

171st Session of the Council

Item 7: Report of the Joint Meeting of the 134th Session of the Programme Committee and 194th Session of the Finance Committee (November 2022)

Chairperson, Members of the Council,

I am pleased to present the Report of the Joint Meeting of the 134th Session of the Programme Committee and 194th Session of the Finance Committee. This Report is submitted to the Council in document CL 171/7.

The Joint Meeting examined, among others, the *Update on the Strategic Exercise of the Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP)*, *Integrated water resources management for food security and climate resilience*, *Strategic policy framework for multilingualism* and the *Establishment of the Committee on Fisheries Sub-Committee on Fisheries Management*. I would like to highlight the following matters for the attention of the Council.

Regarding the Technical Cooperation Programme, the Joint Meeting appreciated the open, transparent and inclusive consultation process. In particular, the Joint Meeting recommended that the Council endorses, for approval by the 43rd Session of the FAO Conference, a new set of TCP resource shares to be applied starting with the 2024-25 biennium.

Members also welcomed the development of initiatives for sustainable agricultural water management, addressing the impacts of water scarcity, drought and floods on agrifood systems.

In relation to the *Strategic policy framework for multilingualism* and the *Establishment of the Committee on Fisheries Sub-Committee on Fisheries Management*, the Joint Meeting recommended the Council to endorse the policy framework and the establishment of the Sub-Committee.

Finally, I would like to underline that in other items, the Joint Meeting recognized the strengthened Rome-based Agencies (RBAs) collaboration, in particular at country level, welcomed the active participation of FAO Country Offices in the formulation, negotiation and adoption of the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks and FAO Country Programming Frameworks by the governments, and noted that the UN Food Systems Coordination Hub has started to provide technical support to countries.

Dear Members of the Council, I would like to invite you to review the full Report of the Joint Meeting of the 134th Session of the Programme Committee and 194th Session of the Finance Committee. For your convenience, this Report includes an excellent executive summary prepared by the Secretariat. I am pleased to provide any further explanations you may have regarding this Report.

H.E. Yael Rubinstein, Chairperson of the Joint Meeting of the 134th Session of the Programme Committee and 194th Session of the Finance Committee