

REPORT

OF THE COUNCIL OF FAO

Hundred and Seventy-first Session
5-9 December 2022



**Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations**

COUNCIL
(as from 1 July 2022)

Independent Chairperson of the Council: Mr Hans Hoogeveen

Afghanistan ¹	Congo ²	Iraq ^{3,7}	Qatar ³
Angola ³	Costa Rica ³	Israel ³	Republic of Korea ²
Argentina ³	Côte d'Ivoire ³	Japan ²	Russian Federation ⁴
Australia ¹	Egypt ¹	Kenya ³	Saudi Arabia ¹
Bahamas ³	Equatorial Guinea ²	Kuwait ²	Slovenia ³
Bangladesh ²	Eritrea ¹	Luxembourg ⁴	South Africa ¹
Belarus ²	Ethiopia ²	Malaysia ^{1, 5}	Sweden ¹
Bosnia and Herzegovina ²	France ⁴	Mauritania ³	Tunisia ¹
Brazil ³	Germany ³	Mexico ³	United Kingdom ^{2,6}
Cameroon ⁴	Guatemala ⁴	Nicaragua ²	United States of America ³
Canada ³	Guinea ³	Pakistan ¹	
Chile ²	India ¹	Peru ²	
China ²	Indonesia ²	Philippines ²	

¹ Term of office: 1 July 2020 – end of the 43rd Session of the Conference (2023)

² Term of office: end of the 42nd Session of the Conference (2021) – 30 June 2024

³ Term of office: 1 July 2022 – end of the 44th Session of the Conference (2025)

⁴ Term of office: end of the 42nd Session of the Conference (2021) – end of the 43rd Session of the Conference (2023)

⁵ Malaysia replaced Thailand from 1 January 2022 to the end of the 43rd Session of the Conference (2023)

⁶ United Kingdom replaced Spain from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2024

⁷ Deemed to have resigned in accordance with Rule XXII.7 GRO

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Procedure of the Session

Introductory Items¹

1. The 171st Session of the Council was held from 5 to 9 December 2022, under the Chairpersonship of Mr Hans Hoogeveen, Independent Chairperson of the Council.
2. The Session was convened in a hybrid modality, on an exceptional basis without creating a precedent, in light of the global COVID-19 pandemic and associated public health concerns, with some representatives attending in person at FAO headquarters, and others participating virtually. This followed consultations by the Director-General with the Independent Chairperson of the Council, and with the Regional Groups of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).
3. The Council confirmed, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of Procedure of the Council, that it agreed to the suspension of any rules incompatible with the hybrid setting, specifically Rule II.3 of the Rules of Procedure of the Council, which provides that each session of the Council shall be held at the seat of the Organization.

Statement by the Director-General²

4. The Director-General, Dr QU Dongyu, delivered a statement to Council.

Adoption of the Agenda and Timetable³

5. The Council noted the Declaration of Competence and Voting Rights presented by the European Union and adopted the Agenda and Timetable for the Session, as amended.
6. The Council approved the special procedures outlined in document CL 171/INF/5, *Special Procedures for the 171st Session of the Council*.
7. The Agenda is given in *Appendix A* to this Report.

Election of three Vice-Chairpersons, and designation of the Chairperson and Members of the Drafting Committee⁴

8. The Council elected three Vice-Chairpersons for its Session: Mr Abdoulaye Traore (Guinea); Mr Khalid Yousuf Al-Sada (Qatar); and Ms Alison Storsve (United States of America).
9. The Council elected Ms Marie-Lise Stoll (Luxembourg) as Chairperson of the Drafting Committee with the following membership: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Côte d'Ivoire, France, Luxembourg, Russian Federation and Saudi Arabia.^{5,6}

¹ CL 171/PV/1; CL 171/PV/9

² CL 171/PV/1; CL 171/PV/9

³ CL 171/1; CL 171/INF/1; CL 171/INF/3; CL 171/INF/5; CL 171/PV/1; CL 171/PV/9

⁴ CL 171/PV/1; CL 171/PV/5; CL 171/PV/9

⁵ The Member States of the European Union which are Members of the Council and Canada, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States of America chose to disassociate themselves from consensus on the election of the Russian Federation as a member of the Drafting Committee

⁶ The Russian Federation chose to disassociate itself from consensus on the election of Canada, France, and Luxembourg as members of the Drafting Committee, and the United States of America as Vice-Chairperson.

Programmatic Matters

Update on FAO's work on the global food crisis^{7, 8}

10. The Council, through a roll call vote as per the provisions of Rule XII.7(a), rejected an amendment to the draft decision as contained in document CL 171/3 Add.1.
11. The Council decided by vote⁹ to adopt the Proposal contained in document CL 171/3 Add.1, and co-sponsored by 52 FAO Members including 16 Member Nations of the Council. Accordingly, the Council adopted the following decision:¹⁰
12. **The Council:**
- a) **expressed grave concern about the continued devastating impact of the Russian Federation's war in Ukraine on global food insecurity as well as on availability and affordability of food, fertilizer, and energy, particularly for the poorest countries and most vulnerable populations;**
 - b) **recalled UN General Assembly resolutions A/RES/ES-11/4 dated October 12, 2022, entitled *Territorial integrity of Ukraine: defending the principles of the Charter of the United Nations* and A/RES/ES-11/2 dated 24 March 2022, entitled *Humanitarian consequences of the aggression against Ukraine*, and A/RES/ES-11/1 of 2 March 2022, entitled *Aggression against Ukraine*;**
 - c) **reaffirmed the decision and recommendations of its 169th and 170th Sessions (CL 169/REP, paragraph 11 and CL 170/REP, paragraphs 14-19) as well as the recommendations of the report of the 33rd Session of the Regional Conference for Europe (C 2023/16, paragraphs 30-31);**
 - d) **welcomed and stressed the importance of the Initiative on the Safe Transportation of Grain and Foodstuffs from Ukrainian Ports, known as the "Black Sea Grain Initiative", adopted in Istanbul on 22 July 2022 and the necessity for this initiative to remain in effect as long as necessary;**
 - e) **requested FAO's political and technical support for sustaining the Black Sea Grain Initiative, noting its importance to ensuring food availability and access to countries in all regions, especially the most vulnerable populations;**
 - f) **noted document CL171/3 and welcomed the 21 September 2022 Second Joint Statement by the Heads of FAO, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank Group (WBG), World Food Programme (WFP), and World Trade Organization (WTO) on the Global Food Security and Nutrition Crisis, which stated "the war in Ukraine continues to exacerbate the global food security and nutrition crisis, with high and volatile energy, food and fertilizer prices, restrictive trade policies, and supply chain disruptions," and "welcome[d] the efforts of the Global Crisis Response Group and the Black Sea Grain Initiative;"**
 - g) **requested that FAO continue to monitor the situation closely and update Members in writing at least quarterly, including through the FAO webpage dedicated to the crisis in Ukraine, and to submit to the Council at its next sessions:**

⁷ CL 171/3; CL 171/PV/1; CL 171/PV/2; CL 171/PV/9

⁸ The Russian Federation disassociates itself from paragraphs 9(i), 9(j), 11(d) and 27(d) of the Report of the 75th Session of the Committee on Commodity Problems; from paragraphs 15(g), 27(c), 27(d) and 29(b) of the Report of the 28th Session of the Committee on Agriculture; and paragraph 6(d) of the Report of the 134th Session of the Programme Committee due to the fact that conflicts and their characterization with legal implications are not within the mandate of FAO (CL 171/PV/9)

⁹ Roll call vote with total votes cast: 29; votes in favour: 26; votes against: 3; abstentions: 12

¹⁰ Brazil, Indonesia, Malaysia and the Russian Federation issued Explanations of Vote which can be consulted in the Verbatim Records of the Session (CL 171/PV/2)

- i. an updated comprehensive impact assessment of the conflict in Ukraine on global food security and related matters under the mandate of the FAO, including data and information specifically tailored to the impacts on each region, with particular attention to impacts on the most vulnerable countries;
 - ii. an updated Ukraine Rapid Response Plan, including a detailed overview of financial needs;
 - iii. a comprehensive assessment of the damage to Ukraine's agriculture and food sector within Ukraine's internationally recognized borders, as well as the anticipated reconstruction and rehabilitation costs due to loss and damage resulting from the conflict.
 - iv. a review and assessment of the conflict's impact on global food security, including at regional and country level, and on consequent achievement of the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-2031 and the Medium Term Plan 2022-2025, with proposals for adjustments as necessary to the Program of Work and Budget 2022-2023 and Medium Term Plan 2022-2025 aimed at improved response to the global food security crisis.
- h) recommended that FAO propose to Members via the relevant technical committees and Governing Bodies how the Organization might leverage its FAO Strategy for Private Sector Engagement 2021-2025, FAO Science and Innovation Strategy, Strategy on Climate Change 2022-2031, and Rome-based agency collaboration mechanisms to support recovery assistance and resilience building in food systems for countries most affected by the global food crisis;
- i) welcomed and encouraged FAO's continued commitments to:
- i. strengthening global market transparency and coordination among Members, through initiatives such as the Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS);
 - ii. supporting with data and appropriate coordination of the Food Shock Window established by the IMF in September 2022 for low-condition emergency loans to help eligible countries cope with food shortages and rising costs stemming from the Russian Federation's war in Ukraine, which Members appreciated was developed from a FAO policy proposal;
 - iii. collaborating with the WTO and others as appropriate, on a joint endeavour to study fertilizer markets and policies with the aim of supporting countries with policy advice on refraining from introducing export restrictions on fertilizers;
 - iv. supporting the most vulnerable countries to access international fertilizer markets and to improve efficiency in its use, including supporting AMIS in expanding its mandate to include fertilizers in its commodity coverage to allow all market and policy developments to be closely monitored and publicly disseminated;
 - v. accelerating innovation, joint planning, agricultural research and development, and systemic coordination with other UN entities and relevant bodies, especially the Rome-based Agencies (RBAs) and international financial institutions, to connect short-, medium- and long-term opportunities and deliver support in a timely manner; and
 - vi. keeping Members notified in this regard through regular briefings, consultations, and reporting to the FAO Governing Bodies.
- j) underlined the importance of keeping open the trade of food and agriculture inputs

and products to obviate the negative impact on food security globally and avoid trade barriers in this respect; and

- k) **decided to remain seized of this matter and add it to the agenda of its next regular sessions, entitled “The impact of the war in Ukraine on global food security and related matters under the mandate of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).”**

13. The Council, through a roll call vote as per the provisions of Rule XII.7 (a), rejected the proposal for decision as contained in CL 171/3 Add.2.¹¹

14. The Council appreciated the update on FAO’s work on the global food crisis, and in particular:

- a) noted the Organization’s role as a provider of timely information, analyses and early warning on food and agricultural markets, food security and nutrition as a reliable leader and partner in achieving global food security;
- b) welcomed the progress on the targeted policy proposals and the emergency and humanitarian response measures in countries;
- c) highlighted the value of the Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS) and the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) in informing decisions and guiding policy responses and interventions, and called on Members to support these initiatives, including through the provision of timely data and information;
- d) underlined the importance of continued strengthening of FAO’s data and statistics as well as its market monitoring and outlook work, which are critical for enhancing market transparency and informing policy decisions;
- e) commended FAO for its leadership and contributions to food security-related deliberations and decisions in international *fora*;
- f) welcomed FAO’s collaboration with relevant international organizations and bodies, to raise awareness about the challenges and advocate for solutions, respecting their own mandates and maximizing complementarities;
- g) recalled paragraph 20(i) of the Report of the 170th Session of the Council;
- h) recognized the progress made with the concept and design for the Food Import Financing Facility (FIFF) as an important tool to support countries to shoulder soaring costs of food imports and improve access to food at country level, including by addressing availability of access to fertilizers, and requested FAO to continue its cooperation with relevant international organizations and bodies in this regard;
- i) highlighted the importance of integrating short- and long-term measures in the support FAO provides to Members for transforming agrifood systems to be more efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable, to be made in a coherent manner, as appropriate, in accordance with and dependent on national contexts and capacities, with the objective to leave no one behind;
- j) reaffirmed that the focus on agrifood systems’ transformation, made in a coherent manner, as appropriate, in accordance with and dependent on national contexts and capacities embedded in the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31, provides a promising entry point for a comprehensive response to the global food crisis, and invited FAO to intensify co-operation in particular with all relevant UN organizations and bodies on sustainable food systems, in line with Agenda 2030 and the three dimensions of sustainable development, in order to mitigate the current food crisis and avert future crises.

