

43rd Session of the Conference

Introduction to Item 20: Medium Term Plan (Reviewed) 2022-25 and Programme of Work and Budget 2024-25

The Medium Term Plan (Reviewed) 2022-25 (MTP) covers a period of four years and provides the programmatic framework for results and monitoring to support the achievement of objectives by Members and the international community. The Programme of Work and Budget 2024-25 (PWB) presents an integrated view of total resource requirements to carry out the biennial programme of work comprising two distinct sources of funding: assessed contributions and extrabudgetary resources.¹

The MTP/PWB derives from the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31 endorsed by the Conference in 2021, which supports the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (the 2030 Agenda) through the transformation to MORE efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable agrifood systems for *better production, better nutrition, a better environment, and a better life*, leaving no one behind.

The Strategic Framework 2022-31 encourages innovative and forward-thinking approaches that are risk-aware, adaptable and responsive to unforeseen events, and the twenty Programme Priority Areas (PPAs), anchored in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), capitalize on the wealth of FAO's multidisciplinary technical expertise to tackle existing and emerging challenges.

After partially recovering in 2021, the global economy has been experiencing a renewed slowdown in 2022, fuelled by a series of overlapping crises, including the continued impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, conflicts, the war in Ukraine, soaring food prices and overall inflation, and tightening financial conditions in most regions. The most recent estimates indicate that both the number of people affected by chronic hunger and the prevalence of undernourishment are on the rise.

With ongoing, complex and overlapping crises which continue to affect global food security, especially in the poorest countries and among vulnerable populations, agrifood systems are at the core of the 2030 Agenda and offer key opportunities to help us reach the SDGs.

In this context, the MTP (Reviewed) 2022-25, through the PPAs and the *four betters*, delivers results against its results framework through identified PPAs and – in line with the transformative nature of the 2030 Agenda – through a systems approach, considering social, economic and environmental development dimensions simultaneously, addressing the relevant trade-offs and optimizing synergies in achieving the SDGs.

After six successive biennia of a flat nominal budget and corresponding decline in purchasing power of USD 67.2 million or approximately seven percent, the Director-General has presented for 2024-25 a net appropriation budget with cost increases added, thus maintaining purchasing power parity (“zero real growth”). The budget also includes increased recoveries of USD 22.7 million for direct and indirect support costs associated with the growing extra-budgetary programme and reallocations to high priority areas.

The MTP (Reviewed) 2022-25 and the PWB 2024-25 are submitted to the Conference for its review and approval, including on the proposed budget level of USD 1 021.7 million at a budget rate of exchange of EUR 1 = USD 1.12.

Ms Beth Crawford, Director, Office of Strategy, Programme and Budget

¹ Basic Texts, Volume II.F, Resolution No. 10/2009, *Implementation of the IPA regarding the reform of the programming, budgeting and results-based monitoring system* (IPA Actions 3.1 to 3.11).