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Food and Agriculture
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Продовольственная и
сельскохозяйственная организация
Объединенных Наций

Organización de las
Naciones Unidas para la
Alimentación y la Agricultura

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COUNCIL

Hundred and Seventy-fifth Session

Rome, 10-14 June 2024

Status of implementation of decisions taken at the 174th Session of the Council (Rome, 4-8 December 2023)

Executive summary

The following table lists decisions taken by Council at its 174th Session (Rome, 4-8 December 2023) and includes a reference to: i) the relevant paragraph(s) of the Council Report; and ii) the status of implementation of each decision.

Suggested action by the Council

The Council is invited to take note of the information presented in this document.

Queries on the substantive content of this document may be addressed to:

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**STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF DECISIONS TAKEN AT THE 174th SESSION OF THE COUNCIL
(Rome, 4-8 December 2023)**

	Status of Implementation		COMMENTS
	Completed	Ongoing	
Adjustments to the Programme of Work and Budget 2024-25			
1. The Council (...) <u>looked forward</u> to a progress update on the establishment of the OYW to Council at its next session, for guidance on its implementation, and <u>called for</u> FAO to develop a work plan, including a results framework related to this office, and report back on its activities at a future session of the Council; (para 10 (h))		X	With regard to the establishment of the Office of Youth and Women (OYW), all initial steps have been taken to ensure the timely rollout of all functions and operations. Staff recruitments have been initiated and are expected to be completed within the calendar year. Initial office space has been allocated and additional office spaces are being identified. The development of the OYW work plan and the related results framework is planned for the second half of the year, in particular after the recruitment of all senior positions.
2. The Council (...) <u>appreciated</u> the information provided on savings and efficiency measures, <u>recommended</u> that Management develop a business plan and roadmap detailing planned initiatives and expected efficiency gains and savings, together with measurement indicators, and <u>requested</u> regular annual reporting on efficiencies and savings, both accrued and anticipated; (para 10 (j))	X		Management will continue with regular annual reporting on savings and efficiency measures, including in the Programme of Work and Budget (PWB) and the Programme Implementation Report. A business plan and roadmap are under development and will be included in the corporate planning and reporting documents.
3. The Council (...) noted the estimates for extra budgetary resources (Table 2 of document CL 174/3), <u>encouraged</u> Members to provide voluntary contributions to facilitate the achievement of the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31 and implementation of the integrated PWB, and <u>looked forward</u> to receiving regular updates; (para 10 (m))	X		Updates will be provided throughout the 2024-2025 biennium, in line with the established reporting mechanisms.

4. The Council (...) noted FAO's plans for the establishment of regional knowledge hubs, and <u>looked forward</u> to further updates at its future sessions; (para 10 (o))	X		Updates will be provided as plans for the establishment of regional knowledge hubs progress.
5. The Council (...) <u>stressed the importance</u> of Management and Members continuing dialogue on all sources of funds with the full spectrum of financial resources, and <u>recommended</u> Management to develop a comprehensive approach for the funding of the Organization and provide regular updates to Members, including through the Programme Implementation Report (PIR); (para 10 (p))	X		The <i>Programme Implementation Report 2022-23</i> includes information on resources mobilized and expenditures under all sources of funds. Management will continue to provide regular updates to Members on this important topic.

	Status of Implementation		COMMENTS
	Completed	Ongoing	
The situation in Gaza related to food security and related matters under the mandate of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)			
6. The Council (...) <u>stressed the role</u> of FAO, in coordination and cooperation with other United Nations entities and relevant bodies, particularly with the Rome-based agencies and international financial institutions, to assess and address, within their respective mandates, the impact of the conflict on food security, nutrition, agriculture, and fisheries in the Occupied Palestinian Territory particularly in the Gaza Strip; (para 16 (m))		X	<p>FAO has repeatedly called for urgent measures to save the population of Gaza. In November 2023, the Director-General issued a statement calling for an immediate humanitarian ceasefire in Gaza to ease civilian suffering and facilitate the delivery of assistance.</p> <p>In February 2024, FAO and the World Food Programme (WFP) prepared a joint report entitled Monitoring food security in Palestine and the Sudan – A joint FAO/WFP update for the members of the United Nations Security Council, February 2024, Issue No. 13 (Special edition), which was followed by an informal briefing to the Members of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC), on 19 February 2024. Drawing on the report, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) submitted a White Note from the Secretary-General to the UNSC entitled <i>Update on food security risks in Gaza</i>, with reference to Security Council resolution 2417 (2018). FAO, OCHA and WFP briefed the UNSC on the White Note on 27 February 2024.</p> <p>In addition, since the start of the current hostilities in October 2023, two rounds of Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) acute food insecurity analysis were produced, covering the Gaza Strip by applying standard IPC protocols and relying on publicly available data from a wide range of sources. The IPC Famine Review Committee was activated after each of the two rounds – on 11 December 2023 and on 1 March 2024 respectively – by the IPC Global Support Unit, considering the extreme severity of the evidence provided. During the two rounds of analysis, IPC partners provided the international community with recommendations for action.</p>

