

REPORT

OF THE COUNCIL OF FAO

Hundred and Sixty-fifth Session
30 November – 4 December 2020



COUNCIL
(as from 1 July 2020)

Independent Chairperson of the Council: Mr Khalid Mehboob

Afghanistan ¹	Congo ²	Italy ⁸	Saudi Arabia ¹
Andorra ⁵	Costa Rica ³	Japan ²	South Africa ¹
Angola ³	Cuba ¹	Jordan ²	South Sudan ⁴
Argentina ³	Dominican Republic ⁴	Kuwait ^{3, 9}	Spain ¹²
Australia ¹	Egypt ¹	Mexico ³	Sri Lanka ²
Azerbaijan ⁶	Equatorial Guinea ²	Monaco ¹	Sweden ¹
Bahamas ³	Eritrea ¹	Myanmar ¹⁰	Thailand ^{1, 13}
Belgium ³	Germany ¹	Nicaragua ²	Tunisia ¹
Brazil ³	Guinea ³	Pakistan ¹	Uganda ^{3, 15}
Burkina Faso ³	India ¹	Peru ¹¹	United Kingdom ¹
Cameroon ¹	Indonesia ¹⁴	Qatar ³	United States of America ³
Canada ³	Israel ⁷	Republic of Korea ²	Zimbabwe ³
China ²			

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

2 Term of office: 1 July 2018 – end of the 42nd Session of Conference (2021)

3 Term of office: end of the 41st Session of the Conference (June 2019) to 30 June 2022

4 Term of office: end of the 41st Session of the Conference (June 2019) to end of the 42nd Session of the Conference (2021)

5 Andorra replaced North Macedonia from 1 July 2019 to the end of the 42nd Session of the Conference (2021)

6 Azerbaijan replaced Estonia from 1 July 2019 to the end of the of 42nd Session of the Conference (2021)

7 Israel replaced Austria from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2022

8 Italy replaced France from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2022

9 Sudan will replace Kuwait from 1 January 2021 to 30 June 2022

10 Myanmar replaced the Philippines from 1 January 2020 to the end of the 42nd Session of the Conference (2021)

11 Peru replaced Chile from the end of the 41st Session of the Conference (2019) to the end of the 42nd Session of the Conference (2021)

12 Spain replaced the Russian Federation from 1 July 2020 to the end of the 42nd Session of the Conference (2021)

13 Malaysia will replace Thailand from 1 January 2022 to the end of the 43rd Session of the Conference (2023)

14 Indonesia replaced Viet Nam from 1 January 2020 to the end of the 42nd Session of the Conference (2021)

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

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Procedure of the Session

Introductory Items¹

1. The 165th Session of the Council was held from 30 November to 4 December 2020, under the Chairpersonship of Mr Khalid Mehboob, Independent Chairperson of the Council.
2. The Session was convened virtually, on an exceptional basis, in light of the global COVID-19 pandemic and associated public health concerns. 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 virtual 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 Section II of document CL 165/INF/5, *Methods of Work for the 165th 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: Ms Maria de Fatima Jardim (Angola), Ms Yael Rubinstein (Israel) and Mr Yousef Juhail (Kuwait).
9. The Council elected Ms Kelli Ketover (United States of America) as Chairperson of the Drafting Committee with the following membership: Australia, Canada, China, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Germany, Kuwait, Spain and Tunisia.

Programmatic Matters

Outline of the Strategic Framework 2022-31 and Outline of Medium Term Plan 2022-25⁵

10. The Council welcomed document CL 165/3, *Outline of the Strategic Framework 2022-31 and Outline of the Medium Term Plan 2022-25*, and:
 - a. welcomed the inclusive and transparent consultation process with Members in the development of the new Strategic Framework;
 - b. appreciated the fact that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are at the centre of the new Strategic Framework, thus allowing FAO to use a common language to articulate its mandated targets and respective results achieved across all Organizational levels;

¹ CL 165/PV/1; CL 165/PV/8

² CL 165/PV/1; CL 165/PV/8

³ CL 165/1; CL 165/INF/1; CL 165/INF/3; CL 165/INF/5; CL 165/PV/1; CL 165/PV/8

⁴ CL 165/PV/1; CL 165/PV/5; CL 165/PV/8

⁵ CL 165/3; CL 165/9 para. 8; CL 165/10 para. 9; CL 165/PV/1; CL 165/PV/2; CL 165/PV/3; CL 165/PV/8

- c. noted that the Strategic Framework builds on the momentum and the harmonized transformations already taking place in the Organization, including structural reforms, the Hand-in-Hand initiative, and the COVID-19 Response and Recovery Programme;
- d. welcomed FAO's efforts on transforming and strengthening partnerships across the spectrum, including with the private sector, recognizing the important and instrumental role of South-South and Triangular Cooperation in realizing the 2030 Agenda and encouraged FAO to invigorate and further enhance South-South and Triangular Cooperation;
- e. appreciated the narrative guiding the Strategic Framework in promoting sustainable, inclusive and resilient food systems for better production, better nutrition, better environment, and better life;
- f. stressed the centrality of the three dimensions of sustainable development (economic, social and environmental), and highlighted important issues such as the One Health approach, and the role of trade and market access;
- g. underscored the importance of women and youth, in particular rural and indigenous women, together with smallholders and family farmers, as key stakeholders for the future of food and agriculture, and sustainable food systems, and stressed the need for the Strategic Framework to address the particular interests of those groups;
- h. underlined the importance of an enhanced enabling environment, and change management approach for FAO to be embedded within the Strategic Framework for effective and efficient implementation of its strategic and programmatic activities;
- i. stressed that the Strategic Framework shall proceed with specific narratives with regard to regional priorities as discussed by the 2020 Regional Conferences and outlined in their respective reports;
- j. requested that the next version of the Strategic Framework and the Programme Priority Areas includes further analysis of FAO's business model, different sources of funding for different priority areas, and information on how these will be reported on;
- k. stressed the importance for FAO to continue supporting countries in their efforts to access funds from different origins, including large climate and environment financing sources such as the Global Environment Facility and the Green Climate Fund; as well as clarity on their contribution to FAO's Strategic Framework;
- l. noted the guiding lens of SDGs 1 (No Poverty) and 2 (Zero Hunger), the renewed commitment with SDG 10, and the emphasis on the importance and interconnectedness of all SDGs to support achievement of FAO's three Global Goals;
- m. recalled in this context FAO's broad mandate as a custodian and/or contributing agency for indicators related to SDG 1 (No Poverty) and SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), as well as for SDG 5 (Gender), SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), SDG 12 (Responsible Production and Consumption), SDG 14 (Life under Water), SDG 15 (Life on Land), and expected FAO's Strategic Framework to reflect this broad mandate;
- n. reiterated the importance of achieving sustainable food systems and as such, recalled that transformation of food systems should be encouraged in a coherent manner, as appropriate, according to, and dependent on, national contexts and capacities;
- o. stressed that the food systems approach is crucial to realizing FAO's vision of a world free of hunger and malnutrition in all its forms, and to contributing to the achievement of all SDGs, as well as to the participation of countries in global value chains in this regard, with due consideration of related regional initiatives and the multilateral trading system;
- p. stressed the need to consider duly all the available approaches, systems, tools and innovations to support Members in their achievement of sustainable food systems, in an independent, neutral, balanced, and science- and evidence-based manner;

