be fully funded from extra-budgetary contributions, in order that the FAO's established Programme of Work was not negatively affected. It requested that the Secretariat report to the Finance Committee at its July 2009 session on the detailed cost estimates and the status of extra-budgetary contributions for the Summit.
4. The Council requested to establish an Open-Ended Working Group to decide on necessary arrangements for the Summit, including its objectives and outcomes. The Open-Ended Working Group was established in the week following the Council session and decided that the Summit would be held on 16, 17 and 18 November 2009, with the FAO Conference starting on 18 November 2009 in the afternoon.

Preparatory process

5. The World Summit on Food Security will build on the work of the High-Level Conference (HLC) on "How to feed the World in 2050". Most of the technical documents will be prepared in advance as part of the preparation for the 2050 HLC and also using expert group meetings on subjects covered by normal activities of the Organization, in cooperation with partners and in relation to other ongoing processes.
6. As requested by the Open-Ended Working Group, a contribution of the Secretariat to the Summit Declaration has been prepared for negotiation by Permanent Representatives of Members to FAO in consultation with their capitals, with the goal of arriving at a consensus before the Summit.

Financial aspects

7. Drawing on past experience, the budget for the logistics of the Summit is estimated to be around USD 2.5 million. A detailed cost estimate is provided in Annex 1.
8. As in the Summits of 1996 and 2002, in addition to the meeting of Heads of State and Government, special events in the days preceding the Summit will be organized with: (i) NGOs, CSOs and Farmers' Organizations (to be hosted by the City of Rome); (ii) the Private Sector (to be hosted by the City of Milan); and (iii) national parliaments (to be hosted by the Italian

Parliament). We have contacted the City of Milan, the City of Rome, and the Italian Parliament and we have expectations that the costs of these Pre-Summit events will be covered by the hosts.

9. The Summit would be financed entirely from extra-budgetary resources, in full compliance with the Financial Regulations and with no negative impact on the regular work programme of the Organization. The Technical Cooperation Department (TC) has opened a dedicated account for the World Summit on Food Security in 2009 (multilateral Trust Fund project MTF/GLO/265/MUL '*World Summit of Heads of State of Government on Food Security in 2009*'). Letters have been addressed at the end of June and beginning of July to all FAO Member Nations requesting their financial support for funding the logistical and organizational costs of the Summit. TC is now paying attention to some Member Nations considered as potential contributors to the Summit (OECD, emerging and Arab countries) and approaching them to explore their willingness to contribute with some extra-budgetary resources.

10. TC is also contacting the counterparts in the Rome-based agencies to strengthen their participation in the preparation of the World Summit on Food Security and to explore the possibility of financial or in-kind contributions to the Summit from them.

11. TC and KC are contacting companies which have collaborated with FAO in the past to ascertain their potential interest in financing some activities. As mandated by the rules of the Organization, the Private Sector Partnership Advisory Committee (PSPAC) is involved in this process by assessing the eligibility of potential private sector partners..

12. No firm commitments from Member Nations have yet been received. However, the first reactions and commitments are expected by end-July 2009. At the moment promising contacts have been established with some countries as well as IFAD. Some financial contributions to the Summit are expected in the coming weeks.

ANNEX 1

Estimated costs for the World Summit on Food Security (16-18 November 2009)

	USD
Temporary infrastructures, facilities upgrading and catering equipment	726,000
IT equipment and services*	394,000
Additional Security and Transportation requirements*	112,000
Meeting support services, Registration and Protocol	181,000
Media related expenditures **	46,000
Medical Services	10,000
Documentation (excluding technical background papers)	250,000
Interpretation	240,000
Special Insurance coverage	163,000
Sub Total	2,122,000
Contingencies 10%	212,200
Total	2,334,200
Project Servicing Costs 7%	163,394
Grand Total	2,497,594

* FAO is currently contacting IT suppliers and carmakers to explore the possibility of sponsorship with the goal to reduce expenditure.

** It is expected that RAI and Intelsat will provide free of charge transmission of broadcasting signals all over the globe.