¹¹ Indonesia issued an Explanation of Vote which can be consulted in the Verbatim Records of the Session (CL 171/PV/2).

15. The Council highlighted the importance of the role of FAO, which falls under its purview, in addressing the current challenges of food security and agriculture, and underlined the need for FAO and its Governing Bodies and Members to focus on matters relevant to the mandate of the Organization.

Update on the Hand-in-Hand Initiative¹²

16. The Council welcomed document CL 171/4, *Update on the Hand-in-Hand (HIH) Initiative*, and:

- a) commended the increase in the number of countries participating in the Initiative to 54, noted the challenges faced by participating member countries, especially those facing conflict, and appreciated the flexibility and agility of the Initiative to help them sustain work-in-progress under crisis conditions;
- b) stressed the need to continue ensuring the alignment of the Initiative with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF), and joint programming within the UN development system, and increasing synergies such as the follow-up to the United Nations Food Systems Summit (UNFSS) 2021;
- c) recognized that all Members may participate in the HIH Initiative, not only as beneficiaries but also as development and resource partners through multiple channels, including direct support from member countries through the Flexible Voluntary Contribution;
- d) welcomed the continued transparency on the financing of the HIH Initiative and looked forward to continued regular updates on the Initiative, including further updates on the Geospatial Platform and financial considerations;
- e) welcomed the first HIH Investment Forum which took place during the World Food Forum in October 2022;
- f) took note of the substantial progress made on the HIH website and on the development of a dashboard that tracks delivery and impact, and looked forward to receiving information on the next phase of development; and
- g) welcomed the provision of HIH communication materials and the development of a global HIH communication strategy as a way to deepen internal engagement and expand HIH partnerships at global and local levels.

Integrated water resources management for food security and climate resilience¹³

17. The Council appreciated document CL 171/6, *Integrated water resources management for food security and climate resilience*, and in particular within the mandate of FAO:

- a) reiterated the importance of water resources management for sustainable food systems, food security, food safety, and climate resilience, and welcomed the initiative to develop and implement sustainable agricultural water management for promoting mitigation and adaptation to climate change, and addressing the impacts of water scarcity, drought and floods on agrifood systems as guided by the FAO Strategy on Climate Change 2022-2031;
- b) underlined the need for FAO to analyse the resources needed to implement programmatic actions on integrated water resources management with sufficient resources, including from global financial institutions, resource partners and voluntary contributions by Members;

¹² CL 171/4; CL 171 PV/8; CL 171/PV/9

¹³ CL 171/6; CL 171/7 para 8; CL 171/PV/3; CL 171/PV/4; CL 171/PV/9

- c) noted, in line with Agenda 2030 and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the need to respect the rights of individuals with respect to water, and acknowledged in this regard the importance of FAO's initiatives on the complexity of water access, water tenure, and sustainable water management and allocation systems;¹⁴
- d) encouraged FAO to continue seizing the growing momentum ahead of the United Nations 2023 Water Conference, including through consideration of Indigenous Peoples' approaches;
- e) underscored the importance of science and innovation to support strengthening integrated water resources management, guided by the FAO Science and Innovation Strategy and the FAO Strategy on Climate Change;
- f) encouraged FAO to fully engage in the United Nations 2023 Water Conference as well as other water related engagements, in particular as custodian of indicators 6.4.1 and 6.4.2 of SDG 6, and report back to Members with relevant information regarding the discussions on water management for agriculture;
- g) recommended FAO to step up the work on the Global Framework on Water Scarcity in Agriculture (WASAG) to support Members, upon request, in building and developing capacities to produce data on available and actual use of water resources for agriculture, and in collaboration with relevant UN bodies to initiate a global dialogue on water tenure; and
- h) recommended FAO, in close collaboration with relevant UN agencies, to support Members, upon request, in their country-led efforts to conduct national water dialogues and develop their national water roadmaps towards the SDGs, as well as building and developing capacities, technical support, research and innovation, and to produce data on water resources for agriculture, as appropriate.

Reports of the Technical Committees

Report of the 75th Session of the Committee on Commodity Problems (13-15 July 2022)¹⁵

18. The Council reviewed the Report of the 75th Session of the Committee on Commodity Problems (CCP), and in particular:
- a) appreciated FAO's work on commodity markets monitoring, outlook and early warning, particularly in view of the increasing number of risks and uncertainties caused by conflicts, climate variability, pests and diseases and economic shocks;
 - b) requested FAO to continue and intensify its efforts to support informed policy decisions and promote policy coordination by providing timely and objective data and information, market assessments and outlooks;
 - c) acknowledged the positive role of the AMIS in enhancing agricultural market transparency and policy responses for food security, reducing extreme price volatility and promoting coordinated policy action, and called on Members to support the initiative, including through timely reporting of country-level data;
 - d) underlined the importance of a freer, fairer, predictable, non-discriminatory and rules-based multilateral trading system, under the World Trade Organization (WTO) and consistent with its rules, for promoting agricultural and rural development and contributing to achieving food security and improved nutrition for all;

¹⁴ Guideline 8: Access to Resources and Assets, from Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security, CL 127/10-Sup.1, paras. 15-19

¹⁵ C 2023/23; CL 171/PV/4 ; CL 171/PV/9

- e) appreciated FAO's efforts to conduct *ex-ante* analysis, scenarios and foresight studies, and encouraged the Organization to include a broader range of supply, demand and risk factors;
 - f) commended the partnerships between FAO and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) on the medium-term projection work, and with the WTO on agricultural trade, and encouraged FAO to strengthen them further;
 - g) encouraged FAO to continue its support to Members, upon request, in capacity building for effective participation in trade agreements and evidence-based design of trade and trade related policies and strategies, such as through analyses and facilitation of policy dialogue on trade, agriculture, food security and sustainability at the global and regional levels to inform trade policy discussions and trade negotiations;
 - h) noted the findings of the flagship report *The State of Agricultural Commodity Markets (SOCO) 2022*, and highlighted the importance that future editions of SOCO continue to focus on the situation of agricultural commodity markets as they are impacted by current and emerging issues, developed through an inclusive input process;
 - i) expressed appreciation for FAO's work in the area of agrifood trade, including through the provision of up-to-date data, information and scientific evidence to inform policy discussions;
 - j) expressed appreciation for the work conducted by the Global Information and Early Warning System (GIEWS), its various products and services, and emphasized the significance of geospatial and digital technologies in collecting and analysing data and information; and
 - k) endorsed the priorities for FAO's work in the area of commodity markets and trade in the context of the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31 and the Medium Term Plan 2022-25.
19. With the above observations, the Council endorsed¹⁶ aspects and recommendations of the Report relating to programme and budgetary matters.

Report of the 28th Session of the Committee on Agriculture (18-22 July 2022)¹⁷

20. The Council reviewed the Report of the 28th Session of the Committee on Agriculture (COAG), and in particular:
- a) welcomed the Report of the First Session of the Committee on Agriculture Sub-Committee on Livestock (16-18 March 2022) and its Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPOW) 2022-2025, and looked forward to the global assessment on the contribution of the livestock sector to the SDGs to be prepared for the next session of the Sub-Committee on Livestock;
 - b) welcomed the development of the One Health Joint Plan of Action and strengthened cooperation between the Quadripartite, and recommended to enhance data integration and sharing across sectors, to strengthen global One Health knowledge and scientific information systems, and to assist Members, upon request, on national One Health early warning frameworks for rapid risk assessments of animal and zoonotic disease threats;
 - c) recommended FAO to strengthen cooperation between the Quadripartite and the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) to consider plant health;
 - d) welcomed the progress made in the implementation of the Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) 2021-2025, in close collaboration with the Quadripartite, and encouraged FAO to support Members in their implementation of good production practices as well as in AMR management throughout the food supply chain, called for the implementation of the Codex Alimentarius guidelines and standards on AMR and supported the development of guidelines, in line with the Action Plan, on monitoring the use of antimicrobials with the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH);

¹⁶ The Russian Federation disassociates itself from paragraphs 9(i), 9(j), 11(d) and 27(d) of the Report. The statement by the Russian Federation may be found in the Verbatim Records of the Session (CL 171/PV/4).