<p>7. The Council (...) <u>requested</u> FAO:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. to continue, within its mandate, its support to the humanitarian aid coordinated by the United Nations; ii. to monitor the consequences towards food security in the region, including the functioning of Agri-Food systems, as well as the availability of water resources; iii. to develop immediate, medium-term, and longer-term plans that address the impact of the conflict in the Gaza Strip on national and regional food security, including emergency response, recovery assistance, and resilience building of Agri-food systems; iv. to explore immediate and suitable ways that function across the humanitarian-development-peace nexus to not only meet the immediate needs of forcibly displaced civilians in the Gaza Strip, but also to seek long-term solutions; v. to keep Members posted in this regard through regular briefings, consultations, and reporting within the FAO Governing Bodies; and vi. to insert this matter into the agenda of the next regular session of the FAO Council in June 2024. (para 16 (n)) 		X	<p>i. FAO continues to co-lead (with WFP) the Food Security Sector (FSS) for Gaza, with over 100 partner organizations as active members in the FSS, including international and national non-governmental organizations, United Nations (UN) agencies and donors.</p> <p>ii. FAO is closely monitoring damages and losses of the agricultural sector in the West Bank and Gaza Strip through geospatial assessments in particular, coordinating with the United Nations Satellite Centre and Palestinian institutions (Ministry of Agriculture and the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics). FAO also regularly monitors developments on the ground jointly with partners in the FSS.</p> <p>FAO has also published <i>A rapid geospatial damage assessment of the 2023 conflict in the Gaza Strip on agricultural land and infrastructure</i> and estimated the dollar value of damages and losses to the crop and livestock sub-sectors based on geospatial analysis as of 15 February 2024. This work will be updated in May 2024, including on fisheries.</p> <p>In addition, FAO is conducting an assessment evaluating the impact of the conflict on irrigation disruptions, agricultural crop and livestock production, food availability, and household incomes. This evaluation is crucial for understanding the consequences of the conflict for food security, the functionality of agrifood systems, and the availability of water resources in the region.</p> <p>Furthermore, a briefing note on Gaza and the West Bank titled <i>Planning a gender-responsive and inclusive emergency response</i> has been published, assessing the gender-related impacts of the current hostilities, emphasizing the importance of understanding the specific needs and vulnerabilities of men, women, girls and boys, and highlighting the necessity of identifying gender-based constraints to ensure an appropriate and accountable response that leaves no one behind. Additional briefs on a) decent employment; b) the right to food; c) land rights; and iv) social protection in the Occupied Palestinian Territories are being prepared, in order to analyse the current situation and plan for sustainable reconstruction.</p>
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	Status of Implementation		COMMENTS
	Completed	Ongoing	
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)			
8. The Council (...) <u>recalled</u> its decisions and recommendations of its 169th, 170th, 171st and 172nd sessions, as well as the report of the 43rd session of the FAO Conference, and <u>stressed</u> the need to continue their full implementation; (para 18 (a))		X	<p>As part of its core functions, FAO continued its regular activities providing up-to-date, timely and objective information, market assessments and outlooks, and early warnings related to food security. FAO continued the monthly publication of the FAO Food Price Index and the FAO Cereal Supply and Demand Brief, contributed to the Global Report on Food Crises, produced the Hunger Hotspots report jointly with WFP, and published the Food Outlook and numerous commodity market reports. The work was complemented with ad hoc briefs and knowledge products, as well as webinars and dialogue events.</p> <p>In close partnership with other international organizations, FAO continued to lead the work of the Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS), with the regular publication of the AMIS Market Monitor and the organization of thematic webinars. On 8 March 2023, AMIS organized a webinar on “Ukraine One Year Later – The Impact of the War on Agricultural Markets and Food Security”.</p> <p>FAO also launched, in October 2023, the flagship report <i>The Impact of Disasters on Agriculture and Food Security 2023 – Avoiding and reducing losses through investment in resilience</i>, analysing the complex interplay of underlying risks, such as armed conflicts, climate change, and pandemics and epidemics, and how they drive disaster risk in agriculture and agrifood systems at large. It estimated losses and impacts affecting the crops, livestock, forestry, and fisheries and aquaculture subsectors.</p>
9. The Council (...) <u>recalled</u> its decision to remain seized of this matter. (para 18 (f))	X		The Council will be seized of this matter at its 175th Session under Agenda Item 6.

