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Food and Agriculture
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Organisation des Nations
Unies pour l'alimentation
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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-first Session

Rome, 5-9 December 2022

Status of implementation of decisions taken at the 169th (8 April 2022) and 170th (13-17 June 2022) Sessions of the Council

Executive summary

The following table lists decisions taken by Council at its 169th (8 April 2022) and 170th (13-17 June 2022) Sessions and includes a reference to: (i) the relevant paragraph(s) of the Council Reports; 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 170TH SESSION OF THE COUNCIL
(13-17 June 2022)**

	Status of Implementation		COMMENTS
	Completed	Ongoing	
Programme Implementation Report 2020-21			
1. The Council (...) <u>highlighted</u> the value to the Organization of unearmarked and lightly earmarked voluntary funding and <u>requested</u> an analysis of the role and effects of earmarked contributions in delivering the Strategic Framework 2022-31; (para. 10 (c))	X		FAO strongly supports and advocates for unearmarked or lightly earmarked voluntary contributions through several specifically tailored funding modalities, including the Special Fund for Emergency and Rehabilitation Activities (SFERA), the Flexible Voluntary Contribution (FVC) (formerly known as the Flexible Multi-Partner Mechanism [FMM]) and the Special Fund for Development Finance Activities (SFDFA), and stands ready to explore all other viable instruments to better align with resource partners in this area. New approaches are focusing on programme-based contributions aligned with the <i>four betters</i> of the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31 and the twenty Programme Priority Areas (PPAs). The biennial Programme Implementation Report (PIR) reports on the results achieved under all sources of funds, including earmarked voluntary contributions.

	Status of Implementation		COMMENTS
	Completed	Ongoing	
Impact of the Ukraine-Russia conflict on global food security and related matters under the mandate of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)			
2. The Council <u>requested</u> FAO to continue to monitor the situation closely and update Members regularly, including through the FAO webpage dedicated to the crisis in Ukraine; (para. 15)		X	<p>FAO continued monitoring the situation very closely and updating Members regularly, including through the FAO webpage dedicated to the conflict in Ukraine. Materials included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • information notes on “the importance of Ukraine and the Russian Federation for global agricultural markets and the risks associated with the conflict in Ukraine” and on “the impact of the conflict on food security in Ukraine”; • regular updates on the Ukraine humanitarian response, including the Rapid Response Plan; and • presentations, including by the Director-General. <p>A document on the developments in international agricultural commodity markets, including a section on the conflict in Ukraine, and an information document on the developments in global fertilizer markets were prepared for the 75th Session of the Committee on Commodity Problems (13-15 July 2022).</p> <p>Furthermore, through its regular activities on market intelligence and early conflict, FAO has provided timely and objective data and information on market developments and outlook. These included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • regular reporting on food prices at global, regional and country level through the monthly release of the FAO Food Price Index and the Food Price Monitoring and Analysis (FPMA) Bulletin; • publication of the Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS) Market Monitor, providing a synopsis of major market developments for wheat, maize, rice and soybeans; • publication of the Food Outlook report in June, with a special feature on the conflict in Ukraine and the risks it poses for global food commodity markets; and