- q. emphasized the science- and evidence-based normative work of FAO as one of its main comparative advantages and welcomed Management's efforts to strengthen and increase the visibility of FAO's normative work and standard-setting support in the Strategic Framework, without redefining the scope of normative work;
- r. recognized that the United Nations (UN) Food Systems Summit 2021 and its expected outcomes, if agreed by Members, could support the achievement of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, especially SDG 2, and should be considered by Members, as appropriate, through the Governing Bodies;
- s. emphasized the strategic and catalytic importance of the Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP) and other technical work of FAO, within the context of FAO's institutional architecture, tailored to country-specific needs, in the efforts for achievement of the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda;
- t. underlined the importance of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) and its agreed products in the new Strategic Framework;
- u. looked forward to integrating the repositioning of the UN development system, including the role of Resident Coordinators, into the new Strategic Framework;
- v. urged the development of a Framework that is agile, flexible and responsive in preventing and mitigating effects of known and unknown future challenges on agricultural and food systems;
- w. looked forward to the further development of the new Strategic Framework in consultation with Members, requested a detailed roadmap to facilitate Members' interaction including through informal consultations, and looked forward to reviewing at its next Session the Strategic Framework 2022-31 (including Programme Priority Areas and their results' frameworks), taking into account the priorities identified by the Regional Conferences, and incorporating the recommendations from the Technical Committees in early 2021, as well as from the Programme Committee and its Joint Meeting with the Finance Committee at their March 2021 Sessions.

FAO's new Strategy for Private Sector Engagement⁶

11. The Council welcomed document CL 165/4 Rev. 1, *FAO's new Strategy for Private Sector Engagement 2021-2025*, and related Information Notes 1 and 2, and:

- a) appreciated the inclusive process that led to completing the Strategy, and approved the recommendations in this regard of the Joint Meeting of the 129th Session of the Programme Committee and the 183rd Session of the Finance Committee;
- b) welcomed the importance of a more inclusive and proactive process to engage with the private sector, based on mutual trust; highlighted the importance of micro, small and medium size enterprises; and taking into account different regional, national and local contexts in this regard;
- c) endorsed the recommendations contained in the Report of the 111th Session of the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters (CCLM) to abide by the legal principles for FAO's engagement with the private sector, and emphasized the need to strengthen safeguards and mechanisms to maintain FAO's impartiality, integrity and reputation;
- d) emphasized the importance of due diligence mechanisms and risk management to avoid potential conflicts of interest, specifically in, but not limited to, FAO's work on policies, norms and standard-setting; requested full alignment of the Strategy with the UN Global

⁶ CL 165/4 Rev.1; CL 165/4 Information Notes 1 and 2; CL 165/9 para. 9; CL 165/12 paras. 8-15; CL 165/PV/3; CL 165/PV/4; CL 165/PV/8

Compact; and requested the due diligence mechanisms and rules to be updated and annexed to the Strategy;

- e) requested FAO Management to present a thorough analysis to the relevant Governing Bodies, when interactions with companies that might present significant risks are considered;
- f) underscored the importance of increasing transparency and looked forward to reviewing the partnership agreements more thoroughly once the Connect Portal is launched;
- g) requested FAO to encourage private sector partners to consider applying CFS policy instruments, given their voluntary nature;
- h) noted that there were no additional budgetary implications in 2021, and that no core budget resources would be transferred to private sector entities, requested further information on the costs and benefits of the Strategy, stressed the need to avoid additional budgetary implication, and requested further analysis of FAO's business model and different funding sources, and information on how these will be reported on in future sessions of the Council;
- i) considering the need to update scientific knowledge in which the private sector concerned is operating, reaffirmed the importance of knowledge- and technology-transfer, capacity building and training in the aims and activities of the Strategy, especially at Decentralized Offices;
- j) stressed the importance of appropriate protection of intellectual property for enhancing the effectiveness of cooperation with the private sector;
- k) stressed the importance of ensuring multilingualism at consultative meetings to ensure transparency, engagement and inclusiveness;
- l) looked forward to annual reports on implementation and assessment of progress against Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) to be established within the Strategy;
- m) requested FAO to ensure the full alignment of the Strategy with the new Strategic Framework 2022-31 and the Medium Term Plan 2022-25 once finalized; and
- n) recalled that the Strategy was a living document, subject to review and update by Members.

12. Contingent on its comments outlined in paragraph 11 above, and with the understanding that the content of Information Note 2 shall be incorporated into the Strategy, the Council approved the FAO's new Strategy for Private Sector Engagement 2021-25, and stressed the need for its launch as soon as possible.

FAO's response to the Covid-19 pandemic: Building to transform⁷

13. The Council welcomed document CL 165/5, *FAO's response to COVID-19: Building to transform*, and:

- a) expressed concern for the major increase in acute and chronic food insecurity and malnutrition highlighted and aggravated by the COVID-19 pandemic;
- b) commended FAO for its immediate and articulated response to the current crisis, within its mandate, and in close coordination with other UN entities and regional bodies;
- c) appreciated FAO's work on early warning and early action, collection of data and information for decision-making, policy recommendations provided to address the challenges posed by the pandemic, and FAO's strong role in facilitating global cooperation

⁷ CL 165/5; CL 165/9 para. 11, CL 165/PV/4; CL 165/PV/8

- and joint actions among diverse partners and stakeholders; and called for strengthened protection of data and intellectual property rights in this regard;
- d) stressed the urgency to address the pandemic's multiple negative effects on food systems towards more sustainable and resilient models, emphasizing the three dimensions of sustainability (economic, social and environmental);
 - e) acknowledged the importance of open, rules-based, non-discriminatory and predictable international trade, in order to ensure well-functioning food supply chains;
 - f) supported further strengthening of the One Health approach, expanding the work on data for decision-making and intra-regional trade, in addition to an outcome assessment so as to focus efforts to build back better to enhance resilience and contribute to accelerated recovery;
 - g) commended the official launch of the Food Coalition in response to challenges posed by COVID-19 and urged global coordinated action to avoid the current health crisis from becoming a food crisis;
 - h) welcomed the establishment of the FAO Response and Recovery Programme, and encouraged FAO to enhance measures and actions, including through linkages to the Hand-in-Hand Initiative, that would address the impact of the pandemic, in particular to assist countries to strengthen their resilience and build back better; and
 - i) looked forward to information at its 166th Session with regard to the resources mobilized and available (voluntary contributions and TCP) for the COVID-19 response, as well as updates on the impact of COVID-19 and the risks it poses to FAO's operations, and recommended efforts to strengthen internal control mechanisms.