¹⁷ C 2023/22; CL 171/PV/4; CL 171/PV/5; CL 171/PV/9

- e) emphasized the role of agricultural innovation and recommended to further develop and promote participatory approaches for agricultural research, pluralistic extension and advisory services to enable smallholders and family farmers to access and participate in appropriate innovation, information and advisory services;
- f) welcomed the progress made in the implementation of the UN Decade of Family Farming 2019-2028 (UNDFP) and stressed the need to mobilize financial resources in this regard;
- g) stressed the importance of agriculture and forestry linkages, and of strengthened coordination between the Committee on Agriculture and the Committee on Forestry on related cross-sectoral matters, and recommended to continue collecting and analysing science and evidence-based data on agriculture and forestry interdependencies;
- h) encouraged FAO to continue playing an active role in relevant international *fora* by promoting open dialogue on enhancing and promoting sustainable agrifood systems and further working with other international partners, including all relevant stakeholders and particularly members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF), to upscale synergies between agriculture and forestry;
- i) welcomed progress in the implementation of the FAO Strategy on Mainstreaming Biodiversity across Agricultural Sectors and its 2021-23 Action Plan, and looked forward to regular reporting on further implementation;
- j) noted the importance of the *Report on the State of the World's Land and Water Resources for Food and Agriculture*, and recommended FAO to consider reporting these issues through a regular flagship publication, to undertake an assessment of existing water tenure arrangements and to initiate a Global Dialogue on Water Tenure matters within FAO's mandate;
- k) encouraged FAO to undertake further scientific and evidence-based assessments related to the distribution, benefits, trade-offs and risks of plastics for agricultural use and their alternatives, to address knowledge gaps on plastics in agriculture, and requested the development of policy instruments, taking into account Members' past and ongoing efforts as well as developing countries' needs and challenges;
- l) underscored the need for improved intersectoral collaboration and governance to address plastic use throughout agrifood systems, and recommended FAO to continue to address knowledge gaps, including through inclusive participation of Members and consultations with relevant stakeholders, and subject to the evidence-based assessment referred to in subparagraph k) to develop, within FAO's mandate, a Voluntary Code of Conduct on the sustainable use of plastics in agriculture;
- m) encouraged FAO to support deliberations of the intergovernmental negotiating committee (INC) on plastic pollution to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution established by the United Nations Environment Assembly Resolution *End plastic pollution: Towards an international legally binding instrument* (UNEP/EA.5/Res.14) with guidance on the issues of plastics used in agriculture;
- n) welcomed the progress on the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030 and recommended FAO to address the restoration of agricultural production ecosystems within its policies and programmes;
- o) noted the programme of work in the agrifood sectors under the Strategic Framework 2022-31, and encouraged FAO to continue to strengthen its normative and standard setting work;
- p) noting the programmatic and budgetary nature of its content, endorsed the new Global Soil Partnership (GSP) Action Framework 2022-2030, and supported the preparation of an in-depth analysis on the proposed institutionalization of the GSP, for further review by the 11th GSP Plenary Assembly and the 29th Session of COAG; and

- q) endorsed the draft Conference Resolution on the observance by the UN System of an “*International Day of Potato*” on 30 May every year, as set out in *Appendix C* to this Report, for adoption by the 43rd Session of the Conference.

21. With the above observations, the Council endorsed¹⁸ aspects and recommendations of the Report relating to programme and budgetary matters.

Report of the 35th Session of the Committee on Fisheries (5-9 September 2022)¹⁹

22. The Council reviewed the Report of the 35th Session of the Committee on Fisheries (COFI), and in particular:

- a) highlighted the importance of aquatic foods from sustainable fisheries and aquaculture for global food security, nutrition and livelihoods, and their contribution to the achievement of the SDGs, and the need for resources and partnerships to support this contribution;
- b) acknowledged the importance of inland and marine small-scale fisheries for global sustainable development, food security and nutrition and their contribution to employment, livelihoods and resource stewardship, appreciated the continued progress of FAO and its partners with regard to the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication (SSF Guidelines) and their increased policy uptake as a contribution to the achievement of the SDGs and sustainable agrifood systems, and called for continued support by FAO in this regard;
- c) recommended FAO to continue providing technical assistance, capacity building and information dissemination on market information, especially for developing countries;
- d) stressed the need to strengthen efforts to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing, welcomed the recently-adopted WTO Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies as a major step forward for ocean sustainability, and commended FAO for its continued support in achieving this outcome;
- e) appreciated the continued increase in the number of Parties to the Agreement on Port State Measures (PSMA) and noted the conclusions of the Third Meeting of the Parties to the PSMA, including the decision to develop strategies to improve the effectiveness of the PSMA; encouraged further adherence to the Agreement and welcomed the convening of the fourth meeting of the Parties to be hosted by Indonesia in May 2023;
- f) welcomed the endorsement of the FAO Voluntary Guidelines for Transshipment;
- g) commended the work achieved by the Working Group on the Proposal for the establishment of the COFI Sub-Committee on Fisheries Management (SCFM), welcomed the Terms of Reference of the SCFM, and highlighted the importance of the review process to be conducted at the 38th Session of COFI;
- h) endorsed the proposal for establishing a SCFM, including the proposal to hold the first SCFM meeting before the 36th Session of COFI in virtual modality, provided extrabudgetary funding is secured, and taking into consideration administrative implications, underscored the importance of addressing the potential financial and administrative burden, especially for developing Members, and recommended the Conference to approve the establishment of the SCFM; and
- i) welcomed the voluntary contributions from Members towards the organization of sessions of the Sub-Committee, and encouraged Members, Observers and other stakeholders to contribute to the multi-donor fund.

¹⁸ The Russian Federation disassociates itself from paragraphs 15(g), 27(c), 27(d) and 29(b) of the Report. The statement by the Russian Federation may be found in the Verbatim Records of the Session (CL 171/PV/4).

¹⁹ C 2023/24; CL 171/PV/5; CL 171/PV/9

23. With the above observations, the Council endorsed aspects and recommendations of the Report relating to programme and budgetary matters.

Report of the 26th Session of the Committee on Forestry (3-7 October 2022)²⁰

24. The Council reviewed the Report of the 26th Session of the Committee on Forestry (COFO), and in particular:

- a) requested FAO to continue actively identifying the important and mutually beneficial linkages between agriculture and forestry and scaling up its related activities in the relevant Programme Priority Areas (PPAs) of its Strategic Framework 2022-31;
- b) recommended FAO to continue collecting and analysing necessary science- and evidence-based data on agriculture and forestry interdependencies, including on the direct and underlying drivers of deforestation and land degradation, by further enhancing consistency between agricultural and forest data sets, and compiling case studies and good practices, which should be reported at COFO 27;
- c) recommended FAO to strengthen its leadership role in the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF);
- d) urged FAO to support Members with tools, methodologies and capacity development initiatives to strengthen their capacity to scale-up forest ecosystem restoration efforts;
- e) encouraged FAO to promote awareness raising, capacity building, research and innovation for an effective contribution of sustainable bioeconomy, wood and non-wood products and their value chains, to mitigate climate change and support climate adaptation, substituting carbon-intensive products; and increasing resilience to climate change, including through the inclusion of sustainable wood in FAO's Action Plan for the implementation of the FAO Strategy on Climate Change 2022-2031;
- f) recommended FAO to continue the development and harmonization of methods and definitions for forest data collection, including for primary forests, and recommended further efforts towards a definition of "forest degradation" during the FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) 2025 cycle. This includes using remote sensing and conducting related capacity development to help reduce the reporting burden, enhance information sharing, and increase transparency of forest-related data and reporting;
- g) highlighted the importance of field inventory data in quality control and validation of remote sensing-derived results;
- h) invited FAO to support Members, upon request, to further identify opportunities and implement actions to improve complementarity between the agriculture and forestry sectors and strengthen coordinated policy responses towards the realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and recommended that these initiatives do not create unnecessary barriers to trade, and benefit the situation of small-scale producers who are key for global food production; and
- i) endorsed the proposed priority areas of work in forestry in 2022-2023 and beyond, and welcomed their strong alignment with the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31.

25. With the above observations, the Council endorsed aspects and recommendations of the Report relating to programme and budgetary matters.

26. The Council recommended the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters (CCLM) to review the process of election of the Chairperson of COFO for consistency of processes across Technical Committees, recognizing their distinct nature, and to provide recommendations to the next session of the Council.

²⁰ C 2023/25; CL 171/PV/6; CL 171/PV/9

Reports of the Committees of the Council

Report of the Joint Meeting of the 134th Session of the Programme Committee and 194th Session of the Finance Committee (November 2022)²¹

27. The Council reviewed the Report of the Joint Meeting of the 134th Session of the Programme Committee and 194th Session of the Finance Committee, noting that *Integrated water resources management for food security and climate resilience*, *Progress Report on Rome-based Agencies collaboration* and *Strategic policy framework for multilingualism* were taken up under separate items, and:

- a) noted its considerations on the *Annual Report on Corporate Policy, Processes and Measures on the Prevention of Harassment, Sexual Harassment and Sexual Exploitation and Abuse*;
- b) agreed with its observations on the updates on:
 - i. *FAO Country Programming Frameworks (CPFs)*; and
 - ii. *UN Food Systems Coordination Hub*;
- c) endorsed its recommendations on the *Update on the Strategic Exercise of the Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP)*; and
- d) requested that, in time for the next cycle of the Governing Bodies meetings in the spring of 2023, FAO makes available to Members, as appropriate, all endorsed CPFs in one single place.

28. With the above observations, as stated in paragraph 27, the Council endorsed the recommendations of the Report.

Report of the 134th Session of the Programme Committee (7-11 November 2022)²²

29. The Council reviewed the Report of the 134th Session of the Programme Committee, and:
- a) noted its considerations on the *One Country One Priority Product (OCOP) Initiative* and the updates on:
 - i. *Statistical tools and data for statistics*;
 - ii. *FAO statistics work for SDG indicators and the UN Statistics Commission*;
 - iii. *Governance of FAO's statistical data and other data activities and their alignment with cross-cutting FAO policies on Protection of Data and Intellectual Property Rights*;
 - iv. *Development of regional action plans for the FAO Science and Innovation Strategy*; and
 - v. *Action plan for the implementation of the FAO Strategy on Climate Change 2022-2031*;
 - b) requested FAO to share the final draft action plans of the FAO Science and Innovation Strategy and the FAO Strategy on Climate Change for written inputs by Members, so that Members are informed and involved, noting that the action plans are living documents, and encouraged their prompt implementation;
 - c) agreed with its conclusions on the *Preparation for the Medium Term Plan (Reviewed) 2022-25 - Regional and Technical Priorities*, the *Real-time evaluation of FAO's COVID-19 Response and Recovery Programme – Final Report and Management Response*, the *Evaluation of FAO's South-South and Triangular Cooperation and Management Response*, and the follow-up reports on the:
 - i. *Evaluation of FAO's Support to Zero Hunger (SDG 2)*;

²¹ CL 171/7; CL 171/INF/7; CL 171/PV/6; CL 171/PV/9

²² CL 171/8; CL 171/INF/6; CL 171/PV/6; CL 171/PV/9

- ii. *Evaluation of FAO's Technical Cooperation Programme*; and
 - iii. *Evaluation of FAO's Strategy for Partnerships with Civil Society Organizations*;
 - d) requested further refinement and development of the temporary proxy indicators proposed by FAO for SDG indicator 2.4.1, recognising that they must be approved by the UN Statistics Commission, and to keep Members informed to the extent possible;
 - e) encouraged FAO to continue the regular reporting to Members through its relevant Governing Bodies, and to convene an informal consultation with Members on FAO's statistics work for developing the SDG proxy indicators; and
 - f) endorsed its recommendations on the *Work Plan of Evaluations 2022-2025 – Update* and endorsed the *FAO Strategic Priorities for Food Safety within the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31*.
30. With the above observations, the Council endorsed²³ the recommendations of the Report.

