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## COUNCIL

### Hundred and Sixty-fifth Session

30 November-4 December 2020

### Developments in Fora of Importance for the Mandate of FAO

#### Executive Summary

In keeping with established practice, the Council is informed of developments in other *fora* of importance for FAO's mandate:

- 1) Latest developments on the SDG<sup>1</sup> Indicator Framework and the financing mechanism for SDG Data and Statistics;
- 2) Establishment of the Global Leaders Group (GLG) on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) by the FAO/WHO/OIE Tripartite;
- 3) Eleventh Session of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (4 - 6 August 2021); and
- 4) UN Summit on Biodiversity (30 September 2020).

Further information on the above topics will be posted as Web Annexes to CL 165/INF/4.

#### Suggested action by the Council

The above topics are presented to the 165th Session of the Council for information only.

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

Rakesh Muthoo  
Director  
Governing Bodies Servicing (CSG)  
Tel. +39 06570 55987

<sup>1</sup> Sustainable Development Goal

## **I. Latest developments on the SDG Indicator Framework and the financing mechanism for SDG Data and Statistics**

*Outcomes of the 11<sup>th</sup> IAEG-SDG Annual Meeting (3-5 November) and their implications for FAO*

1. The Inter-Agency Expert Group on SDG Indicators (IAEG-SDG) Annual Meeting addressed refinements of the global SDG indicator framework, implementation of SDG indicators at regional, global and national levels, the Covid-19 impact on SDG indicators, data disaggregation, data partnerships and capacity development for SDG indicators. At this meeting, FAO introduced guidelines recently produced which aim to help countries develop the capacity to generate detailed information on FAO-relevant SDG indicators at the sub-national level. FAO will now prepare a work plan to roll-out the implementation of the guidelines to a wide set of countries as a result of these discussions.

*World Data Forum (19-21 October 2020) and the financing mechanism for SDG Data and Statistics*

2. A new comprehensive proposal for a financing mechanism for SDG data and statistics was presented at the recent World Data Forum. The proposal foresees the creation of a “Clearinghouse for Financing Development Data” to help countries, donors and development partners identify funding opportunities, bring projects to scale, advocate for support to data and statistics, and connect to new partners. Reminiscent of the approach of FAO’s own Hand-in-Hand initiative, the Clearinghouse would be an online platform facilitating coordination among donors and partner countries.

## **II. Establishment of the Global Leaders Group (GLG) on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) by the FAO/WHO/OIE Tripartite**

3. Following the Report of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group on Antimicrobial Resistance (IACG), which was submitted to the UN Secretary-General in April 2019, the Tripartite (FAO/WHO/OIE) has proceeded with the establishment of the Global Leaders Group (GLG) on AMR, following an open call by the Directors-General of FAO, WHO and the OIE. The first meeting of this group is expected to take place in early 2021 following the announcement of the GLG membership in late November 2020. To support the Tripartite Work Plan, over USD 13 million have been received into a specific Multi Partner Trust Fund (AMR MPTF) which was established and launched on 19 June 2019. To strengthen the Tripartite collaboration and support the implementation of MPTF, a Tripartite Joint Secretariat (TJS) was established, for which FAO has nominated a liaison officer to coordinate AMR issues among the Tripartite. Following the restructuring of FAO in July 2020, the Joint Centre for Zoonotic Diseases and AMR (CJWZ) will co-ordinate the FAO activities and the support to the Joint Secretariat.

## **III. Eleventh Session of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (4 - 6 August 2021)**

4. The Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) aims to address global challenges regarding the use of geospatial information, including in the development agendas, and to serve as a body for global policymaking in the field of geospatial information management. The Eleventh Session of the UN-GGIM will be held on 4-6 August 2021. ECOSOC established the Committee of Experts as the apex intergovernmental mechanism for making joint decisions and setting directions with regard to the production, availability and use of geospatial information within national, regional and global policy frameworks. FAO is a global leader in geospatial information and technology. The FAO Hand-in-Hand Geospatial Platform supports all stakeholders with rich, shareable data (agro-ecology, water, land, soils, GHG, etc.), respecting the proper protocols of data confidentiality. The platform also includes a subnational system of donor information developed by FAO and its partners.

#### **IV. UN Summit on Biodiversity (30 September 2020)**

5. The UN Summit on Biodiversity was convened on 30 September 2020 under the theme '*Urgent action on biodiversity for sustainable development*'. Over 100 world leaders attended the virtual event to build political momentum for COP 15 to be held in Kunming, China, in 2021. The Director-General of FAO, speaking at the Summit on behalf of several sister UN entities, joined the call for urgent action on biodiversity for sustainable development. He stressed the commitment of the UN System to support Members in making biodiversity an integral part of strategies on green development, innovative approaches and disaster risk management, and in implementing international agreements and policies to ensure food security, livelihoods, and sustainability. He also pointed out the important links between this Summit and the UN Food Systems Summit 2021 and said that "the future of our agri-food systems depends on biodiversity and the future of biodiversity depends on our food systems transformation, green economic development and reverence to nature."