The Hand-in-Hand Initiative⁸

14. The Council welcomed FAO progress and ongoing reporting of the Hand-in-Hand (HIH) Initiative, and:

- a) appreciated the importance of strengthening national capacities for improved data integration and analysis in order to identify interactions and quantify trade-offs among actions, and highlighted the benefit of improved use of data and analytics to enable better informed decision-making to promote innovation in practices, technology, investment, policy and institutions;
- b) recommended to enhance and extend the HIH analytical and partnership-based approach to strengthen FAO country support to achieve other FAO priority objectives, including for response to the COVID-19 pandemic and associated impacts;
- c) underlined the importance of ensuring close linkage of the Initiative with other existing initiatives, to avoid duplication and create synergies, and further clarification of the role of the Rome-based Agencies (RBAs), development partners, the UN Resident Coordinator and other relevant agencies;
- d) welcomed the flexible and innovative matchmaking approach to building multidimensional partnerships that strengthen mobilization of means of implementation, and stressed the importance of ensuring transparency and measuring impacts of all partner actions to maintain the effectiveness and accountability of all actors;
- e) recalled the need to adopt a broad definition of innovation in order to ensure that the future partnerships can resort to all forms of innovations dealt with in a sustainable manner;
- f) requested expansion of the criteria for selection in order to include middle- and high-income developing countries to benefit from the Initiative;

⁸ CL 165/6; CL 165/10 para. 11; CL 165/PV/4; CL 165/PV/8

- g) stressed the importance of the HIH Initiative and the Private Sector Strategy to be aligned;
- h) recognized the critical and urgent importance of developing robust Information Technology-based dashboards for enabling beneficiary governments and all their diverse development partners to track progress, communicate and coordinate action in a sustained and effective manner throughout the lifecycle of the programme, and to evaluate programmes and adjust them as required;
- i) stressed the need to develop a cross-cutting data policy to ensure data governance, data integrity and privacy, as well as intellectual property rights, and to adhere to international standards and protocols, and requested Management to report to Members on this at its next Session in April 2021;
- j) requested Management to continue to provide implementation updates, and to be closely involved in the further shaping of the Initiative, in particular its governance and budgetary aspects in the context of the Programme of Work and Budget (PWB) for the biennium 2022-2023.

Reports of the Regional Conferences⁹

15. The Council expressed gratitude to the host countries for their flexibility and collaboration in holding the 2020 Regional Conferences in virtual modality.

16. The Council reviewed and endorsed the recommendations on programme and budget matters contained in the Reports of the five Regional Conferences, and of the Informal Regional Conference for North America, and in particular, supported:

- a) the regional priorities identified *inter alia* as inputs for the development of the new Strategic Framework, including its alignment with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
- b) programmes for developing food systems to promote food security and healthy diets for all;
- c) applying digitalization and innovation to improve agricultural productivity and sustainability; and
- d) the regional and global level responses to the COVID-19 pandemic, including through linkages to the Hand-in-Hand Initiative, and the development of plans of action based on the proposed priorities.

17. The Council acknowledged that the Multi-year Programmes of Work (MYPoWs) framed the work of the Regional Conferences and encouraged regular and systematic review of their performance and efficiency.

Reports of the Technical Committees

Report of the 27th Session of the Committee on Agriculture (28 September-2 October 2020)¹⁰

18. The Council endorsed the recommendations in the *Report of the 27th Session of the Committee on Agriculture (COAG)* on programme and budget matters, and in particular:

- a) recommended that the 42nd Session of the Conference endorse the proposal for the establishment of the Sub-Committee on Livestock (Sub-Committee) and to hold, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, the first session of the Sub-Committee during the first quarter of 2022, prior to the 28th Session of COAG; and agreed with the recommendation to consider revisiting the funding arrangement at subsequent COAG sessions with a view to explore other funding options;

⁹ C 2021/14; C 2021/15; C 2021/16; C 2021/17; C 2021/18; C 2021/LIM/1; CL 165/PV/6; CL 165/PV/8

¹⁰ C 2021/21; CL 165/9 para. 14; CL 165/PV/5; CL 165/PV/8

- b) emphasized the importance of FAO's work to support Members in the anticipation, prevention of, and response, to high-impact animal and plant diseases and pests and recommended submission to the 42nd Session of the Conference the COAG draft resolution "*Eradication of Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR) by 2030*", as set out in *Appendix C* to this report;
- c) welcomed the progress in the implementation of the FAO Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) 2016-2020, and the proposal for a new FAO Action Plan on AMR 2021-2025, and welcomed the Tripartite (FAO-World Health Organization-World Organisation for Animal Health) collaboration to address AMR and to promote the One Health approach and requested regular progress reports on the FAO Action Plan on AMR 2021-2025 and on Tripartite collaboration, without gaps or overlaps;
- d) noted FAO's continued support to Members in developing sustainable food systems and to accelerate progress towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda;
- e) underscored the role of FAO in preparing the 2021 UN Food Systems Summit, and requested that FAO continue supporting the preparatory process towards the 2021 UN Food Systems Summit, including the pre-Summit to be held in Italy;
- f) recognized that food safety is key for food security, encouraged further UN-level and multi-partner collaboration, taking into account the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, and supported the need for ongoing sustainable funding, including multi-year contributions, for the food safety advice programme and the CODEX Alimentarius Secretariat;
- g) recognized the importance of raising awareness on plant health as a key tool to safeguard food security, and to contribute to the SDGs, and emphasized the need for greater support and ongoing, sustainable funding, including multi-year contributions, to be provided to the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) Secretariat;
- h) stressed the importance of the proposed Voluntary Code of Conduct for Food Loss and Waste (FLW) Reduction and looked forward to the preparation of a revised document in consultation with Members and under the guidance of the COAG Bureau to be submitted to the 42nd Session of the Conference for endorsement;
- i) acknowledged the importance of the proposed Rural Youth Action Plan for the revitalization of rural areas and, recognizing its cross-cutting nature, requested it be reviewed by the Programme Committee at its 130th Session; and
- j) noted the importance of FAO's work towards enabling smallholders and family farmers to access and participate in innovation, information and advisory services for sustainable agri-food systems.