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> publication of the Crop Prospects and Food Situation report in July and September 2022, providing an analysis of the food situation and food security conditions by geographic region. <p>Three AMIS webinars were organized on: i) “What will happen to Ukrainian grains?” on 19 July 2022; ii) “Fertilizer markets in turmoil” on 15 September 2022; and iii) “Is speculation driving commodity price volatility?” on 20 October 2022.</p>
3. Furthermore, the Council <u>requested</u> FAO to assess the impacts of the conflict on food security in the different regions, with data and information specifically targeted to each region; (para. 16)		X	<p>The conflict in Ukraine is affecting important global agricultural commodity market players during a period of already high and increasingly volatile international food and input prices. This has generated concerns over the potential negative impact on global food security.</p> <p>In the 2022 <i>State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World (SOFI)</i> Report (box 3, page 21), FAO published a simulation of the potential impact of the conflict in Ukraine on global food security. The simulation suggests that the global number of undernourished people will increase by 7.6 million people in 2022 under a moderate shock scenario, and up to 13.1 million under the more severe shock setting. Under a third and even more severe scenario, the increase in the number of undernourished may get close to 19 million people in 2023. A detailed assessment of the impact of the conflict at national level will be possible only in the coming months.</p> <p>At the regional level, however, it is likely for vulnerable populations in sub-Saharan Africa and the Near East and North Africa to be the most at risk of increased undernourishment due to the conflict.</p>
4. The Council <u>appreciated</u> the policy proposals developed by FAO, <u>requested</u> further information and <u>stressed the need</u> to address the risks, both domestically and globally, resulting from the conflict in Ukraine (...); (para. 19)		X	<p>FAO continued to provide information and updates of the various policy proposals through the webpage dedicated to the FAO response to the Ukraine crisis. An informal briefing on FAO’s proposal for a Food Import Financing Facility (FIFF) was organized for Members on 13 September 2022. In this regard, FAO welcomes the new Food Shock Window approved by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), which is in line with FAO’s proposed FIFF.</p>

		<p>The policy proposal on soil nutrition maps also began to be implemented. FAO welcomes the voluntary contributions received by the United States of America for the implementation of the soil nutrient maps at country level.</p> <p>The policy recommendation on transparency through AMIS also received renewed support by the G20 countries and several activities have also been implemented, as well as an agreement to expand AMIS to oil seeds, fertilizers and to strengthening the work on logistics and modelling.</p> <p>Nevertheless, support is needed for the Food Loss and Waste proposal and for the Food Insecurity Experience Scale proposal (FIES) for better targeting of social protection programs.</p> <p>The potential risks of the conflict in Ukraine for global agricultural markets and food security were assessed, and the results were published in the <i>OECD-FAO Agricultural Outlook 2022-2031</i> and in the SOFI 2022 Report.</p> <p>FAO has continued to address the risks associated with the crisis with the Members and partners, including through co-leadership of the Global Crisis Response Group on Food, Energy and Finance, established by the United Nations Secretary-General.</p>
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	Status of Implementation		COMMENTS
	Completed	Ongoing	
Update on FAO's Response to COVID-19: Building to transform			
5. The Council (...) <u>requested</u> FAO to continue to monitor the impact of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic on global food security, including analysis of the impact on agrifood systems, i.e. supply chains, smallholder farmers and family farmers, women and youth, Indigenous Peoples and other vulnerable groups; (para. 20 (e))		X	FAO will continue to monitor the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on global food security and nutrition, and the Organization has also extended the COVID-19 Response and Recovery Programme, and its seven priority areas of work and working groups, to July 2023. The Programme was initially launched for two years but further extended to ensure policy and technical assistance support are provided and priority is given to countries still addressing the impact of the crisis.

	Status of Implementation		COMMENTS
	Completed	Ongoing	
UN Food Systems Coordination Hub			
6. The Council (...) noted that the UN Secretary-General designated FAO as the host for the UN Food Systems Coordination Hub on behalf of the UN System, and <u>requested</u> FAO to engage in inclusive consultations with Members regarding its work, including actions on supporting Members in implementing their national food system pathways and further <u>requested</u> FAO to update Members on a regular basis, on the work and the financing mechanism thereof; (para. 24 (c))		X	<p>Since April 2022, the UN Food Systems Coordination Hub has organized the monthly “Food Systems Solutions Dialogues” on a wide range of technical topics. The purpose of the Dialogues is to identify the needs of Members on the support they require from the Rome-based Agencies (RBAs) and the UN System widely in implementing their food system plans, pathways, transformations or relevant food systems work to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).</p> <p>In each Dialogue, resource persons relevant to the subject are invited for a technical introduction and then time is given to Members to share their experience and needs. Invitations to participate in the Dialogues are extended to the food systems national convenors or other national focal points from the Capitals and to the Member Permanent Representations (PRs) in Rome. To ensure that the correct focal points are engaged in these Dialogues and other work of the Hub, a note verbale has been sent to the Rome-based PRs requesting updates on the contact details of national convenors and/or other government focal points. Several updates have been received by Members. In addition to the global dialogues, regional touchpoints were also organized in July 2022. These engagements have enabled continued peer-exchange, peer-learning and capacity development within the wide network of convenors, focal points and PRs as well as a granular understanding of country technical and financial assistance needs by the Hub. The Hub is incorporating messages from these dialogues in its action planning.</p> <p>In addition, the Director of the Hub has provided updates during the Informal Meeting of the Independent Chairperson of the Council (ICC) with the Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons of the Regional Groups on 28 September, and will also do so during the Informal</p>