Reports of the 192nd (1-3 June 2022), 193rd (27-28 October 2022) and 194th (7-11 November 2022) Sessions of the Finance Committee²⁴

31. The Council reviewed the Reports of the 192nd (1-3 June 2022), 193rd (27-28 October 2022) and 194th (7-11 November 2022) Sessions of the Finance Committee, except for the *Restoration by the Conference of the voting rights of Member Nations in arrears in the payment of their financial contributions to the Organization*, which was taken up under a separate agenda item, and:
- a) endorsed the recommendations of the Finance Committee to:
 - i. recommend the Draft Resolution for adoption by the Conference of the FAO Audited Accounts for 2021, as included in *Appendix D* to this Report, and as reproduced in paragraph 12 of document CL 171/9; and
 - ii. endorsed the appointment of Mr Honoré Ndoko as a member of the FAO Oversight Advisory Committee for an initial period of three years.
32. In addition, the Council endorsed the conclusions of the Finance Committee on:
- a) the Financial Position of the Organization; and
 - b) the Update on the status of recommendations presented in the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) Report, *Review of Whistleblower Policies and Practices in United Nations System Organizations* (JIU/REP/2018/4) and JIU Report, *Review of the State of the Investigation Function: Progress made in the United Nations System Organizations in Strengthening the Investigation Function* (JIU/REP/2020/1).
33. The Council also noted the Finance Committee's considerations on:
- a) Progress Reports on Implementation of Recommendations of the External Auditor and the FAO Oversight Advisory Committee; and
 - b) the Update on scheduling of the FAO Management and Administration Review by the JIU.
34. With the above observations, as stated in paragraph 31, the Council endorsed the recommendations of the Report.

²³ The Russian Federation disassociates itself from paragraph 6(d) of the Report. The statement by the Russian Federation may be found in the Verbatim Records of the Session (CL 171/PV/6)

²⁴ CL 171/9; CL 171/16; CL 171/18; CL 171/LIM/2; C 2023/6A; C 2023/6B; CL 171/PV/6; CL 171/PV/9

Report of the 117th Session of the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters (24-26 October 2022)²⁵

35. The Council reviewed the Report of the 117th Session of the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters (CCLM), except for the *Restoration by the Conference of the voting rights of Member Nations in arrears in the payment of their financial contributions to the Organization* and the *Code of Conduct for Voting*, which were taken up under separate agenda items, and endorsed the recommendations of the CCLM on:

- a) the draft FAO Policy on Intellectual Property Rights;
- b) the proposal to amend the Constitution of the European Commission for the Control of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (EuFMD) and adopted Council Resolution 1/171 set out in *Appendix E* to this Report, and as reproduced in the Annex to the CCLM Report (CL 171/10) containing the amended EuFMD Constitution; and
- c) the implementation of recommendation 7 of the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) Report, *Review of the State of the Investigation Function: Progress made in the United Nations System Organizations in Strengthening the Investigation Function* (JIU/REP/2020/1), taking into account the relevant recommendation of the 194th Session of the Finance Committee as stipulated in paragraph 35 of the Report of the 117th Session of the CCLM.

36. Furthermore, the Council endorsed the conclusions of the CCLM on the Activities of the Development Law Branch.

37. The Council welcomed the CCLM's recalling of the role of the Governing Bodies of the Organization, in particular the Council Committees, in the Organization's formal decision-making process.

38. Finally, the Council noted the CCLM's considerations on:

- a) the Update on the FAO Data Protection Policy; and
- b) the Update on the Review of the jurisdictional setup of the United Nations common system.

39. With the above observations, as stated in paragraph 35, the Council endorsed the recommendations of the Report.

Governance Matters

Progress Report on Rome-based Agencies collaboration²⁶

40. The Council:

- a) welcomed the Progress Report and noted the concrete achievements of Rome-based Agencies (RBA) collaboration, especially at the country level, in line with the recommendations of the *Joint evaluation of collaboration among the United Nations Rome-based Agencies*;
- b) stressed the importance of RBA collaboration in the context of the current food crisis and the fulfilment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), based on each Agency's distinctive strengths and comparative advantages;
- c) took note of the RBA collaboration and active involvement, including through the UN Food System Coordination Hub, in the follow-up to the UNFSS and emphasized their crucial role in making the transformation to sustainable and resilient agrifood systems which should be made in a coherent manner, as appropriate, in accordance with, and dependent on, national contexts and capacities;

²⁵ CL 171/10; CL 171/PV/6; CL 171/PV/9

²⁶ CL 171/13; CL 171/7 para. 9; CL 171/PV/8; CL 171/PV/9

- d) encouraged the RBAs to advance the joint work within the Committee on World Food Security (CFS), and to ensure that the CFS voluntary products are promoted;
- e) noted that a Feasibility Study on the Integration of Administrative Services among the RBAs is being carried out and looked forward to reviewing the results of this assessment at the next session of the Council;
- f) underscored that FAO shall be guided by its agreed mandate in RBA collaboration, including on non-UN system-wide initiatives; and
- g) welcomed the updates provided on the status of implementation of the joint evaluation and the strategic collaboration within the framework of the UN development system (UNDS) repositioning.

Arrangements for the 172nd Session of the Council (24-28 April 2023) and the 43rd Session of the Conference (1-7 July 2023)²⁷

41. The Council recommended the Conference to approve the Provisional Agenda as contained in document CL 171/14, *Arrangements for the 172nd Session of the Council (24-28 April 2023) and 43rd Session of the Conference (1-7 July 2023)*, and in particular that:

- a) two Commissions be established to examine, respectively: (i) Substantive and Policy Matters in Food and Agriculture; and (ii) Programme and Budgetary Matters;
- b) the deadline for receipt of nominations for election to the Council be set at 9:00 hours on Monday, 3 July 2023, and the election be held on Thursday, 6 July 2023; and
- c) the theme of the General Debate at the 43rd Session of the Conference, as well as the biennial theme 2024-25, be “water resources management for the four betters: better production, better nutrition, better environment and better life, to achieve Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals” and that statements by heads of delegations during the General Debate be limited to five minutes each.

42. The Council decided to establish a deadline for receipt of nominations for the Office of the Independent Chairperson of the Council (ICC) at 12:00 hours on Tuesday, 4 April 2023.

43. The Council agreed to recommend to the Conference that Palestine be invited to the Conference in an observer capacity.

44. The Council endorsed the procedures for the address by candidates for the office of the Director-General to the 172nd Session of the Council and the 43rd Session of the Conference.

Restoration by the Conference of the voting rights of Member Nations in arrears in the payment of their financial contributions to the Organization²⁸

45. The Council reviewed document CL 171/19, *Restoration by the Conference of the voting rights of Member Nations in arrears in the payment of their financial contributions to the Organization*, and:

- a) commended the ICC for his leadership in the open, transparent and inclusive consultations on the matter; and
- b) looked forward to reviewing the draft Conference Resolution at its next Session in April 2023, following its review by the CCLM and the Finance Committee, with a view to submit it to the Conference at its 43rd Session for approval.

²⁷ CL 171/14; CL 171/PV/8; CL 171/PV/9

²⁸ CL 171/19; CL 171/9 paras. 13-14; CL 171/10 paras. 23-27; CL 171/PV/6; CL 171/PV/9

Code of Conduct for Voting²⁹

46. The Council commended the ICC on his continued efforts in leading open, inclusive and transparent consultations in order to achieve consensus on a draft text for submission to the 43rd Session of the Conference in July 2023.

47. The Council requested the ICC to continue these consultations with a view to a consensus text being submitted to the next Session of the Council, following review by the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters.

Participation of private sector observers in sessions of the FAO Governing Bodies³⁰

48. The Council appreciated the oral update provided by the ICC regarding his consultations with the Membership on the participation of private sector observers in sessions of the FAO Governing Bodies.

49. The Council noted the complexity of the subject and requested that a consensus should be reached on the general principles, including the feasibility and desirability of participation of the private sector observers in sessions of FAO Governing Bodies, prior to embarking on designing draft guidelines.

50. In this regard, the Council requested a background document addressing questions, remarks and observations raised by Members, and requested the ICC to consult thereon.

Status of implementation of decisions taken at the 169th and 170th Sessions of the Council³¹

51. The Council took note of the status of implementation of decisions taken at its 169th and 170th Sessions, and noted the responses provided by the Secretariat to specific queries raised by Members during this session.

Other Matters

Election of six Members of the WFP Executive Board³²

52. The Council, pursuant to Resolution 7/2011 of 2 July 2011, elected six members of the World Food Programme (WFP) Executive Board, for a period of three years (from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2025) in accordance with the following distribution:

- List A: Gabon³³ and Kenya
- List B: Saudi Arabia
- List C: Brazil
- List D: Canada and Germany

Annual Report of the WFP Executive Board on its activities in 2021³⁴

53. The Council:

- a) acknowledged the WFP's programme performance results in meeting its Strategic Objectives, supported by Management Results Dimensions;

²⁹ CL 171/10 paras. 28-30; CL 171/PV/7; CL 171/PV/9

³⁰ CL 171/21; CL 171/PV/7; CL 171/PV/9

³¹ CL 171/LIM/3; CL 171/PV/7; CL 171/PV/9

³² CL 171/15.1; CL 171/LIM/4; CL 171/PV/7; CL 171/PV/9

³³ Gabon and Chad reached an agreement to share an FAO Council elected seat, with Gabon serving from 1 January 2023 until 30 June 2024, and Chad occupying the seat from 1 July 2024 until 31 December 2025

³⁴ CL 171/15.2; CL 171/PV/8; CL 171/PV/9

- b) recognized the commitment of WFP staff in the field that worked in challenging circumstances to respond to complex humanitarian crises throughout 2021, despite significant reversals in poverty reduction and food security and nutrition caused by the quadruple threat of COVID-19, crisis, climate and costs;
- c) welcomed WFP's commitment to annual targets for key programme output indicators to show where resources are directed and demonstrate the breadth of WFP's work; and
- d) supported WFP's continued efforts to strengthen its work on partnerships at all levels and its contributions to efforts to achieve Zero Hunger and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Strategic policy framework for multilingualism³⁵

54. The Council welcomed the Strategic policy framework for multilingualism, and in particular:
- a) stressed that multilingualism is a fundamental principle of FAO as an international, intergovernmental agency and implies the use of all agreed FAO languages in the delivery of the Organization's mandate;
 - b) noted the importance of the provision of multilingual products and services both at headquarters and decentralized levels, including local languages where possible, emphasized the importance of balance in the provision of linguistic services and products in all FAO languages on the basis of balanced and adequate resource allocation, and recognized the potential for the application of technological advancements to facilitate multilingualism;
 - c) emphasized the importance of respect for multilingualism in the recruitment of human resources, particularly for underrepresented regions;
 - d) noted that progress on the implementation of the strategic policy framework will be reported to Members through a number of reporting instruments including the Programme Implementation Report and the Human Resources Annual Report;
 - e) requested clarification on how the strategic policy framework will be addressed in the next updates to the Programme of Work and Budget and the Medium Term Plan;
 - f) recognized that the strategic policy framework will be subject to review, in consultation with the Membership and through the Governing Bodies, as appropriate, with a view to filling the gaps, and stressed the need to define performance indicators and a monitoring framework; and
 - g) endorsed the strategic policy framework for multilingualism.