19. The Council, recalling the criteria outlined in the FAO Policy on the Proclamation and Implementation of International Years, as adopted by the 144th Session of Council (June 2012), and the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Resolution 1980/67 regarding International Years and Anniversaries, endorsed the following:

- a) the draft Conference resolution submitted by the 27th Session of COAG on the observance by the UN System of an "*International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists*" in 2026, as set out in *Appendix D* to this Report;
- b) the draft Conference resolution submitted by the 27th Session of COAG on the observance by the UN System of an "*International Day of Plant Health*" on 12 May every year, as set out in *Appendix E* to this Report; and
- c) the draft Conference resolution submitted by the 27th Session of COAG on the observance by the UN System of an "*International Year of Date Palm*" in 2027, as set out in *Appendix F* to this Report.

20. The Council urged FAO, when proposing international years, to include within the text of the proposal a comprehensive assessment of the presented proposal against the criteria adopted by the ECOSOC and the 38th Session of the Conference in 2013 for the proclamation of international years.

21. The Council requested that the relevant draft resolutions provide that financing of the International Years and Days will be covered by extra-budgetary contributions, including those from the private sector in line with standing FAO policy, giving due consideration to the new Strategy for engagement with the private sector, and that they be submitted to the 42nd Session of the FAO Conference for adoption.

Report of the 25th Session of the Committee on Forestry (5-9 October 2020)¹¹

22. The Council endorsed the recommendations contained in the *Report of the 25th Session of the Committee on Forestry (COFO)*, and in particular:

- a) reiterated the important contribution of forests and sustainable forest management to achieving the SDGs, including food security, sustainable food systems, and healthy diets, as well as to preserving biodiversity, and to mitigation of, and/or adaptation to, climate change;
- b) requested FAO to showcase and promote existing and complementary practices between agriculture activities and the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of forests, avoiding deforestation and maintaining ecosystem services, as agriculture and forestry can synergistically support sustainable development;
- c) welcomed in particular COFO's request for improved cross-cutting and inter-sectoral work, and stressed in this context the need for FAO to maintain strong technical capacity in the forestry field;
- d) encouraged FAO to support local communities under specific forests in the sustainable management of forestry;
- e) requested FAO to continue producing a Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) report every five years, while developing, in consultation with Members and partners, a flexible FRA reporting process that allows voluntary updates of key SDG indicators;
- f) welcomed accomplishments on FAO's work in forestry under the reviewed Strategic Framework and requested FAO to continue to prioritize normative and technical work and put emphasis on data, under the new Strategic Framework for 2022-31;
- g) requested FAO to identify new technologies and digital innovation for data collection on sustainable forestry management and use, as well as on forest products;
- h) noted progress made in implementing the FAO Strategy for Mainstreaming Biodiversity across Agricultural Sectors, acknowledged that Members may submit further comments in writing as inputs to the document and recommended that an open, transparent and Member-led consultation process be convened to finalize the draft Action Plan to implement the strategy, including inputs from all Technical Committees as well as the group of national focal points for Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (CGRFA);
- i) requested FAO to:

¹¹ C 2021/24; CL 165/PV/6; CL 165/PV/8

- i. conduct a review of biodiversity mainstreaming in forestry and promote the sustainable management of wildlife along the whole wild meat value chain and the adoption of measures to better prevent zoonotic disease risk, including through the One Health approach; and
 - ii. consider an initiative to mainstream biodiversity in food systems in consultation with Members;
- j) noted the importance for FAO to support Members, upon request, to increase capacity to address drivers of deforestation and forest degradation as part of their climate actions, strengthen its collaboration with the private sector aiming at mobilizing climate finance for forests and strengthen further the international standard-setting activities and enhance visibility of the work of the IPPC and CODEX Alimentarius;
- k) requested FAO to integrate forestry in its work on food systems, including, but not limited to, through COVID-19 pandemic recovery measures and in its Hand-in-Hand Initiative, and underlined in general the importance of FAO's participation in inter-governmental multilateral mechanisms recognized within the United Nations system;
- l) requested strengthening coordination between COFO and COAG on cross-sectoral matters and recommended that in the future any papers dealing with inter-related issues between agriculture and forests be presented to both COFO and COAG;
- m) requested inclusion of issues related to the use of digital technology in land use planning, land use change and forestry in the Terms of Reference of the International Platform for Digital Food and Agriculture by the COFO; and
- n) requested FAO to align the World Forestry Congress (WFC) discussions with COVID-19 and the 2030 Agenda.

Reports of the Committees of the Council

Report of the Joint Meeting of the 129th Session of the Programme Committee and 183rd Session of the Finance Committee (9 and 13 November 2020)¹²

23. The Council approved the *Report of the Joint Meeting of the Programme and Finance Committees*, and in particular:
- a) endorsed its observations and recommendations relating to the Technical Cooperation Programme, Unspent Balances, Code of Conduct for Voting Procedures, and Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) and Prevention of Sexual Harassment (PSH), and looked forward to the reporting on the status of implementation of any related recommendations in the established manner;
 - b) commended the Secretariat on the innovation in procedures, technology and language services introduced in 2020 which ensured the integrity of governance during the year afflicted by the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, and looked forward to adjustment of remote working methods commensurate with the dynamic evolution of the pandemic conditions in 2021, including potentially by use of hybrid methods of work; and
 - c) stressed the importance of provision of documents for meetings of the Governing Bodies in due time, and in all FAO languages.

¹² CL 165/9; CL 165/INF/6 Rev.1; CL 165/PV/6; CL 165/PV/8

Report of the 129th Session of the Programme Committee (9-13 November 2020)¹³

24. The Council approved the *Report of the 129th Session of the Programme Committee*, and in particular:

- a) endorsed its observations and recommendations on the Technical Cooperation Programme; Country Programming Frameworks; UN Food Systems Summit; Gender Action Plan; Desert Locust upsurge and Fall Armyworm; Nutrition strategy; multilingualism; rolling work plan of evaluations; Terms of Reference of the Joint Evaluation on RBA collaboration; and on Evaluations relating to Zero Hunger, Sustainable Agriculture, and Partnerships with Civil Society Organizations; and
- b) looked forward to the reporting on the status of implementation of any related recommendations in the established manner.