			Joint Meeting of the Governing Bodies of the Rome-based Agencies.
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	Status of Implementation		COMMENTS
	Completed	Ongoing	
Internal Control			
7. The Council (...) noting the importance of internal oversight, as conveyed in the 2021 Annual Report of the Inspector General, <u>requested</u> strengthening of internal control, in particular in high risk areas and Decentralized Offices; (para. 29 (d))	X		<p>A set of actions were taken to strengthen the overall internal control environment with emphasis on high risk areas and Decentralized Offices, in particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - specific Regional Office-led actions, in collaboration with business owners, to ensure that Country Offices are provided with adequate support to address detected internal control issues (e.g. close monitoring/follow up of country audits/promotion of cross-regional dialogue/best practices on issues of common concern); - strengthening of oversight and monitoring mechanisms/tools. Improved corporate monitoring tool for audit recommendations and set-up of an integrated monitoring tool for Decentralized Office oversight, i.e. "COMMIT" dashboard; - strengthening capacities/skills in key functional areas – defined training requirements for performing critical functions, requirement for employees to complete mandatory trainings for key functions and available related compliance monitoring information; and organization of central units, Regional Offices/Subregional Offices and Country Offices, e.g. localized procurement support through international procurement officers (IPOs), setting up of a dedicated compliance support team in the Office of Emergencies and Resilience (OER) for countries in emergency contexts, promotion of cross-regional dialogue to address detected weaknesses (Regional Offices with business owners) as part of the work of the established Internal Control and Compliance network.

	Status of Implementation		COMMENTS
	Completed	Ongoing	
Participation of private sector observers in sessions of FAO Governing Bodies			
8. The Council (...) <u>requested</u> the Independent Chairperson of the Council undertake informal consultations with FAO Members on the matter of participation of private sector observers in sessions of the FAO Governing Bodies, in light of the approval at its 165th Session of the Strategy for Private Sector Engagement 2021-2025, in particular to elicit from the Membership its interest in developing a permanent observer status for private sector entities; and with a view to submitting a proposal for approval to the Council through the CCLM; (para. 33 (d))		X	There is a dedicated item on the Provisional Agenda of the 171st Session of the Council, whereby the Independent Chairperson will provide an update to the Council.

	Status of Implementation		COMMENTS
	Completed	Ongoing	
Governance of FAO's statistical and other data activities and their alignment with the cross-cutting FAO policies on Protection of Data and Intellectual Property Rights			
<p>9. The Council <u>decided</u>:</p> <p><u>to request</u> that Management continue improving its activities on governance of FAO's statistical and other data activities, continue to improve internal coordination of FAO statistical activities, and clarify the linkages between the internal structures addressing data protection, data and statistics governance and data; (para. 38 (a))</p>		X	<p>Significant progress has been made in improving the internal coordination and management of statistics and data, as well as in clarifying the linkages with internal structures addressing data protection, data and statistics governance and data. The Data Coordination Group (DCG) was created and held two meetings in July and September 2022. During these meetings, the group discussed and endorsed its membership, its terms of reference and its programme of work, and discussed the implementation of the data protection policy. It also discussed the programme of work of the renewed Interdepartmental Working Group on Data and Statistics, which is to be renamed as the Technical Data Coordination Group, (DCG-T) bearing in mind that FAO's internal structure is no longer based on "Departments".</p> <p>In establishing the terms of reference of the two groups, the linkages between the internal structures addressing data protection, data and statistics governance and data in general were examined. In particular, the DCG will coordinate regularly and as needed with the Data Protection Oversight Committee on data protection matters. This echoes paragraph 44 of FAO's Data Protection Policy: "Matters that are raised in the Data Coordination Group (DCG), chaired by the Chief Economist, or by another internal body, which have data protection implications shall be referred to the Data Protection Oversight Committee for guidance".</p> <p>More details can be found in Programme Committee document PC 134/INF/3.</p>