Developments in fora of importance for the mandate of FAO³⁶

55. The Council received Briefing Notes on the following topics for information only:
- a) The VII Meeting of the Ministers of Agriculture of the Member States of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO);
 - b) Update on the 27th Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the 15th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and negotiations for a Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework;
 - c) Update on the Science and Innovation Forum, and FAO's leadership and collaboration to "Repurpose food and agricultural support to transform agrifood systems"³⁷.

³⁵ CL 171/7 para. 11; CL 171/17; CL 171/PV/8; CL 171/PV/9

³⁶ CL 171/INF/4; CL 171/INF/4 WA 1-3; CL 171/PV/8; CL 171/PV/9

³⁷ <https://www.fao.org/3/cb6562en/cb6562en.pdf>

56. Members requested additional substantial information about the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between SCO and FAO, taking into account any legal obligations, in line with the FAO Data Protection Policy.

57. As for the general issue of MoUs, the Council looked forward to discussing the dissemination of MoUs signed by FAO, at its 174th Session, following review by the relevant Governing Bodies.

Margarita Lizárraga Medal³⁸

58. The Council endorsed the nomination of Dr Meryl J. Williams at Gender in Aquaculture and Fisheries (GAF), Malaysia, and recommended that the Medal be presented by the Director-General at an award ceremony to be held before 31 December 2023.

Calendar of FAO Governing Bodies and other Main Sessions 2022-2024³⁹

59. The Council approved the Calendar of FAO Governing Bodies for 2022-2024 highlighted in yellow, as reproduced in *Appendix F* to this Report.

Tentative Agenda for the 172nd Session of the Council⁴⁰

60. The Council endorsed the Tentative Agenda of its 172nd Session as contained in CL 171/INF/2, taking into account the decisions of this Council.⁴¹

Update on the Sub-Committee on Livestock⁴²

61. The Council received an update on the Committee on Agriculture Sub-Committee on Livestock.

Appointment by a Representative of the FAO Conference to the Staff Pension Committee⁴³

62. The Council appointed Mr Kuraya Yoshihiro, Minister Counsellor, Deputy Permanent Representative of Japan to FAO, to replace and complete the term of Mr Thanawat Tiensin, former Permanent Representative of Thailand to FAO, as Alternate Member Representative of the FAO Conference to the Staff Pension Committee for the remainder of his term (1 January 2021 until 31 December 2023).

Statement by a Representative of the FAO Staff Bodies⁴⁴

63. Ms Florence Tartanac, President of the AP-in-FAO, made a statement on behalf of the FAO Staff Representative Bodies.

³⁸ CL 171/LIM/5; CL 171/PV/8; CL 171/PV/9

³⁹ CL 171/LIM/1; CL 171/PV/8; CL 171/PV/9

⁴⁰ CL 171/INF/2; CL 171/PV/8; CL 171/PV/9

⁴¹ Took note of the request by Members to consider the following items for discussion in future sessions of the Council: Review of the Decentralized Offices network and presentation by FAO of the strategy concerning the Decentralized Offices network for discussion and decision; and a report on current and future forecasts for global food production stocks and trade in key commodities and an analysis of the food security implications with a particular spotlight on developing countries' access to fertilizer and food imports, to be reviewed by the relevant Technical Committees and other Governing Bodies of FAO

⁴² CL 171/PV/8; CL 171/PV/9

⁴³ CL 171/LIM/6; CL 171/PV/8; CL 171/PV/9

⁴⁴ CL 171/PV/8; CL 171/PV/9

Appendix A

Agenda for the 171st Session of the Council

Procedure of the Session

1. Adoption of the Agenda and Timetable
2. Election of three Vice-Chairpersons, and designation of the Chairperson and Members of the Drafting Committee

Programmatic matters

3. Update on FAO's work on the global food crisis
4. Update on the Hand-in-Hand Initiative
5. Integrated water resources management for food security and climate resilience

Reports of the Technical Committees

6. Technical Committees
 - 6.1 Report of the 75th Session of the Committee on Commodity Problems (13-15 July 2022)
 - 6.2 Report of the 28th Session of the Committee on Agriculture (18-22 July 2022)
 - 6.3 Report of the 35th Session of the Committee on Fisheries (5-9 September 2022)
 - 6.4 Report of the 26th Session of the Committee on Forestry (3-7 October 2022)

Reports of the Committees of the Council

7. Report of the Joint Meeting of the 134th Session of the Programme Committee and 194th Session of the Finance Committee (7, 8, 9 and 11 November 2022)
8. Report of the 134th Session of the Programme Committee (7-11 November 2022)
9. Reports of the 192nd (1-3 June 2022), 193rd (27-28 October 2022) and 194th (7-11 November 2022) Sessions of the Finance Committee
 - 9.1 Audited Accounts – FAO 2021
 - 9.2 Status of current assessments and arrears
10. Report of the 117th Session of the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters (24-26 October 2022)

Governance matters

11. Progress Report on Rome-based Agencies collaboration
12. Arrangements for the 172nd Session of the Council (24-28 April 2023) and 43rd Session of the Conference (1-7 July 2023)
13. Restoration by the Conference of the voting rights of Member Nations in arrears in the payment of their financial contributions to the Organization
14. Code of Conduct for Voting
15. Participation of private sector observers in sessions of the FAO Governing Bodies
16. Status of implementation of decisions taken at the 169th and 170th Sessions of the Council

Other matters

17. World Food Programme:
 - 17.1 Election of six Members of the WFP Executive Board
 - 17.2 Annual Report of the WFP Executive Board on its activities in 2021
18. Strategic policy framework for multilingualism
19. Developments in fora of importance for the mandate of FAO
20. Margarita Lizárraga Medal
21. Calendar of FAO Governing Bodies and other Main Sessions 2022-2024
22. Tentative Agenda for the 172nd Session of the Council
23. Any other matters
 - 23.1 Update on the Sub-Committee on Livestock
 - 23.2 Appointment of a Representative of the FAO Conference to the Staff Pension Committee
 - 23.3 Statement by a Representative of the FAO Staff Bodies

Appendix B

List of Documents

CL 171/1	Provisional Agenda
CL 171/3	Update on FAO's work on the global food crisis
CL 171/3 Add.1	Proposal from 14 Council Members dated 17 November 2022
CL 171/3 Add.2	Proposal from the Russian Federation dated 18 November 2022
CL 171/4	Update on the Hand-in-Hand Initiative
CL 171/6	Integrated water resources management for food security and climate resilience
CL 171/7	Report of the Joint Meeting of the 134th Session of the Programme Committee and 194th Session of the Finance Committee (Rome, 7, 8, 9 and 11 November 2022)
CL 171/8	Report of the 134th Session of the Programme Committee (Rome, 7-11 November 2022)
CL 171/9	Report of the 194th Session of the Finance Committee (Rome, 7-11 November 2022)
CL 171/10	Report of the 117th Session of the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters (Rome, 24-26 October 2022)
CL 171/13	Progress Report on Rome-based Agencies collaboration
CL 171/14	Arrangements for the 172nd Session of the Council (24-28 April 2023) and 43rd Session of the Conference (1-7 July 2023)
CL 171/15.1	Membership of the WFP Executive Board
CL 171/15.2	2021 Annual Report of the WFP Executive Board to ECOSOC and the FAO Council
CL 171/16	Report of the 192nd Session of the Finance Committee (Rome, 1-3 June 2022)
CL 171/17	Strategic policy framework for multilingualism
CL 171/18	Report of the 193rd Session of the Finance Committee (Rome, 27-28 October 2022)
CL 171/19	Restoration by the Conference of the voting rights of Member Nations in arrears in the payment of their financial contributions to the Organization
 C 2023 Series	
C 2023/6A	Audited Accounts – FAO 2021
C 2023/6B	Audited Accounts – FAO 2021 – Part B – Report of the External Auditor

C 2023/22	Report of the 28th Session of the Committee on Agriculture (Rome, 18-22 July 2022)
C 2023/23	Report of the 75th Session of the Committee on Commodity Problems (Rome, 13-15 July 2022)
C 2023/24	Report of the 35th Session of the Committee on Fisheries (Rome, 5-9 September 2022)
C 2023/25	Report of the 26th Session of the Committee on Forestry (Rome, 3-7 October 2022)
CL 171 INF Series	
CL 171/INF/1	Provisional Timetable
CL 171/INF/2	Tentative Agenda for the 172nd Session of the Council
CL 171/INF/3	Statement of competence and voting rights submitted by the European Union and its Member States
CL 171/INF/4	Developments in fora of importance for the mandate of FAO
CL 171/INF/4 Web Annex 1	The VII Meeting of the Ministers of Agriculture of the Member States of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)
CL 171/INF/4 Web Annex 2	Update on the 27th Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the 15th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and negotiations for a Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework
CL 171/INF/4 Web Annex 3	Update on the Science and Innovation Forum, and FAO's leadership and collaboration to repurpose food and agricultural support to transform agrifood systems
CL 171/INF/5	Special Procedures for the 171st Session of the Council
CL 171/INF/6	Update on One Country One Priority Product (OCOP) Initiative
CL 171/INF/7	Annual Report on Corporate Policy, Processes and Measures on the Prevention of Harassment, Sexual Harassment and Sexual Exploitation and Abuse
CL 171 LIM Series	
CL 171/LIM/1	Calendar of FAO Governing Bodies and other Main Sessions 2022-2024
CL 171/LIM/2	Status of current assessments and arrears as at 28 November 2022
CL 171/LIM/3	Status of implementation of decisions taken at the 169th (8 April 2022) and 170th (13-17 June 2022) Sessions of the Council
CL 171/LIM/4	Election of six Members of the WFP Executive Board

CL 171/LIM/5 Margarita Lizárraga Medal

CL 171/LIM/6 Appointment of Representatives of the FAO Conference to the Staff Pension Committee

Other Documents

List of Delegates and Observers

CL 171/Draft Report Draft Report of Plenary

CL 171 PV Series

CL 171/PV/1 to Verbatim Records of Plenary

CL 171/PV/9

CL 171 OD Series

CL 171/OD/1 to Orders of the Day

CL 171/OD/4

Appendix C
Draft Resolution for the Conference
International Day of Potato

THE CONFERENCE,

Recalling that the International Year of the Potato in 2008 has contributed to raising awareness of the role of the potato in agriculture, the economy and world food security;

Recognizing that the potato represents one of the most important contributions of the Andean region to the entire world, as it is one of the five main food crops consumed in the world, contributing to food security;

Recognizing that small-scale production of the potato contributes greatly to conserving and use of biodiversity and supports efforts to reduce hunger, malnutrition and poverty;

Recalling the urgent need to raise awareness of the contribution of the potato as an invaluable food resource and as a generator of income for rural families and producers, with a view to achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals for 2030 Agenda;

Trusting that such an initiative would create a comprehensive platform to assess the problems and dynamics of sustainable potato production to transform agrifood systems;

Recognizing the decisive importance of this tuber crop for agricultural development, from the phase of pre-production, production, marketing, added value and promotion of consumption, highlighting the conservation of biodiversity, food security and nutrition, and standard setting;

Emphasizing that costs of activities related to the celebration of the International Day of Potato would be covered by voluntary contributions, including contributions from the private sector;

Requests the Director-General to present this Resolution to the President of the General Assembly of the United Nations and the President of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations for informational purposes;

Requests FAO Members to take the requisite steps to ensure the consideration of the Resolution to observe 30 May as International Day of Potato at forthcoming sessions of the United Nations General Assembly, as appropriate.