25. With regard to the International Platform for Digital Food and Agriculture, the Council:

- a) requested FAO to ensure that the initiative will create synergies between international organizations and stakeholders, and strengthen coordination between them without duplicating their activities under their respective mandates;
- b) requested FAO to include in the Terms of Reference of the International Platform for Digital Food and Agriculture, reporting mechanisms through which voluntary guidelines from the Platform on issues related to digital food and agriculture are submitted to the FAO Members for consideration through the FAO Governing Body process; and
- c) supported the International Platform for Digital Food and Agriculture, as well as the progress in the development of its Terms of Reference, and looked forward to continue developing and refining these Terms of Reference for further review at its 166th Session.

Reports of the 182nd (29-30 October 2020) and 183rd (9-13 November 2020) Sessions of the Finance Committee¹⁴

26. The Council approved the *Reports of the 182nd and 183rd Sessions of the Finance Committee*, and in particular:

- a) endorsed observations and recommendations in the Report of the 183rd Session on the status of current assessments and arrears; the financial position of the Organization; the Technical Cooperation Programme; human resources management; 2019 Employee Satisfaction Survey; terms of reference of the FAO Oversight Advisory Committee (FOAC); term of Mr Gianfranco Cariola on the FOAC; implementation of External Auditor and FOAC recommendations; the United Nations Joint Inspection Unit reports; and multilingualism;
- b) looked forward to the reporting on the status of implementation of any related recommendations in the established manner; and
- c) noted that the Report of the 182nd Session dealt with World Food Programme (WFP) matters, and was considered by the 2nd Regular Annual Session of the WFP Executive Board.

27. In addition, the Council recommended the Draft Resolution for adoption by the Conference of the FAO Audited Accounts 2019 as set out in *Appendix G* of this Report.

¹³ CL 165/10; CL 165/PV/6; CL 165/PV/8

¹⁴ CL 165/11; CL 165/19; CL 165/INF/6 Rev.1; C 2021/6 A; C 2021/6 B; CL 165/LIM/2; CL 165/PV/6; CL 165/PV/8

**Report of the 111th Session of the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters
(26-28 October 2020)¹⁵**

28. The Council approved the *Report of the 111th Session of the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters (CCLM)*, and in particular:

- a) appreciated the update provided by the Independent Chairperson of the Council (ICC) and commended the ICC for the consultations undertaken with the Members and with the Chairpersons of the Bodies established under Article XIV of the Constitution towards long-term procedures for the appointment of Secretaries to these Bodies among the parties concerned, noting that the matter has been the subject of review by FAO Governing Bodies for a number of years, and taken up under consultations by the ICC since 2016;
- b) concurred with the view of the CCLM that the proposal for the selection and appointment of Secretaries set out in Annex 1 to document CL 165/12 is consistent with the Basic Texts and the Constitution of FAO and relevant treaties establishing Article XIV Bodies;
- c) requested the ICC to continue his consultations on the revised procedure for the selection and appointment of Secretaries of Article XIV Bodies, as set out in Annex 1 to document CL 165/12, with a view to finding a lasting solution agreeable to the concerned Article XIV Bodies and the FAO Management, and submit a paper to the 166th Session of the Council outlining areas where consensus cannot be reached, along with information on any alternative proposals made;
- d) supported the endorsement of the overarching legal principles that should govern FAO's engagement with the private sector as reflected in document CCLM 111/2; underlined that the Private Sector Strategy should closely follow and be consistent with UN system policies and reports; and highlighted the need to strengthen safeguards and mechanisms to maintain FAO's impartiality, integrity and reputation;
- e) welcomed the assistance provided to Members by the Development Law Branch, in particular its contribution to the Organization's COVID-19 Response and Recovery Programme, and emphasized the importance of sound legal frameworks and their effective implementation for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals; and
- f) appreciated the fact that, even though the General Committee of the Conference cannot meet prior to the Conference, CCLM suggested the possibility of an informal meeting of the nominees without the authority to take decisions, or make recommendations.

Governance Matters

Progress Report on Rome-based Agencies collaboration¹⁶

29. The Council:

- a) welcomed the new evidence-based and analytical Progress Report on Rome-based Agencies (RBAs) Collaboration as requested by Members and appreciated the significant increase in RBA collaboration at all levels, including activities in the field across all regions;
- b) welcomed an update on the development of a more elaborated version of the Joint Plan of Action for the Sahel prior to its launch in 2021, while taking due note of all related comments and proposals;
- c) urged further progress on the analysis of integration of administrative functions and common specialized expertise and looked forward to the outcome of the ongoing feasibility study;

¹⁵ CL 165/12; CL 165/12 - Information Note 1; CL 165/INF/7; CL 165/PV/6 ; CL 165/PV/8

¹⁶ CL 165/13 Rev.1; CL 165/9 para. 15; CL 165/PV/6; CL 165/PV/8

- d) welcomed the strategic direction of RBA collaboration and its five longer-term priorities over the 2020-21 reporting period;
- e) encouraged the continued RBA collaboration in global fora, including the CFS;
- f) recognized the collaboration between the RBAs within the context of the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic; and
- g) encouraged the RBAs to reinforce and strengthen collaboration in the preparatory work for the UN Food Systems Summit including the pre-Summit to be held in Italy, across the five Action Tracks.

Arrangements for the 42nd Session of the Conference (12-16 July 2021)¹⁷

30. The Council recommended the Conference approve the Provisional Agenda as contained in document CL 165/14 *Arrangements for the 42nd Session of the Conference (12-16 July 2021)*, 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; and
- b) the deadline for receipt of nominations for election to the Council be set at 12:00 hours on Monday, 12 July 2021, and the election be held on Thursday, 15 July 2021.

31. 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 Monday, 5 April 2021.

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

33. The Council recalled the guidance of its 162nd Session on potential improvements to the working methods of the Conference and appreciated the work undertaken in this regard by the Independent Chairperson of the Council through his informal meetings with the Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons of the Regional Groups. Accordingly, the Council recommended that the Conference approve the proposals contained in document CL 165/18, *Working Methods of the Conference*, in particular to:

- a) introduce, on a voluntary basis, the option for delegations to deliver keynote statements under the General Debate of the Conference in digital form;
- b) schedule meetings of Commission I and Commission II of the Conference consecutively, to the extent possible;
- c) introduce informal Round Table events at the Conference to foster senior or high level official action-oriented dialogue; and
- d) convene informal meetings of the General Committee prior to the opening of the Conference to undertake preparatory work, noting that such preparatory work would not constitute formal decisions and recommendations of the General Committee until its membership is elected by the Conference.