<p>10. <u>to request</u> an update on the alignment of FAO's statistical activities with FAO's corporate policies on data protection, once these have been promulgated; (para. 38 (b))</p>		X	<p>The review of existing policies and procedures related to FAO statistics, private sector engagements, and science and innovation to ensure that they are fully aligned with the Data Protection Policy has also progressed. A mapping on the <i>Implementation of the Data Protection Policy for data and statistics</i> has been prepared and reviewed by the DCG. It is now confirmed that most statistical principles and guidelines (on data dissemination and data confidentiality) are already aligned with the Policy, but additional work needs to be carried out to ensure full and exhaustive compliance. The Legal Office, currently hosting the Data protection Unit, is securing advisory services from the World Bank in this regard. More details can be found in Programme Committee document PC 134/INF/3.</p>
<p>11. <u>to request</u> FAO to provide regularly an updated information on the content, use and technical characteristics of data and statistical tools and platforms deployed by FAO through its Governing Bodies and informal technical consultations; (para. 38 (c))</p>		X	<p>As requested by the 133rd Session of the Programme Committee in its Report, a "follow up of FAO's work on statistics is to be shared regularly with the Programme Committee". As such, FAO prepared document PC 134/INF/2 that will be presented to the 134th Session of the Programme Committee. The document presents progress on the CapEX project launched on 1 January 2022 (due to be finalized by 31 December 2025) with the objective of modernizing the production cycle of FAO statistics, as defined by the Generic Statistical Business Process Model (GSBPM). The project has two components: the first aimed at modernizing the Statistical Working System (SWS); the second at starting the implementation of a Statistical Data Warehouse (SDW). The SWS component will transform the current SWS into a full-fledged corporate working system by implementing new technologies and functionalities to match the requirements of those statistical units that are still running disparate tools and solutions. Substantial progress has been achieved in the implementation of both the statistics-related and IT-related deliverables, including the recruitment of qualified personnel, a user consultation and the launch of a new User Interface. For its part, the SWD component will catalyse the modernization and harmonization of the data dissemination and analysis phase. To this end, FAO has selected the "StatSuite" platform as the IT infrastructure, and finalized a Memorandum of Understanding with the OECD (the .StatSuite developer)</p>

			accordingly. In addition, implementation is already under way, including with the recruitment of qualified personnel, a needs assessment and relevant training. Further details can be found in document PC 134/INF/2.
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	Status of Implementation		COMMENTS
	Completed	Ongoing	
Restoration by the Conference of the voting rights of Member Nations in arrears in the payment of their financial contributions to the Organization			
12. The Council (...) noting the draft Conference Resolution discussed at the 116th Session of the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters (CCLM), <u>requested</u> the ICC to continue the informal consultations with Members to achieve consensus before submitting an updated version of the Conference Resolution for review by the Council through the CCLM and the Finance Committee, with a view for submission to the Conference at its 43rd Session for approval; (para. 41 (b))		X	There is a dedicated item on the Provisional Agenda of the 171st Session of the Council, whereby the Independent Chairperson will provide an update to the Council

