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منظمة
الأغذية والزراعة
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FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Thirty-fourth Session

Mexico City, Mexico, 29 February-3 March 2016

Multi-Year Programme of Work for the Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean

Executive Summary

- The Multi-Year Programme of Work for the Regional Conference of Latin America and the Caribbean (LARC) version set out below is a slightly revised version of the MYPOW adopted during the 33rd Session covering the 2012–2015 period.

Suggested actions for the Regional Conference

- The Regional Conference is requested to approve the revised MYPOW for 2016–19.

Please send any questions on this document to the Secretary for LARC 34, Tito.Diaz@fao.org

I. Overall objectives

1. The overall objectives reflect the enhanced role of Regional Conferences in the Governance process of FAO. In particular, the Regional Conference reviews the situation in the Region regarding matters pertaining to the Organization's mandate and offers advice and action-oriented recommendations to the FAO Conference on global policy and regulatory matters, and to the Council on matters pertaining to the priorities, programmes and budgets of the Organization.

2. In this context, the Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean (LARC) provides regional perspectives on FAO's strategies and priorities and formulates specific recommendations on regional activities, which also contribute to enhanced efficiency and effectiveness. It also conducts regional-level assessments with the aim of improving the sustainability of agriculture and food security. It oversees the functions and activities of FAO in the region in accordance with the Basic Texts of the Organization. It operates efficiently and effectively, cooperating where appropriate with the relevant partner organizations.

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3. The regional commissions review technical aspects and issues of importance in the areas of forestry (Latin American and the Caribbean Forestry Commission [L AFC]), livestock (Commission on Livestock Development for Latin America and the Caribbean [CODEGALAC]), and fisheries (Commission for Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture of Latin America and the Caribbean [COPESCAALC] and the Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission [WCAFC]). They act as technical advisory bodies of the Regional Conference and their recommendations complement and inform the discussions during Sessions on the Programme of Work and Regional Priority Framework.

II. Results

A. Priority setting, organizational structure and budget planning

4. Result

Regional Conference recommendations and guidance on regional priorities, regional initiatives, programmes, organizational structure and budgets of regional interest, as well as on the regional situation and issues pertaining to food security, agriculture and rural development, provide a sound basis for decision-making by the FAO Council and Conference, as appropriate.

5. Indicators and target

- a) Clear and specific recommendations made in a timely manner by the Regional Conference to Council through the Programme and Finance Committees regarding FAO's priorities, programmes, initiatives, organizational structure and budgets of interest to the Region, as appropriate, with relevant indicators.
- b) Regional Conference recommendations relating to the Regional Priority Framework, the Strategic Framework, the Medium Term Plan (MTP) and the Programme of Work and Budget (PWB) are reflected in the FAO Council and Conference reports.
- c) Regional Conference guidance on regional issues receives due attention in the FAO Council and Conference, as well as in other relevant bodies.

6. Outputs

Clear, precise and consensual recommendations for Council on priorities, regional initiatives, programmes, organizational structure and budget for the Region.

7. Activities

- a) Review implementation of the Regional Priority Framework and the PWB in the Region.
- b) Review decisions and recommendations from the regional committees and other relevant bodies and meetings in the Region (namely L AFC, CODEGALAC, COPACO and COPESCAALC).
- c) Review the performance of the Organization in the Region, including effectiveness and efficiency of the network of FAO offices in support of country programmes, taking account of related performance indicators and pertinent evaluations.
- d) Advise on the plans, programmes and projects carried out by the Organization in the Region, including specific priorities for FAO's work and regional initiatives.

8. Working methods

- a) Liaison with relevant statutory bodies, including the regional commissions and other institutions in the Region.
- b) Informal consultations among member countries as appropriate to foster dialogue during the intersession period.
- c) Informal consultation meetings of senior staff of the Regional Office with the Latin America and Caribbean Regional Group.

- d) Regular contacts and informal consultation between the Chairperson of the Regional Conference and the Assistant Director General and Regional Representative.

B. Monitoring of and advice on policy and regulatory matters

9. Result

Regional Conference recommendations provide a sound basis for decisions by the FAO Conference on regional policy and regulatory matters.

10. Indicators and targets

- a) Clear and timely recommendations included in the Regional Conference report.
- b) Regional Conference recommendations taken up by the FAO Conference.

11. Product

Clear recommendations for the FAO Conference on regional policy and regulatory frameworks.

12. Activities

- a) Review the status of key international instruments of relevance to the Region, and major developments and initiatives in other fora impacting on the mandate of FAO.
- b) Consider the recommendations from FAO statutory bodies, including regional commissions and meetings of relevance to the Region.
- c) Address new and emerging issues and recommend possible concerted action by FAO and other relevant bodies in the Region.
- d) Consider the desirability of developing international agreements for the Region.

13. Working methods

- a) Review of regional and global trends in policies and regulations of relevance to the Region.
- b) Liaison with relevant FAO statutory bodies and other institutions in the Region.
- c) Informal consultation meetings of senior staff of the Regional Office with the Latin America and Caribbean Regional Group.
- d) Regular contacts and informal consultation between the Chairperson of the Regional Conference and the Assistant Director General and Regional Representative.

C. Work planning and working methods

14. Result

The Regional Conference operates effectively and efficiently, in an action-oriented, inclusive way.

15. Indicators and targets

- a) Regional Conference agendas are focused.
- b) Regional Conference reports are concise, consisting mostly of specific, action-oriented recommendations, and are made available to members in a timely manner.
- c) Regional Conference documents adhere to new institutional report presentation standards and are made available in the required languages six weeks before the session commences.
- d) Member countries generally participate at the appropriate level in the Regional Conference.

16. Outputs

- a) Endorsement of the Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPOW) for the Regional Conference in 2016.

- b) Progress report on the Regional Conference MYPOW provided at the last Council session of the biennium¹.
- c) Methods of work of the Regional Conference are kept under review and improvements sought regularly.

17. Activities

- a) Consult with Member countries on the agenda and format of the Regional Conference.
- b) Consider ways to improve the conduct of sessions, including enhanced focus and efficient use of the time available.
- c) Review the Rules of Procedure for the Regional Conference.
- d) Preparation of the MYPOW, with performance indicators and presentation of programme progress reports to the FAO Council and Conference.
- e) Regular review of methods of work, including performance measures.
- f) Review of the status of implementation of the Regional Conference recommendations.

18. Working methods

- a) Consultations with Members, through the Chairperson of the Regional Conference as appropriate.
- b) Intersessional activities facilitated by the Chairperson of the Regional Conference through the Bureau, with support from the Secretariat.
- c) Structured and focused deliberations during sessions.
- d) Efficient drafting arrangements for reports.
- e) Secretariat support for the implementation of, and follow-up to, the MYPOW.
- f) Informal meetings of the Chairperson and members of the Latin America and Caribbean Regional Group and senior members of the Secretariat, facilitated by the Independent Chairperson of Council.

¹ See document CL 153/9, paragraph 29 <http://www.fao.org/about/meetings/council/cl153/documents/es/>