34. The Council underlined the need for clarity in advance of the Conference with regard to the invitation and participation of international non-governmental organizations, including from the private sector.

Council Multi-year Programme of Work 2021-2024¹⁸

35. The Council reviewed and approved its Multi-year Programme of Work (MYPoW) 2021-24.

¹⁷ CL 165/14; CL 165/18; CL 165/9 para. 12; CL 165/12 paras. 30-32; CL 165/PV/6; CL 165/PV/8

¹⁸ CL 165/15; CL 165/PV/6; CL 165/PV/8

Status of Implementation of Decisions taken at the 164th Session of the Council (6-10 July 2020)¹⁹

36. The Council took note of the status of implementation of decisions taken at its 164th Session of the Council (6-10 July 2020), and noted the recommendation under paragraph 20 in CL 165/LIM/4 is outstanding, and its status of implementation should be “ongoing”.

Other Matters

Election of Six Members of the WFP Executive Board²⁰

37. The Council, pursuant to Resolution 7/2011 of 2 July 2011, elected six members of the WFP Executive Board, for a period of three years (from 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2023) in accordance with the following distribution:

- List A: Morocco
- List C: Brazil²¹ and Guatemala²²
- List D: Denmark and Norway
- List E: Hungary

Annual Report of the WFP Executive Board on its activities in 2019²³

38. The Council appreciated WFP’s work and congratulated on the award of the Nobel Peace Prize 2020, and endorsed the Annual Report of the World Food Programme (WFP) Executive Board on its activities in 2019, and in particular:

- a) acknowledged WFP’s programme performance results in meeting its Strategic Objectives, supported by achievements by Management Results Dimensions;
- b) recognized the commitment of WFP staff in the field that are working in challenging circumstances to address complex crises, driven primarily by violent conflicts which affected more people than in any of the previous 20 years;
- c) welcomed WFP’s commitment to annual targets for key programme output indicators through 2021 to show where resources are directed and demonstrate the breadth of WFP’s work; and
- d) welcomed WFP’s involvement in partnership and coordination efforts, including its engagement with partners towards Zero Hunger and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Calendar of FAO Governing Bodies and other Main Sessions 2020-22²⁴

39. The Council approved the Calendar of FAO Governing Bodies for 2020-22, as reproduced in *Appendix H* to this Report.

¹⁹ CL 165/LIM/4; CL 165/PV/7; CL 165/PV/8

²⁰ CL 165/17.1; CL 165/LIM/3; CL 165/PV/6; CL 165/PV/8

²¹ Brazil and Guatemala reached an agreement to share an FAO Council elected seat, with Brazil serving from 1 January 2021 until 31 December 2022 and Guatemala occupying the seat from 1 January 2023 until 31 December 2023.

²² Guatemala and Argentina reached an agreement to share an FAO Council elected seat, with Guatemala serving from 1 January 2021 until 31 December 2021 and Argentina occupying the seat from 1 January 2022 until 31 December 2023.

²³ CL 165/17.2; CL 165/PV/6; CL 165/PV/8

²⁴ CL 165/LIM/1; CL 165/PV/7; CL 165/PV/8

40. The Council urged respect of the joint RBA calendar and highlighted the importance of FAO duly considering the calendar when planning Governing Body meetings and consultations.

Developments in *Fora* of Importance for the Mandate of FAO²⁵

41. The Council received Briefing Notes on the following topics for information only:
- a) Latest developments on the SDG Indicator Framework and the financing mechanism for SDG Data and Statistics;
 - b) Establishment of the Global Leaders Group (GLG) on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) by the FAO/WHO/OIE Tripartite;
 - c) Eleventh Session of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (4 - 6 August 2021); and
 - d) UN Summit on Biodiversity (30 September 2020).

Tentative Agenda for the 166th Session of the Council (April 2021)²⁶

42. The Council endorsed the Tentative Agenda of its 166th Session (April 2021) as contained in CL 165/INF/2, and recommended the addition of “the report on intergovernmental group on oils, oilseeds and fats” as a sub-item under item 5.1 - *74th Session of the Committee of Commodity Problems (CCP)*.

Statement by a Representative of the FAO Staff Bodies²⁷

43. Mr Jakob Skoet, President of the AP-in-FAO, made a statement on behalf of the FAO Staff Representative Bodies.

²⁵ CL 165/INF/4; CL 165/INF/4 Web Annexes 1 - 4; CL 165/PV/7; CL 165/PV/8

²⁶ CL 165/INF/2; CL 165/PV/7; CL 165/PV/8

²⁷ CL 165/PV/6; CL 165/PV/8

Appendix A

Agenda for the 165th Session of the Council

Procedure of the Session

1. Adoption of the Agenda and Timetable (CL 165/1; CL 165/INF/1; CL 165/INF/3; CL 165/INF/5)
2. Election of three Vice-Chairpersons, and Designation of the Chairperson and Members of the Drafting Committee

Programmatic Matters

3. Outline of the Strategic Framework 2022-31 and Outline of Medium Term Plan 2022-25 (CL 165/3)
4. FAO's new Strategy for Private Sector Engagement (CL 165/4 Rev.1; CL 165/4 Information Notes 1 and 2)
5. FAO's response to the Covid-19 pandemic: Building to transform (CL 165/5)
6. The Hand-in-Hand Initiative (CL 165/6)

Reports of the Regional Conferences

7. Regional Conferences
 - 7.1 Report of the 31st Session of the Regional Conference for Africa (26-28 October 2020) (C 2021/14)
 - 7.2 Report of the 35th Session of the Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific (1-4 September 2020) (C 2021/15)
 - 7.3 Report of the 32nd Session of the Regional Conference for Europe (2-4 November 2020) (C 2021/16)
 - 7.4 Report of the 36th Session of the Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean (19-21 October 2020) (C 2021/17)
 - 7.5 Report of the 35th Session of the Regional Conference for the Near East (21-22 September 2020) (C 2021/18)
 - 7.6 Report of the Sixth Informal Regional Conference for North America (22-23 October 2020) (C 2021/LIM/1)

Reports of the Technical Committees

8. Technical Committees
 - 8.1 Report of the 27th Session of the Committee on Agriculture (28 September-2 October 2020) (C 2021/21)
 - 8.2 Report of the 25th Session of the Committee on Forestry (5-9 October 2020) (C 2021/24)