	Status of Implementation		COMMENTS
	Completed	Ongoing	
Update on the Hand-in-Hand Initiative			
10. The Council (...) <u>encouraged</u> the ongoing development of the HIH monitoring and evaluation dashboard and further reporting on progress of the Initiative; (para 20 (e))	X		The ongoing development of the Hand-in-Hand (HIH) dashboard is progressing well, with a new version being developed as well as data collection being mainstreamed into FAO corporate systems.
Report of the 137th Session of the Programme Committee (Rome, 6-10 November 2023)			
11. The Council (...) <u>commended</u> the work on developing the comprehensive conceptual framework for water resources management; and in this regard, <u>welcomed</u> Management's commitment to reporting this work during the biennium 2024-25 including on its concrete impact in relevant PPAs, programmatic initiatives, resources and partnerships. (para 22 (d))	X		<i>FAO's Conceptual framework for integrated land and water resources management</i> is the guiding document for FAO's work on land, soil and water resources across the Organization. Water has been discussed in Regional Conferences and will be considered by the Committee on Forestry (COFO), the Committee on Fisheries (COFI), the Committee on Agriculture (COAG) and its Sub-Committee on Livestock at their next sessions in 2024. FAO will report on the work on integrated land and water resources management and its impact on the Programme Priority Areas (PPAs) in the current biennium through the corporate reporting mechanisms (Mid-Term Review and Programme Implementation Report).

	Status of Implementation		COMMENTS
	Completed	Ongoing	
Bioeconomy for sustainable food and agriculture			
12. The Council (...) <u>looked forward</u> to further discussion within Technical Committees and other Governing Bodies of FAO. (para 23 (d))	X		Briefings were organized by FAO to the Bureau of the 29th Session of COAG (on 14 November 2023) and the Steering Committee of the 27th Session of COFO (on 15 December 2023) on FAO's ongoing work on bioeconomy for sustainable food and agriculture. FAO commissioned a foundational study on bioeconomy for food and agriculture to inform the respective discussions in FAO's Technical Committees and other relevant Governing Bodies. The results of the foundational study will provide the basis for the respective agenda items for the 29th Session of COAG and the 27th Session of COFO. Furthermore, a stocktaking of sustainability metrics for bioeconomy is ongoing and is expected to be completed by the end of 2024. FAO also launched a dashboard on bioeconomy strategies and related actions for sustainable development in February 2024 (https://www.fao.org/in-action/sustainable-and-circular-bioeconomy/dashboard/en/) to facilitate exchange of knowledge and experiences among Members.

	Status of Implementation		COMMENTS
	Completed	Ongoing	
Report of the 51st Session of the Committee on World Food Security (Rome, 23-27 October and 25 November 2023)			
13. The Council (...) <u>welcomed</u> the 18th Report of CFS High-Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE-FSN), entitled <i>Reducing Inequalities for Food Security and Nutrition</i> , and <u>looked forward</u> to the elaboration of an agreed set of policy recommendations to be presented for endorsement at CFS 52 in October 2024; (para 31 (g))	X		A zero draft of the policy recommendations on <i>Reducing Inequalities for Food Security and Nutrition</i> has been prepared. Negotiation sessions have been scheduled for the first week of June and the first week of July.
Update on FAO's collaboration with other UN system entities			
14. The Council (...) <u>encouraged</u> FAO, within its mandate, to enhance its collaboration across the UN system in support of achieving the SDGs by leveraging joint funding mechanisms, developing policy tools to facilitate the integration of the agrifood systems approach in key UN development system frameworks at the global, regional and country levels, and by strengthening FAO's partnerships with UN Resident Coordinators and UN Country Teams; (para 32 (b))	X		FAO has taken further steps towards leveraging joint funding mechanisms under various UN multipartner trust fund facilities, and it will provide technical leadership in various integrated thematic windows of the restructured Joint SDG Fund, with special attention to the new "food systems" window. FAO will also be deploying a set of policy and learning tools to support the integration of agrifood systems in the UN development system policy frameworks, with focus on country-level policy and integrated programming support, working in collaboration with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and UN country teams. Detailed updates on these developments will be provided in the next annual report on FAO's collaboration with other UN system entities at the end of 2024.
15. The Council (...) <u>looked forward</u> to future updates on the progress, challenges and impact of FAO's collaboration with other UN system entities. (para 32 (e))	X		FAO will present its 2024 updated Report on the progress, challenges and impact of its collaboration with other UN system entities at the FAO Governing Bodies sessions in November/December 2024.