	Status of Implementation		COMMENTS
	Completed	Ongoing	
Resumption of the Management and Administrative Review of FAO by the Joint Inspection Unit of the United Nations			
13. In line with the procedures within the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) and noting with appreciation the assurance from Management that it will continue to fully cooperate with the JIU, the Council <u>requested</u> Management to communicate in writing its willingness that the rescheduling of the Management and Administration Review with the JIU be confirmed at the earliest convenience of the Unit; (para. 43)	X		A communication to this effect has been transmitted to the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) of the United Nations in September 2022. Ms Beth Crawford, FAO-JIU Focal Point, is liaising with the JIU Executive Secretary on a mutually agreed timing for the review in 2023.
14. The Council <u>requested</u> Management to provide regular updates to Members on the progress of this matter with the JIU; (para. 44)	X		The Finance Committee will receive a progress update at its 194th Session in November 2022.

	Status of Implementation		COMMENTS
	Completed	Ongoing	
Code of Conduct for Voting			
15. The Council <u>commended</u> the Independent Chairperson of the Council (ICC) for his efforts in leading the informal consultations on the draft Code of Conduct for Voting Procedures and <u>requested</u> the ICC to continue the informal consultations with Members to achieve consensus before submitting an updated version of the draft Code of Conduct for Voting to the relevant Governing Bodies, with a view for a draft Code to be submitted for approval at the 43rd Session of the Conference; (para. 49)		X	There is a dedicated item on the Provisional Agenda of the 171st Session of the Council, whereby the Independent Chairperson will provide an update to the Council.

**STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF DECISIONS TAKEN AT THE 169TH SESSION OF THE COUNCIL
(8 April 2022)**

	Status of Implementation		COMMENTS
	Completed	Ongoing	
Impact of the Ukraine-Russia conflict on global food security and related matters under the mandate of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)			
<p>16. The Council (...) <u>requested</u> the Director-General:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. to leverage FAO's role as a knowledge institution to closely monitor the implications on world food security and agriculture, including through the regular, comprehensive data analysis on the effects of the conflict on food systems; ii. to review and make recommendations on the conflict's implications for FAO's implementation of its Strategic Framework (2022-31) and Programme of Work and Budget (2022-2023); iii. to develop immediate, medium-term, and longer-term plans to address the global food security impacts of the conflict in Ukraine, including emergency response, recovery assistance, and resilience building in food systems; and iv. to keep Members notified in this regard through regular briefings, consultations, and reporting to the FAO Governing Bodies; (para. 11 (e)) 		X	<p>i. As reported under point 4 above, FAO continued to monitor the situation very closely and assess potential implications for world food markets and global food security. Results of the assessments were published in information notes, as well as in the 2022 edition of the <i>State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World (SOFI)</i> and the <i>OECD-FAO Agricultural Outlook 2022-2031</i>.</p> <p>ii. FAO will identify and propose appropriate programmatic and financial responses to implications arising from the conflict on world food security, agriculture and agrifood systems more broadly. This will be provided to the Governing Bodies as part of the preparation and review process of the Medium-Term Plan 2022-25 (Reviewed) and Programme of Work and Budget 2024-25.</p> <p>iii. To address the global food security impact, FAO has developed and followed up on a range of policy proposals to respond to the Ukraine crisis, which are compiled on a dedicated website (https://www.fao.org/in-focus/briefing-notes/en). More details are provided in document CL 171/3.</p> <p>Through the Global Network and the International Commission on Poplars (IPC) and its data in emergencies monitoring, FAO regularly monitors the impact of the conflict on acute food insecurity, and is currently implementing Humanitarian Response Plans for 34 countries, a regional response plan for the drought in the Horn of Africa, and a Rapid Response Plan for Ukraine which incorporates the grain storage plan. FAO is committed to addressing the root causes of acute food insecurity alongside the immediate humanitarian response through resilience building.</p>

			iv. in addition to the instruments described in the above 3 points, briefings, consultations, regular information published on fao.org, and dedicated document CL 171/3 for the 171st Session of the Council.
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