Appendix D
Draft Resolution for the Conference
FAO Audited Accounts 2021

THE CONFERENCE,

Having considered the Report of the 171st Session of the Council, and

Having examined the 2021 FAO Audited Accounts and the External Auditor's Report thereon

Adopts the Audited Accounts.

Appendix E**Resolution 1/171****Amendments to the Constitution of the European Commission for the Control of
Foot-and-Mouth Disease**

THE COUNCIL,

Recalling the Conference's approval of the Constitution of the Commission for the Control of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (the "EuFMD Constitution") under Article XIV of the FAO Constitution at its Seventh Session in 1953, which came into force on 12 June 1954;

Further recalling amendments to the EuFMD Constitution agreed at the 9th, 20th, 22nd, 28th, 32nd and 41st Sessions of the Commission, and subsequently approved by the 39th, 72nd, 96th, 113th and 153rd Sessions of the Council, respectively;

Recalling also that the Commission at its Special Session held virtually on 27 April 2022, approved further amendments to the EuFMD Constitution;

Having considered the Report of the 117th Session of the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters, and **noting** that the Committee concluded that the amendments would not involve new obligations for Members of the Commission and would, accordingly, come into force upon receiving the concurrence of the Council;

Approves the amendments to the EuFMD Constitution, in accordance with its Article XIV(5), as follows:

PREAMBLE¹

The contracting Governments, having regard to the urgent necessity of preventing the recurrence of the heavy losses to European agriculture caused by the repeated outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease, hereby establish, within the framework of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, a Commission to be known as the European Commission for the Control of Foot-and-Mouth Disease, whose *core objective* shall be to promote national and international actions with respect to preventive and control measures against foot-and-mouth disease in Europe. *The contracting Governments, considering the opportunity to implement sensible and cost-effective combination of actions, concur on the possibility, without negatively impacting on the core objective, to extend the preparedness and risk reduction activities of the Commission to similar transboundary animal diseases which are regularly identified according to the threat posed to their territories.*

¹ Proposed deletions are indicated in strikethrough, new text is in italics and underlined.

ARTICLE I

Membership

1. Membership in the European Commission for the Control of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (hereinafter referred to as “the Commission”) shall be open to such European Member Nations of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, to such States participating as Members in the Regional Conference for Europe and Central Asia of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and serviced by the Regional Office for Europe of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and to such European Member Nations of the ~~International OIE of Epizooties~~ World Organisation for Animal Health (hereinafter referred to as “the WOAHA”) that are Members of the United Nations, ~~as~~ and accept this Constitution in accordance with the provisions of Article XV. The Commission may, by a two-thirds majority of the membership of the Commission, admit to membership such other European States that are Members of the United Nations, any of its Specialized Agencies or the International Atomic Energy Agency as have submitted an application for membership and a declaration made in a formal instrument that they accept the obligations of this Constitution as in force at the time of admission.

2. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (hereinafter referred to as “the Organization), ~~the World Organisation for Animal Health (hereinafter referred to as the WOAHA,~~ the European Union, and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development shall have the right to be represented at all sessions of the Commission and its Committees, but their representatives shall not have the right to vote.

ARTICLE II

Obligations of Members regarding National Policies and International Cooperation for the Control of Foot-and-Mouth Disease and similar transboundary animal diseases

1. Members undertake to control foot-and-mouth disease with a view to its ultimate eradication by the institution of suitable quarantine and sanitary measures and by one or more of the following ~~methods~~ policies:

- 1) ~~a~~-slaughter policy;
- 2) slaughter together with vaccination;
- 3) maintenance of totally immune cattle population by vaccination; other susceptible livestock may be vaccinated;
- 4) vaccination in zones surrounding outbreaks.

~~Methods~~ Policies adopted shall be rigorously carried out. For Members not recognised by the WOAHA as having the status of freedom from foot-and-mouth disease, except where the status has been temporarily suspended, there should be in place a national plan for the progressive control of the disease.

~~2. — Members should have available contingency plans for the immediate management of incursions of foot and mouth disease and ensure that sufficient financial, human and technical resources are available for the immediate application of the control methods indicated in Article II (1).~~

2. ~~3-~~ Members adopting policy 2 or 4 undertake to have available a supply of vaccine or antigen for vaccine production sufficient to ensure adequate protection against the disease in case the spread of the disease ~~can not~~ cannot be controlled exclusively by sanitary measures. Each Member shall collaborate with and assist other Members in all concerted measures for the control of foot-and-mouth disease and in particular in the supply of vaccine or antigen for vaccine production where necessary. The quantities of antigen and vaccine to be stored for national and international use shall be determined by Members ~~in light of~~ considering the findings of the Commission and the advice of the WOAHA.

3. ~~2-~~ Members should have available contingency plans for the immediate management of incursions of foot-and-mouth disease and similar transboundary animal diseases and ensure that

sufficient financial, human and technical resources are available for the immediate application of the control ~~methods~~ policies indicated in Article II (1).

4. Members shall make such arrangements for the typing of virus from outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease and similar transboundary animal diseases as may be required by the Commission and shall immediately notify the Commission and the WOA of the results of such typing.

5. Members shall make arrangements for the rapid dispatch of ~~new isolates~~ representative samples of foot-and-mouth disease and similar transboundary animal diseases to a member of the FAO/WOAH Reference Laboratories network ~~FAO-designated World Reference Laboratories~~ for further characterization.

6. Members undertake to provide the Commission with any information which it may need to carry out its functions. In particular, Members shall immediately report to the Commission and to the WOA any outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease and similar transboundary animal diseases, ~~and its~~ their extent and shall make such further detailed reports as the Commission may require.

7. Members shall ensure that all laboratories for foot-and-mouth disease operate, as a minimum, in accordance with the Minimum Biorisk Management Standards, as regularly updated by the Commission.

ARTICLE III

Seat

1. The seat of the Commission and its Secretariat shall be in Rome at the Headquarters of the Organization.

2. Sessions of the Commission shall be held at its seat, unless they are convened elsewhere in pursuance of a decision of the Commission at a previous session, or, in exceptional circumstances, of a decision of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE IV

General Functions

1. To enter into arrangements, through the Director-General of the Organization, with the WOA within the framework of any agreements between the Organization and the WOA to ensure that:

1.1 all Members are provided with technical advice on any problem relating to the control of foot-and-mouth disease and similar transboundary animal diseases;

1.2 comprehensive information on outbreaks of ~~the disease~~ foot-and-mouth disease and similar transboundary animal diseases and identification of viruses is collected and disseminated as quickly as possible;

1.3 special research work required on foot-and-mouth disease and similar transboundary animal diseases is carried out.

2. To collect information on national programmes for control of and research on, foot-and-mouth disease and similar transboundary animal diseases.

3. To determine, in consultation with the Members concerned, the nature and extent of assistance needed by such Members for implementing their national programmes.

4. To stimulate and plan joint action wherever required in the implementation of prevention and control programmes and to this effect arrange means whereby adequate resources can be made available, for example, for the production and storage of vaccine, through agreements between Members, and to promote the global control of foot-and-mouth disease.

5. To arrange for suitable facilities for the typing and characterization of viruses.

6. To ensure the availability of an international laboratory (World Reference Laboratory) with facilities for rapid characterization of *foot-and-mouth disease* virus by appropriate methods.
7. To maintain information on the stocks of antigen and vaccine *for foot-and-mouth disease and similar transboundary animal diseases* available in ~~member countries~~ *Member Nations* and other ~~countries~~ *nations* and to keep the position continuously under review.
8. To offer advice to other organizations on the allocation of any available funds for assisting in prevention and control of foot-and-mouth disease *and similar transboundary animal diseases* in Europe.
9. To enter into arrangements, through the Director-General of the Organization, with other organizations, regional groups or with Nations not Members of the Commission, for participation in the work of the Commission or its Committees, or for mutual assistance on problems of controlling foot-and-mouth disease. These arrangements may include the establishment of, or participation in, joint Committees.
10. To consider and approve the report of the Executive Committee on the activities of the Commission, the accounts for the past financial period and the budget and programme for the ensuing biennium, for submission to the Finance Committee of the Organization.
11. To undertake preparedness and risk reduction activities regarding other transboundary animal diseases similar to foot-and-mouth disease which pose an immediate threat to territories of Members. The transboundary animal diseases herewithin considered similar to foot-and-mouth disease are lumpy skin disease, peste des petits ruminants, Rift Valley fever, rinderpest, sheep pox and goat pox. Other diseases shall be identified based on elements of similarity to foot-and-mouth disease, which remains the core objective of the Commission, and criteria to be developed and endorsed by the Commission.

ARTICLE V

Special Functions

The following shall be the special functions of the Commission:

1. To assist in the prevention and control of outbreaks in emergency situations in any manner considered appropriate by the Commission and the Member or Members concerned. For this purpose the Commission or its Executive Committee, in conformity with the provisions of Article XI (5), may use any uncommitted balances of the Administrative Budget referred to in Article XIII (7) as well as any supplementary contributions which may be provided for emergency action under Article XIII (4).
2. To take suitable action in the following fields:
 - 2.1 Storage of antigen and/or vaccines by or on behalf of the Commission for distribution to any Member in case of need.
 - 2.2 Promotion when necessary of the establishment by a Member or Members of “cordons sanitaires” to prevent the spread of diseases, following the recommendations of the WOAHP and, as applicable, the European Union.
 - 2.3 The training of personnel of Members as required for management of an emergency response and the establishment of a cadre of trained personnel who can assist other Members in case of need.
 - 2.4 The maintenance and promotion of appropriate biocontainment standards, and training in these, for handling of materials containing foot-and-mouth disease virus by Members.
3. To carry out such further special projects as may be suggested by Members or by the Executive Committee and approved by the Commission for achieving the purposes of the Commission as set forth in this Constitution.
4. Funds from the surplus of the Administrative Budget may be used for the purposes stated in paragraphs 2 and 3 of this Article when such action is approved by the Commission by a two-thirds

majority of the votes cast, providing such majority is more than one half of the membership of the Commission.

