

165th Session of the Council

Written Correspondence Procedure – inputs from Members - English version

Item 7.2 - Report of the 35th Session of the Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific (1-4 September 2020)

Member Name	Comments
Australia - Member (Wednesday 25/11/20 10:15)	<p>Australia welcomes the report of the 35th Session of the Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific (APRC), which provided a useful opportunity for countries across Asia and the Pacific to highlight their priorities for FAO's work in the region, particularly in the context of Covid-19 and its impacts on agriculture, nutrition and food security. We reiterate the call by the Regional Conference of FAO to provide appropriate technical expertise to Small Island Developing States, like those in the Pacific, which have faced particular challenges due to Covid-19 such as the loss of tourism income.</p> <p>We welcomed FAO's confirmation that Blue Growth will continue to be a priority and a key focus for the FAO's work in the Pacific. In particular we appreciated FAO's reassurance in the APRC report that the expanded Regional Initiative on Climate Change (under which the Blue Growth Initiative is being consolidated) will have a strong focus on fisheries, and ensure that the environmental, economic and community objectives of the Blue Growth initiative will continue to be met.</p> <p>We also underscore the call of the Regional Conference to ensure that FAO headquarters (HQ) continues to provide full support to the Decentralized Offices network, ensuring flexibility and efficiency in the use of financial and human resources to respond to member country needs, along with appropriate levels of accountability at the regional level. Finally, Australia supports the APRC's request for FAO to sustain collaboration with regional institutions such as Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and Pacific Community (SPC), and to support a strengthened One Health approach to reduce risk of zoonotic diseases and Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR).</p>
Indonesia – Member (Thursday 26/11/2020 14:08)	<p>Firstly, Indonesia would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Royal Government of Bhutan for hosting a very successful, the first-ever virtual Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific (APRC) and to FAO Secretariat for its excellent preparation and organization.</p> <p>Indonesia appreciates the Report of FAO Regional Conferences and welcomes the common priorities and recommendations coming from the Regional Conferences.</p> <p>In particular, Indonesia would like to support APRC 35 recommendations: (i) to mainstream a food systems approach into national planning processes including social protection; (ii) to reinforce the role of agriculture for ending hunger and eradicating poverty; and (iii) to enhance multi-sectoral and sector-based action to address climate change risks and support sustainable livelihoods, especially during and in the aftermath of COVID-19.</p> <p>We are pleased to note that APRC continues to give support to flexible arrangement and FAO's engagement with various stakeholders in the implementation of the UN Development System repositioning to deliver efficient and better programme implementation at country and regional levels.</p>

	<p>Indonesia urges FAO to expedite efforts for a comprehensive support to smallholders, family farmers, fisherfolk, forest community, including women and youth, as well as for data collection and statistics related to agriculture, food security and nutrition, and help mobilize financial resources that can improve the quality and frequency of data collection, especially in the Small Island Developing States (SIDS), and we welcomed the support provided for the implementation of the Global Action Programme on Food Security and Nutrition in Small Island Developing States.</p> <p>In this regard, Indonesia is ready to further collaborate through strengthening collaboration with FAO member countries in the region, particularly in the framework of the South-South and Triangular Cooperation.</p>
<p>Dominican Republic – Member (Thursday 26/11/2020 17:18)</p>	<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.</p>