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FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Thirty-sixth Session

Managua, Nicaragua, *(New dates to be determined)*

**Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPOW)
for the Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean**

Executive Summary

This Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPOW) frames the work of the Regional Conference for the period 2018-2021. It takes into consideration the views expressed by Members in various instances and the new vision of FAO's Senior Management on the role and functions of the Regional Conferences.

Suggested action by the Regional Conference

The Regional Conference is invited to approve the revision of the MYPOW for the period 2018-2021.

Please send any questions about this document to:

Regional Conference Secretariat
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I. Overall objectives

1. The overall objectives reflect the enhanced role of Regional Conferences in the structure of FAO's Governing Bodies. In particular, the Regional Conference reviews the situation in the region on matters pertaining to the Organization's mandate and offers guidelines and recommendations to the FAO Conference on global policy and regulatory matters, and to the FAO Council on the priorities, programmes and budgets of the Organization.
2. The Regional Conference reviews the situation in the region on matters related to the Organization's mandate. In this context, the Regional Conference provides regional perspectives on FAO strategies and priorities and formulates specific recommendations on regional activities, which also contribute to enhanced efficiency and effectiveness. It also conducts regional-level assessments with the aim of improving the sustainability of agriculture and food security and nutrition. It oversees the functions and activities of FAO in the region in accordance with the Basic Texts of the Organization, cooperating where appropriate with relevant partner organizations.
3. The regional commissions review technical aspects and issues of importance in the areas of forestry (Latin American and Caribbean Forestry Commission [LACFC]), livestock (Commission on Livestock Development for Latin America and the Caribbean [CODEGALAC]), and fisheries (Commission for Small-Scale and Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture of Latin America and the Caribbean [COPPESAALC]) bodies of the Regional Conference and their recommendations complement and inform the discussions during sessions on the Programme of Work.
4. At its 35th session in 2018, the Regional Conference endorsed the MYPOW for the 2018-2019 period to frame the work of the Regional Conference and encourage further efforts to follow up on the Conference's recommendations and continue the Organization's strategic direction, with the aim of achieving the results identified in the framework of regional priorities, with support from the strategic programmes.

II. Results

A. Priority setting, organizational structure and budget planning

Result:

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

Indicators and targets:

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

Output:

9. Clear, precise and consensual recommendations on priorities, programmes, organizational structure and budget for the region.

Activities:

10. Review the implementation of the PWB in the region.

11. Results-based information on past programme implementation and achievements will be provided to the Regional Conference. More detailed progress on regional activities implemented under the Regional Offices' responsibility, including on the Regional Initiatives, would also be available for the Regional Conference's review.

12. Review the decisions and recommendations from the regional committees and other relevant bodies and meetings in the region (namely LACFC, CODEGALAC, COPPESAALC and WECAFC).

13. Review the performance of the Organization in the region, including the effectiveness and efficiency of the network of FAO offices in support of country programmes, taking account of related performance indicators and pertinent evaluations.

Working methods:

14. Liaison with relevant statutory bodies, including the regional commissions and other institutions in the region.

15. Informal consultations among Members as appropriate to foster dialogue during the intersessional period.

16. Informal consultation meetings of senior staff of the Regional Office with the Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) Regional Group.

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

B. Monitoring of and advice on policy and regulatory matters**Result:**

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

Indicators and targets:

19. Clear, concrete action oriented by timely recommendations included in the Regional Conference report.

20. Regional Conference recommendations taken up by the FAO Conference.

Output:

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

Activities:

22. Review the status of key international instruments of relevance to the region, and major developments and initiatives in other fora impacting on the mandate of FAO.
23. Consider the recommendations from FAO statutory bodies, including regional commissions and meetings of relevance to the region.
24. Address new and emerging issues and recommend possible concerted action by FAO and other relevant bodies in the region.
25. Consider the desirability of developing international agreements for the region.

Working methods:

26. Review of regional and global trends in policies and regulations of relevance to the region.
27. Liaison with relevant FAO statutory bodies and other institutions in the region.
28. Informal consultation meetings of senior staff of the Regional Office with the LAC Regional Group.
29. Regular contacts and informal consultation between the Chairperson of the Regional Conference and the Assistant Director-General and Regional Representative, including for informal coordination meetings with the secretariats of the regional commissions.

C. Work planning and working methods**Result:**

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

Indicators and targets:

31. Regional Conference agendas are focused.
32. Regional Conference decisions are taken by consensus.
33. Regional Conference reports are concise, consisting mostly of specific, action-oriented recommendations, and are made available to Members in a timely manner.
34. Regional Conference documents adhere to new institutional report presentation standards and are made available in the required languages six weeks before the session commences.
35. Members generally participate at the appropriate level in the Regional Conference.

Outputs:

36. Endorsement of the MYPOW for the Regional Conference in 2020.
37. Methods of work of the Regional Conference are kept under review and improvements sought regularly.

Activities:

38. Consult with Members on the agenda and format of the Regional Conference.

39. Consider ways to improve the conduct of sessions, including enhanced focus and efficient use of the time available.
40. Review, as needed and appropriate, the Rules of Procedure for the Regional Conference.
41. Regular review of methods of work, including performance measures.
42. Review of the status of implementation of the Regional Conference recommendations.

Working methods:

43. Consultations with Members, through the Chairperson of the Regional Conference, as appropriate.
44. Intersessional activities facilitated by the Chairperson of the Regional Conference through the Bureau, with support from the Secretariat.
45. Structured and focused deliberations during sessions.
46. Efficient drafting arrangements for reports.
47. Secretariat support for the implementation of, and follow-up to, the MYPOW.
48. Informal meetings of the Chairperson and members of the LAC Regional Group and senior members of the Secretariat, facilitated by the Independent Chairperson of the Council.