ARTICLE VI

Sessions

1. Each Member shall be represented at Sessions of the Commission by a single delegate who may be accompanied by an alternate and by experts and advisers. Alternates, experts and advisers may take part in the proceedings of the Commission but not vote, except in the case of an alternate who is duly authorized to substitute for the delegate.
2. Each Member shall have one vote. Decisions of the Commission shall be taken by a majority of the votes cast except as otherwise provided in this Constitution. A majority of the Members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum.
3. The Commission shall elect, at the end of each regular session, a Chairperson, ~~and two Vice-Chairpersons~~ *a First Vice-Chairperson and a Second Vice-Chairperson* and the Members of the Executive Committee from amongst the delegates. The Commission shall also appoint the Members of special or standing Committees.
4. The Director-General of the Organization in consultation with the Chairperson of the Commission shall convene a regular session of the Commission at least every two years. Special sessions may be convened by the Director-General in consultation with the Chairperson of the Commission or, if so requested, by the Commission in regular sessions or by at least one third of the Members during intervals between regular sessions.

ARTICLE VII

Committees

1. The Commission may establish temporary, special or standing Committees to study and report on matters pertaining to the purpose of the Commission, subject to the availability of the necessary funds in the approved budget of the Commission.
2. These Committees shall be convened by the Director-General of the Organization in consultation with the Chairperson of the Commission and with the Chairperson of the special or standing committee concerned, at such times and places as are in accordance with the objectives for which they were established.
3. Membership in such Committees may be open to all Members of the Commission or consist of selected Members of the Commission or of individuals appointed in their personal capacity because of their competence in technical matters, as determined by the Commission. On proposal of the Chairperson, observers may be invited to participate in the meetings of the special and standing Committees.
4. Members of the Committees shall be appointed at the regular session of the Commission and each Committee shall elect its own Chairperson.

ARTICLE VIII

Rules and Regulations

Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, the Commission may, by a majority of two-thirds of its membership, adopt and amend its own Rules of Procedure and Financial Regulations, which shall be in conformity with the General Rules and Financial Regulations of the Organization. The Rules of the Commission and any amendments thereto shall come into force upon approval by the Director-General

of the Organization, the Financial Regulations and amendments thereto being subject to confirmation by the Council of the Organization.

ARTICLE IX

Observers

1. Any Member Nation of the Organization that is not a Member of the Commission and any Associate Member *of the Organization*, may be invited to, or, upon its request, be represented by an observer at sessions of the Commission. It may submit memoranda and participate without vote in the discussions.
2. States which, while not Members of the Commission nor Members or Associate Members of the Organization, are Members of the United Nations, any of its Specialized Agencies or the International Atomic Energy Agency may, upon request and subject to the concurrence of the Commission through its Chairperson and to the provisions relating to the granting of observer status to nations adopted by the Conference of the Organization, be invited to attend in an observer capacity sessions of the Commission.
3. Participation of international organizations in the work of the Commission and the relations between the Commission and such organizations shall be governed by the relevant provisions of the Constitution and the General Rules of the Organization as well as by the rules on relations with international organizations adopted by the Conference or Council of the Organization. All such relations shall be dealt with by the Director-General of the Organization. The relations between the Organization and the WOAHA are governed by such agreement between the Organization and the WOAHA as may be in force.

ARTICLE X

Executive Committee

1. An Executive Committee shall be established and shall be composed of the Chairperson and the ~~two~~ *First and Second* Vice-Chairpersons of the Commission and six delegates of Members selected by the Commission at the end of its regular session. Due regard should be taken to ensure that the membership of the Executive Committee is equitably geographically representative. The Chairperson and the Vice-Chairpersons of the Commission shall be the Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons of the Executive Committee.
2. Members of the Executive Committee shall hold office until the end of the next regular session without prejudice to the right of re-election.
3. If a delegate in the Executive Committee becomes permanently unavailable for unavoidable reasons, the Member represented by that delegate shall be requested to nominate a new delegate for the remainder of the term.
4. The Executive Committee shall meet at least twice at reasonable intervals between any two successive regular sessions of the Commission.
5. The Secretary of the Commission shall act as Secretary to the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE XI

Functions of the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall:

1. Make proposals to the Commission concerning policy matters and the programme of activities;

2. Implement the policies and programmes approved by the Commission;
3. Submit to the Commission the draft programme and Administrative Budget, and the accounts for the past biennium;
4. Prepare the report on the activities of the Commission during the past biennium for approval by the Commission and transmission to the Director-General of the Organization;
5. Undertake such other duties as the Commission may delegate to it, in particular with reference to emergency action under Article V (1).

ARTICLE XII

Administration

1. The staff of the Secretariat of the Commission shall be appointed by the Director-General with the approval of the Executive Committee, and for administrative purposes shall be responsible to the Director-General. They shall be appointed under the same terms and conditions as the staff of the Organization.
2. The expenses of the Commission shall be paid out of its Administrative Budget except those relating to such staff and facilities which can be made available by the Organization. The expenses to be borne by the Organization shall be determined and paid within the limits of the biennial budget prepared by the Director-General and approved by the Conference of the Organization in accordance with the General Rules and the Financial Regulations of the Organization.
3. Expenses incurred by delegates, their alternates, experts and advisers when attending sessions of the Commission and its Committees as government representatives, as well as the expenses incurred by observers at sessions, shall be borne by the respective governments or organizations. The expenses of experts invited by the Commission to attend meetings of the Commission or its Committees in their individual capacity shall be borne by the budget of the Commission.

ARTICLE XIII

Finance

1. Each Member of the Commission undertakes to contribute annually its share of the administrative budget in accordance with a scale of contribution. This scale of contribution shall be adopted by the Commission with a two-thirds majority of its Members in accordance with the Financial Regulations of the Commission.
2. Contributions of States which acquire membership between two regular sessions of the Commission shall be determined by the Executive Committee in accordance with the Financial Regulations of the Commission; for this purpose, such criteria as may be specified in the Financial Regulation shall apply. The determination made by the Executive Committee shall be subject to confirmation by the Commission at its next regular session.
3. Annual contributions provided for under paragraphs 1 and 2 above shall be payable before the end of the first month of the year to which they apply.
4. Supplementary contributions may be accepted from a Member or Members or from organizations or individuals for emergency action or for the purpose of implementing special schemes or campaigns of control which under Article V the Commission or Executive Committee may adopt or recommend.
5. All contributions from Members shall be payable in currencies to be determined by the Commission in agreement with each contributing Member.
6. All contributions received shall be placed in a Trust Fund administered by the Director-General of the Organization in conformity with the Financial Regulations of the Organization.

7. At the end of each financial period, any uncommitted balance of the Administrative Budget shall be retained in the Trust Fund and made available for the following years' budget.

ARTICLE XIV

Amendments

1. This Constitution may be amended by the Commission by a two-thirds majority of the membership of the Commission.

2. Proposals for the amendment of the Constitution may be made by any Member of the Commission in a communication addressed to both the Chairperson of the Commission and the Director-General of the Organization. The Director-General shall immediately inform all Members of the Commission of all proposals for amendments.

3. No proposal for the amendment of the Constitution shall be included in the agenda of any session unless notice thereof has been received by the Director-General of the Organization at least 120 days before the opening of the session.

4. Amendments shall become effective only with the concurrence of the Council of the Organization.

5. An amendment not involving additional obligations for Members of the Commission shall take effect from the date of the decision of the Council.

6. An amendment which, in the view of the Commission, involves additional obligations, for Members of the Commission shall, after approval by the Council, bind the Members of the Commission who have accepted the amendment, as from the date on which it has been accepted by two-thirds of the membership of the Commission, and thereafter for each remaining Member of the Commission upon the date of receipt by the Director-General of the instrument of acceptance of the amendment by that Member.

7. The instruments of acceptance of amendments involving additional obligations shall be deposited with the Director-General who shall inform all Members of the Commission of the receipt of such instruments.

8. The rights and obligations of any Member of the Commission that has not accepted an amendment involving additional obligations shall for a period not exceeding two years as from the date of entry into force of the amendment, continue to be governed by the provisions of the Constitution as they stood prior to the amendment. Upon expiry of the afore-mentioned period, any Member of the Commission that has not accepted such amendment shall be bound by the Constitution as so amended.

9. The Director-General shall inform all Members of the Commission of the entry into force of any amendment.

ARTICLE XV

Acceptance

1. Acceptance of this Constitution shall be effected by the deposit of an instrument of acceptance with the Director-General of the Organization and shall take effect, as regards Members of the Organization or the WOA, on receipt of such instrument by the Director-General who shall forthwith inform each of the Members of the Commission.

2. Membership of States that are eligible for membership under Article I, but are neither Members of the Organization nor of the WOA, shall become effective on the date on which the Commission approves the application for membership in conformity with the provisions of Article I. The Director-General shall inform each of the Members of the Commission of the approval of any application for membership.

3. Acceptance of the Constitution may be made subject to reservations. The Director-General of the Organization shall notify forthwith all Members of the Commission of the receipt of any application for membership or any instrument of acceptance of the Constitution either of which contains a reservation. A reservation shall become effective only upon unanimous approval by the Members of the Commission. The Members of the Commission not having replied within three months from the date of the notification by the Director-General of the reservation shall be deemed to have accepted the reservation. Failing unanimous approval by the Members of the Commission of a reservation, the nation making the reservation shall not become a party to this Constitution.

ARTICLE XVI

Withdrawal

1. Any Member may withdraw from the Commission at any time after the expiration of one year from the date on which its acceptance took effect or from the date on which the Constitution entered into force, whichever is the later, by giving written notice of withdrawal to the Director-General of the Organization who shall forthwith inform all Members of the Commission. The withdrawal shall become effective one year from the date of receipt of the notification of withdrawal.

2. Non-payment of two consecutive annual contributions shall be regarded as implying withdrawal of the defaulting Member from the Commission.

3. Any Member of the Commission withdrawing from the Organization *or* the WOAAH, when such withdrawal results in this Nation no longer being a Member of either of these two Agencies, shall be deemed to have withdrawn simultaneously from the Commission.

ARTICLE XVII

Settlement of Disputes

1. If there is any dispute regarding the interpretation or application of this Constitution, the Member or Members concerned may request the Director-General of the Organization to appoint a Committee to consider the question in dispute.

2. The Director-General shall there-upon, after consultation with the Members concerned, appoint a Committee of experts which shall include representatives of those Members. This Committee shall consider the question in dispute, taking into account all documents and other forms of evidence submitted by the Members concerned. This Committee shall submit a report to the Director-General of the Organization who shall transmit it to the Members concerned and to the other Members of the Commission.

3. The Members of the Commission agree that the recommendations of such a Committee, while not binding in character, will become the basis for renewed consideration by the Members concerned of the matter out of which the disagreement arose.

4. The Members concerned shall share equally the expenses of the experts.

ARTICLE XVIII

Termination

1. This Constitution shall be terminated by a decision of the Commission taken by a three-fourths majority of the membership of the Commission. It shall automatically be terminated should membership, as a result of withdrawals, comprise fewer than six Nations.

2. On termination of the Constitution all assets of the Commission shall be liquidated by the Director-General of the Organization and after settlement of all liabilities the balance shall be

distributed proportionally amongst Members on the basis of the scale of contributions in force at the time. Nations whose contributions are in arrears for two consecutive years and hence deemed to have withdrawn in conformity with Article XVI (2) shall not be entitled to a share of the assets.