			Further information and updates concerning FAO and its UN system partners will be regularly disseminated via the dedicated public website launched in March 2024.
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	Status of Implementation		COMMENTS
	Completed	Ongoing	
Participation of private sector observers in sessions of the FAO Governing Bodies			
16. The Council <u>recommended</u> FAO to examine possibilities for clearer guidance to the Secretariats of its Governing and Statutory Bodies on the participation of INGOs in its meetings, and to develop further proposals for practical modalities for participation, where necessary and in close consultation with, and guidance from, CCLM. (para 35)	X		A substantial overhaul of FAO's internal procedures and its relationships with international non-governmental organizations (INGOs) holding formal status is currently underway, which aims to enhance transparency and assess the significance of FAO's engagements with these organizations. The progress on this matter will be reported at the 138th Session of the Programme Committee under the item "Update on the global civil society organizations (CSOs) dialogue and other mechanisms of engagement" as the Council recommendation is addressed in the context of FAO's engagement with INGOs.
17. The Council <u>looked forward</u> to future updates on the progress on participation of private sector observers in sessions of the FAO Governing Bodies. (para 36)	X		<p>As outlined in paragraph 35 of its Report, during the 174th Session of the Council, principles were established regarding the involvement of INGOs, including those categorized as private sector entities, in FAO Governing and Statutory Bodies. The Council decision confirmed that non-profit organizations falling under the private sector classification remain eligible if they meet the specified criteria.</p> <p>Following this decision, the primary concern is to clarify the mode of engagement. While certain entitlements are clearly outlined in the Basic Texts, further operational details need to be addressed, such as determining the maximum number of observers and speaking rights during various Governing and Statutory sessions. FAO intends to develop operational guidelines based on the current organizational practices. This matter will be presented to the Council as part of the update on INGO involvement, as it is not exclusive to private sector entities alone.</p>

	Status of Implementation		COMMENTS
	Completed	Ongoing	
Review of the Decentralized Offices Network of FAO			
18. The Council (...) <u>welcomed</u> the completion of Restructuring of Regional and Subregional Offices under the principles of One FAO aiming to achieve a renewed business model, and <u>stressed the importance</u> of the continued monitoring of the performance of these Offices, including regular updates; (para 40 (b))	X		Information will continue to be provided through the established reporting mechanisms.
19. The Council (...) <u>looked forward</u> to further information on the outcome of the Regional Conference discussions. (para 40 (f))	X		An update on the outcome of the Regional Conference discussions on the FAO Country Office Network will be provided to Council at its 175th Session.
Five Years of Action for the Development of Mountain Regions			
20. The Council (...) <u>called for</u> the development of the Global Action Plan on Mountain Regions Development 2023-2027; (para 41 (c))	X		A Global Action Plan on Mountain Regions Development 2023-2027 was drafted in collaboration with UN Agencies and regional organizations. It will be further finalized and shared with Members at the 27th Session of COFO.
21. The Council (...) <u>recommended</u> FAO to support Members, subject to available extra-budgetary resources, with tools, methodologies and capacity-building activities to strengthen their capacity to scale-up sustainable mountain development initiatives with specific reference to the Five Years of Action; (para 41 (d))	X		FAO is supporting its Members with capacity development courses coordinated by the Mountain Partnership Secretariat (the International Programme on Research and Training on Sustainable Management of Mountain Areas [IPROMO], GROW – Agrobiodiversity in a Changing Climate: Sustainable production, fragile ecosystems, and resilience to global changes) and training projects on sustainable mountain development .
22. The Council (...) <u>encouraged</u> FAO to continue supporting Members in raising awareness on the challenges, problems and opportunities of mountain regions, and enhancing global efforts to address them; (para 41 (e))	X		FAO continued supporting its Members in raising awareness about the challenges, problems and opportunities of mountain regions, particularly within the context of the Rio Conventions. FAO Members are being supported in organizing key events at the Conference of the Parties, including: the Expert Dialogue on Mountains and Climate Change (to be held at the 60th Session of the UNFCCC Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological

			Advice, 19th Session of the UN Forum on Forests , High-level Political Forum 2024 , 16th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity , the 2024 United Nations Climate Change Conference and the UNCCD 16th Session of the Conference of the Parties . Moreover, FAO (through the Mountain Partnership Secretariat) continues to support the science-policy dialogue on sustainable mountain development by coordinating the work of the Science and Knowledge Advisory Committee .
23. The Council (...) <u>looked forward</u> to updates on the development of the Five Years of Action Plan in future sessions of the FAO Governing Bodies. (para 41 (f))	X		An update on the Five Years of Action for the Development of Mountain Regions will be provided to the Council at its 176th Session.

	Status of Implementation		COMMENTS
	Completed	Ongoing	
Calendar of FAO Governing Bodies and other main sessions 2023-2025			
24. The Council <u>requested</u> that Regional Offices organize information sessions for their Members, within reasonable time, on modality, arrangements and provisional dates, for their Regional Conference in 2024 and onwards. (para 44)	X		The Regional Offices held several information sessions from December 2023 onwards for Members in the Regional Groups on modality, arrangements, dates and other aspects for preparation of the 2024 Regional Conferences.