ARTICLE XIX

Entry into Force

1. This Constitution shall enter into force upon receipt by the Director-General of the Organization of notifications of acceptance from six Member Nations of the Organization or of the WOAHA, providing that their contributions represent in the aggregate not less than 30 percent of the Administrative Budget provided for in Article XIII (1).
2. The Director-General shall notify all Nations having deposited notifications of acceptance of the date on which this Constitution comes into force.
3. The text of this Constitution drawn up in the English, French and Spanish languages, which languages shall be equally authoritative, was approved by the Conference of the Organization on the Eleventh day of December 1953.
4. Two copies of the text of this Constitution shall be authenticated by the Chairperson of the Conference and the Director-General of the Organization, one copy of which shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the other in the archives of the Organization. Additional copies of this text shall be certified by the Director-General and furnished to all Members of the Commission with the indication of the date on which Constitution has come into force.

Appendix F

Provisional Calendar of FAO/IFAD/WFP Governing Bodies and other Main Sessions 2023-2024

	2023		2024	
JANUARY				
FEBRUARY	IFAD/GC WFP	13-17 27/2-3/3	37 NERC (SOM) IFAD/GC 37 APRC WFP	5-8 12-16 19-23 26/2-1/3
MARCH	118 CCLM 195 FC 135 PC	6-8 13-17 13-17	37 NERC (MM) (cont'd) 38 LARC 120 CCLM	4-5 18-22 25-27
APRIL	172 CL	24-28	8 INARC 33 ARC IFAD/EB	2-4 15-19 22-26
MAY	IFAD/EB	8-12	34 ERC 199 FC 137 PC 200 FC (WFP)	13-17 20-24 20-24 29-31
JUNE	196 FC (WFP) WFP	5-7 26-30	175 CL WFP	10-14 17-21
JULY	43 C 173 CL 19 CGRFA	1-7 10 24-28	36 COFI 27 COFO	8-12 22-26
AUGUST				
SEPTEMBER	IFAD/EB 119 CCLM	18-22 25-27	76 CCP IFAD/EB 29 COAG	11-13 16-20 30/9-4/10
OCTOBER	WFD WFF 51 CFS 197 FC (WFP)	16 (Monday) 17-20 23-27 30-31	WFF WFD 52 CFS 121 CCLM	14-18 16 (Wednesday) 21-25 28-30
NOVEMBER	198 FC 136 PC WFP 46 CODEX (Rome)	6-10 6-10 13-17 27/11-2/12	201 FC (WFP) 202 FC 138 PC WFP 47 CODEX (Geneva)	4-5 11-15 11-15 18-22 25-29
DECEMBER	174 CL IFAD/EB	4-8 11-15	176 CL IFAD/EB	2-6 9-13

Easter:	9 April 2023	Easter:	31 March 2024
Orthodox Easter:	16 April 2023	Orthodox Easter:	5 May 2024
Ramadan:	22 March – 20 April 2023	Ramadan:	10 March – 8 April 2024
Eid Al-Fitr:	21 April 2023	Eid Al-Fitr:	9 April 2024
Eid Al-Adha:	29 June 2023	Eid Al-Adha:	17 June 2024

APRC	Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific	COFO	Committee on Forestry
ARC	Regional Conference for Africa	ERC	Regional Conference for Europe
C	Conference	FC	Finance Committee
CCLM	Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters	IFAD/EB	IFAD Executive Board
CCP	Committee on Commodity Problems	IFAD/GC	IFAD Governing Council
CFS	Committee on World Food Security	INARC	Informal Regional Conference for North America
CGRFA	Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture	LARC	Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean
CL	Council	NERC	Regional Conference for the Near East
		PC	Programme Committee
		WFD	World Food Day
COAG	Committee on Agriculture	WFF	World Food Forum
CODEX	Codex Alimentarius Commission	WFP	World Food Programme Executive Board
COFI	Committee on Fisheries		

PROGRAMME COMMITTEE (July 2021 - July 2023)

Chairperson

Ms Yael Rubinstein
(Israel)

Members

Argentina (Mr Carlos Bernardo Cherniak)
Brazil (Mr Fernando José Marroni de Abreu)
Canada (Mr Maarten de Groot)
China (Mr Ni Hongxing)
France (Ms Delphine Babin-Pelliard)
India (Mr Bommakanti Rajender)

Iraq (Mr Zaid Al-Ani)
Mali (Ms Traoré Halimatou Koné)
New Zealand (Mr Donald Syme)
Norway (Mr Morten Aasland)
Sudan (Ms Saadia Elmubarak Ahmed Daak)
Zambia (Mr Kayoya Masuhwa)

<https://www.fao.org/unfao/govbodies/gsbhome/programme-committee/substitute-representatives/en/>

FINANCE COMMITTEE (July 2021 - July 2023)

Chairperson

Ms Imelda Smolcic
(Uruguay)

Members

Australia (Ms Lynda Hayden)
Egypt (Mr Haitham Abdelhady)
Ethiopia (Mr Kaba Urgessa Dinssa)
Japan (Mr Kuraya Yoshihiro)
Mexico (Mr Miguel García Winder)
Niger (Ms Rahila Rabiou Tahirou)

Panama (Mr Tomás Duncan Jurado)
Russian Federation (Mr Vladimir Kuznetsov)
Saudi Arabia (Mr Mohammed M. Alghamdi)
Sweden (Ms Pernilla Ivarsson)
Thailand (Mr Thanawat Tiensin)
United States of America (Ms Jennifer Harhigh)

<https://www.fao.org/unfao/govbodies/gsbhome/finance-committee/substitute-representatives/en/>

COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL MATTERS (July 2021 - July 2023)

Chairperson

Ms Alison Storsve
(United States of America)

Members

Afghanistan (Mr Khaled Ahmad Zekriya)
Algeria (Ms Lamia Ben Redouane)
Canada (Ms Julie Emond)
Fiji (Ms Esala Nayasi)

Nicaragua (Ms Mónica Robelo Raffone)
Philippines (Ms Nina P. Cainglet)
Slovakia (Ms Zora Weberova)

WFP EXECUTIVE BOARD 2022

Term of office expiring

31 December 2022

Elected by FAO Council

Canada (D)
Dominican Republic (C)¹
Germany (D)
Saudi Arabia (B)
Somalia (A)
South Africa (A)²

Elected by ECOSOC

Australia (D)
Burundi (A)
Cuba (C)
Madagascar (A)
Spain (D)
Turkmenistan (B)

31 December 2023

Argentina (C)^{3,4}
Brazil (C)⁵
Denmark (D)
Hungary (E)
Morocco (A)
Norway (D)

China (B)
Japan (D)
Lesotho (A)
Mexico (C)
Poland (E)
United Kingdom (D)

31 December 2024

Bangladesh (B)⁶
Iran (Islamic Republic of) (B)⁷
Netherlands (D)
Peru (C)
Senegal (A)
United States of America (D)

France (D)
Ghana (A)
India (B)
Republic of Korea (B)
Russian Federation (E)
Sweden (D)

¹ Dominican Republic replaced Argentina from 1 January 2021 until 31 December 2022 having reached an agreement to share an FAO Council-elected seat.

² South Africa replaced Angola from 1 January 2022 until 31 December 2022 having reached an agreement to share an FAO Council-elected seat.

³ Rotating seat occupied by a country of List C (2021-2023) held by Argentina.

⁴ Argentina replaced Guatemala from 1 January 2022 having reached an agreement to share an FAO Council-elected seat.

⁵ Brazil and Guatemala reached an agreement to share an FAO Council-elected seat, with Brazil serving in 2021 and 2022 and Guatemala serving in 2023.

⁶ Bangladesh and Iran reached an agreement to share an FAO Council-elected seat, with Bangladesh serving from 1 January 2022 until 31 December 2023 and Iran occupying the seat from 1 January 2024 until 31 December 2024.

⁷ Iran and Kuwait reached an agreement to share an FAO Council elected seat, with Iran serving from 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022 and Kuwait occupying the seat from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2024.

FAO MEMBERS

194 Member Nations
2 Associate Members
1 Member Organization

Afghanistan	Gambia	Palau
Albania	Georgia	Panama
Algeria	Germany	Papua New Guinea
Andorra	Ghana	Paraguay
Angola	Greece	Peru
Antigua and Barbuda	Grenada	Philippines
Argentina	Guatemala	Poland
Armenia	Guinea	Portugal
Australia	Guinea-Bissau	Qatar
Austria	Guyana	Republic of Korea
Azerbaijan	Haiti	Republic of Moldova
Bahamas	Honduras	Romania
Bahrain	Hungary	Russian Federation
Bangladesh	Iceland	Rwanda
Barbados	India	Saint Kitts and Nevis
Belarus	Indonesia	Saint Lucia
Belgium	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Belize	Iraq	Samoa
Benin	Ireland	San Marino
Bhutan	Israel	Sao Tome and Principe
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Italy	Saudi Arabia
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Jamaica	Senegal
Botswana	Japan	Serbia
Brazil	Jordan	Seychelles
Brunei Darussalam	Kazakhstan	Sierra Leone
Bulgaria	Kenya	Singapore
Burkina Faso	Kiribati	Slovakia
Burundi	Kuwait	Slovenia
Cabo Verde	Kyrgyzstan	Solomon Islands
Cambodia	Lao People's Democratic Republic	Somalia
Cameroon	Latvia	South Africa
Canada	Lebanon	South Sudan
Central African Republic	Lesotho	Spain
Chad	Liberia	Sri Lanka
Chile	Libya	Sudan
China	Lithuania	Suriname
Colombia	Luxembourg	Sweden
Comoros	Madagascar	Switzerland
Congo	Malawi	Syrian Arab Republic
Cook Islands	Malaysia	Tajikistan
Costa Rica	Maldives	Thailand
Côte d'Ivoire	Mali	Timor-Leste
Croatia	Malta	Togo
Cuba	Marshall Islands	Tokelau
Cyprus	Mauritania	(Associate Member)
Czechia	Mauritius	Tonga
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Mexico	Trinidad and Tobago
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Micronesia	Tunisia
Denmark	(Federated States of)	Türkiye
Djibouti	Monaco	Turkmenistan
Dominica	Mongolia	Tuvalu
Dominican Republic	Montenegro	Uganda
Ecuador	Morocco	Ukraine
Egypt	Mozambique	United Arab Emirates
El Salvador	Myanmar	United Kingdom
Equatorial Guinea	Namibia	United Republic of Tanzania
Eritrea	Nauru	United States of America
Estonia	Nepal	Uruguay
Eswatini	Netherlands	Uzbekistan
Ethiopia	New Zealand	Vanuatu
European Union	Nicaragua	Venezuela
(Member Organization)	Niger	(Bolivarian Republic of)
Faroe Islands	Nigeria	Viet Nam
(Associate Member)	Niue	Yemen
Fiji	North Macedonia	Zambia
Finland	Norway	Zimbabwe
France	Oman	
Gabon	Pakistan	