Reports of the Committees of the Council

9. Report of the Joint Meeting of the 129th Session of the Programme Committee and 183rd Session of the Finance Committee (November 2020) (CL 165/9; CL 165/INF/6 Rev.1)
10. Report of the 129th Session of the Programme Committee (9-13 November 2020) (CL 165/10)
11. Reports of the 182nd (29-30 October 2020) and 183rd (9-13 November 2020) Sessions of the Finance Committee (CL 165/11; CL 165/19; CL 165/INF/6 Rev.1)
 - 11.1 Audited Accounts - FAO 2019 (C 2021/6 A; C 2021/6 B)
 - 11.2 Status of Current Assessments and Arrears (CL 165/LIM/2)
12. Report of the 111th Session of the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters (26-28 October 2020) (CL 165/12; CL 165/12 - Information Note 1; CL 165/INF/7)

Governance Matters

13. Progress Report on Rome-based Agencies collaboration (CL 165/13 Rev.1)
14. Arrangements for the 42nd Session of the Conference (CL 165/14; CL 165/18)
15. Council Multi-year Programme of Work 2021-2024 (CL 165/15)
16. Status of Implementation of Decisions taken at the 164th Session of the Council (6-10 July 2020) (CL 165/LIM/4)

Other Matters

17. World Food Programme
 - 17.1 Election of Six Members of the WFP Executive Board (CL 165/17.1; CL 165/LIM/3)
 - 17.2 Annual Report of the WFP Executive Board on its activities in 2019 (CL 165/17.2)
18. Calendar of FAO Governing Bodies and other Main Sessions 2020-22 (CL 165/LIM/1)
19. Developments in *Fora* of Importance for the Mandate of FAO (CL 165/INF/4; CL 165/INF/4 Web Annexes 1 to 4)
20. Tentative Agenda for the 166th Session of the Council (April 2021) (CL 165/INF/2)
21. Any Other Matters

Appendix B

List of Documents

CL 165/1	Provisional Agenda
CL 165/3	Outline of the Strategic Framework 2022-31 and Outline of the Medium Term Plan 2022-25
CL 165/4 Rev.1	FAO's Strategy for Private Sector Engagement 2021-2025
CL 165/4 Information Note 1	Information Note 1 - November 2020 - FAO's Strategy for Private Sector Engagement 2021-2025 - List of Active Engagements with the Private Sector
CL 165/4 Information Note 2	Information Note 2 - November 2020 - FAO's Strategy for Private Sector Engagement 2021-2025 - Proposed roadmap to address Members' comments received after issuance of CL165/4 Rev.1
CL 165/5	FAO's response to COVID-19 pandemic: Building to Transform
CL 165/6	The Hand-in-Hand Initiative
CL 165/9	Report of the Joint Meeting of the 129th Session of the Programme Committee and 183rd Session of the Finance Committee (9 and 13 November 2020)
CL 165/10	Report of the 129th Session of the Programme Committee (9-13 November 2020)
CL 165/11	Report of the 183rd Session of the Finance Committee (9-13 November 2020)
CL 165/12	Report of the 111th Session of the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters (26-28 October 2020)
CL 165/12 Information Note 1	Information Note 1 - November 2020 - Report of the 111th Session of the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters (26-28 October 2020)
CL 165/13 Rev.1	Progress Report on Rome-based Agencies collaboration
CL 165/14	Arrangements for the 42 nd Session of the Conference (12-16 July 2021)
CL 165/15	Council Multi-year Programme of Work 2021-2024
CL 165/17.1	Membership of the WFP Executive Board
CL 165/17.2	2019 Annual Report of the WFP Executive Board to ECOSOC and the FAO Council
CL 165/18	Working Methods of the Conference
CL 165/19	Report of the 182nd Session of the Finance Committee (29-30 October 2020)

C 2021 Series

C 2021/6 A	Audited Accounts - FAO 2019
C 2021/6 B	Audited Accounts - FAO 2019 Part B - Report of the External Auditor
C 2021/14	Report of the 31st Session of the Regional Conference for Africa (26-28 October 2020)
C 2021/15	Report of the 35th Session of the Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific (1-4 September 2020)
C 2021/16	Report of the 32nd Session of the Regional Conference for Europe (2-4 November 2020)
C 2021/17	Report of the 36th Session of the Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean (19-21 October 2020)
C 2021/18	Report of the 35th Session of the Regional Conference for the Near East (21-22 September 2020)
C 2021/21	Report of the 27th Session of the Committee on Agriculture (28 September-2 October 2020)
C 2021/24	Report of the 25th Session of the Committee on Forestry (5-9 October 2020)
C 2021/LIM/1	Report of the Sixth Informal Regional Conference for North America (22-23 October 2020)

CL 165 INF Series

CL 165/INF/1	Provisional Timetable
CL 165/INF/2	Tentative Agenda for the 166th Session of the Council (April 2021)
CL 165/INF/3	Statement of Competence and Voting Rights submitted by the European Union and its Member States
CL 165/INF/4	Developments in Fora of Importance for the Mandate of FAO
CL 165/INF/4 Web Annex 1	Web Annex 1 - Latest developments on the SDG Indicator Framework and the financing mechanism for SDG Data and Statistics
CL 165/INF/4 Web Annex 2	Web Annex 2 - Establishment of the Global Leaders Group (GLG) on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) by the FAO/WHO/OIE Tripartite
CL 165/INF/4 Web Annex 3	Web Annex 3 - Eleventh Session of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (4 - 6 August 2021)
CL 165/INF/4 Web Annex 4	Web Annex 4 - UN Summit on Biodiversity (30 September 2020)
CL 165/INF/5	Methods of Work for the 165th Session of the Council

CL 165/INF/6 Rev.1 Annual report on Corporate Policy, Processes and Measures on the prevention of Harassment, Sexual Harassment and Authority Abuse, including results of the staff satisfaction survey

CL 165/INF/7 Selection and Appointment of Secretaries of Article XIV Bodies - Interim Report

CL 165 LIM Series

CL 165/LIM/1 Calendar of FAO Governing Bodies and other Main Sessions 2020-2022

CL 165/LIM/2 Status of Current Assessments and Arrears as at 23 November 2020

CL 165/LIM/3 Election of Six Members of the WFP Executive Board

CL 165/LIM/4 Status of Implementation of Decisions taken at the 164th Session of the Council (6-10 July 2020)

Other Documents

List of Delegates and Observers

CL 165/Draft Report Draft Report of Plenary

CL 165 PV Series

CL 165/PV/1 to Verbatim Records of Plenary

CL 165/PV/8

CL 165 OD Series

CL 165/OD/1 to Orders of the Day

CL 165/OD/5

Appendix C

Draft Resolution for the Conference

Eradication of Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR) by 2030

THE CONFERENCE:

Recognizing that sheep and goats are the primary livestock resource of about 300 million poor rural families in developing and emerging countries; and in most of these countries, women and children are highly involved in sheep and goats production, they can obtain animal-sourced proteins, while also benefitting from additional income generated by the sale of livestock products;

Recognizing that Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR) or small ruminant plague is a highly contagious viral disease of both domestic and wild small ruminants with around 70 countries in Africa, Asia and the Middle East having reported the disease, countries that are home to more than 80 percent of the global 2.5 billion small ruminants;

Taking into consideration that a) the annual global economic impacts of PPR have been estimated between USD 1.4 billion to USD 2.1 billion losses; b) the current scientific knowledge and tools (vaccines and diagnostics) are fit for purpose for the global eradication of PPR, while the disease is still confined to relatively defined parts of the world; and c) these make global action essential not only to stimulate sustained socio-economic development in low income infected countries, but also to protect the global sheep and goat industries;

Recalling that learning from the successful eradication of rinderpest in 2011, FAO, the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and partners launched the PPR Global Eradication programme (PPR GEP) in Côte d'Ivoire (where the disease was first reported in 1942), with the vision for global freedom by 2030;

Noting the strategic partnership with OIE and several other global and regional institutions, as well as resource partners, research institutions, Civil Society Organisations and with special role of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) for technology transfer and laboratory network;

Confirming the growing evidence which suggests that multiple wildlife small ruminant species can be infected with peste des petits ruminants virus (PPRV), leading to significant consequences regarding the potential maintenance of PPRV in communities of susceptible hosts, and the threat that PPRV may pose to the conservation of wildlife populations, including endangered species, and resilience of ecosystems;

Calling the attention of FAO Members that PPR global eradication by 2030 will contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular SDG1; SDG2; SDG3; SDG5; SDG8; SDG 12; SDG 15; and SDG 17;

Reaffirming the support of the FAO Conference at its 39th Session in June 2015 to the PPR Global Eradication Programme (PPR GEP);

Noting that similarly the 84th General Session of the World Assembly of the OIE Delegates in May 2016 endorsed Resolution 25 supporting the PPR GEP;

1. **Reaffirms** its support to the ongoing work of FAO in order to eradicate PPR by 2030, including through the partnership with the OIE, and in close coordination with FAO Members, Farmers' Representatives, including women's associations, global/regional institutions, research institutions, civil society organizations, the private sector and other partners;
2. **Requests** FAO to work with relevant partners to establish a dedicated trust fund in order to a) coordinate vaccination campaigns wherever needed; b) increase surveillance and enhance data analysis; and c) facilitate research and innovation;

3. **Encourages** FAO, in close cooperation with the OIE and other partners to establish a mechanism to ensure broad global coordination for the implementation of PPR GEP;
4. **Urges** resource partners and the development community in general to join the efforts of PPR infected and at risk countries to fill the critical funding gaps to allow the implementation of the PPR GEP, and eventually, the achievement of a PPR free world by 2030.

Appendix D

Draft Resolution for the Conference

International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists

THE CONFERENCE,

Recognizing that pastoralism is a dynamic and transformative livelihood linked to the diverse ecosystems, cultures, identities, traditional knowledge, historical experience of coexisting with nature;

Re-affirming that healthy rangelands are vital for contributing to economic growth, resilient livelihoods and the sustainable development of pastoralism;

Aware that a significant number of pastoralists in the world inhabit rangelands, and that pastoralism is globally practiced in many different forms;

Noting that more than half of the Earth's land surface is classified as rangelands and that these areas are suffering considerable desertification, including in countries with substantial drylands;

Recalling the UN General Assembly resolution proclaiming the United Nations Decade of Family farming and the UN General Assembly resolution proclaiming the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration and the need to support pastoralists and sustainable rangeland management;

Acknowledging that efforts aimed at achieving sustainable rangelands and pastoralism need to be rapidly up-scaled so as to make significant impact in the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals;

Acknowledging that rangelands and pastoralism have suffered from "benign neglect" in many countries and are currently facing urgent and different challenges around the world;

Recalling that legal protection of natural resources is needed, in order to manage grazing areas, wildlife, water sources, livestock movement, risk and resilience, and to enable land-use planning and ecosystem management by pastoralists and relevant public entities;

Also **emphasizing** that well-developed and fair production pastoral value chains can provide equitable economic opportunities and end extreme poverty among various groups;

Acknowledging that FAO has a long-standing work developed in supporting sustainable rangelands and pastoralists from different approaches and thematic areas;

Recognizing the significant contributions being made by the scientific community, non-governmental organizations, pastoralist associations, and other relevant civil society actors; including innovative approaches towards achieving sustainability;

Further **recognizing** the relevance of sustainable rangelands and pastoralism to several subprograms and thematic areas of the United Nations, including the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, and the International Fund for Agricultural Development, and acknowledging their collaborative efforts with intergovernmental, private sector and civil society partners;

Stressing that costs for the implementation of the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists and the FAO involvement will be covered by extra-budgetary resources to be identified;

Observing that Member Nations have done considerable work on rangelands and pastoralism;

Urging Member Nations to further build the capacity of and continue or increase responsible investment in the pastoral livestock sector, including for sustainable land management practices, improved and/or restored ecosystems, access to markets, livestock health and breeding, and enhanced livestock extension

services, in order to improve productivity, contribute to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, and maintain and enhance biodiversity;

Requests the Director-General to transmit this Resolution to the Secretary General of the United Nations with a view to having the General Assembly of the United Nations consider at its next session, declaring 2026 as the International Year of Rangeland and Pastoralists.

Appendix E

Draft Resolution for the Conference

International Day of Plant Health

THE CONFERENCE,

Noting the CPM-12 (2017) endorsement of the proclamation of an International Day of Plant Health as one of the key outputs of the International Year of Plant Health, as also endorsed by the IYPH International Steering Committee;

Noting that healthy plants are the foundation for all life on Earth, ecosystem functions and food security and nutrition;

Recognizing that plant health is the key to the sustainable intensification of agriculture to feed a growing global population;

Acknowledging that plants account for 80 percent of our diets;

Affirming that plant health is critical to addressing the pressures of a growing population and that recognition, advocacy and support for the promotion of plant health is of paramount importance if the international community is to guarantee plant resources for a food secure world based on stable and sustainable ecosystems;

Recognizing that sustaining plant health contributes to protecting the environment, forests and biodiversity from plant pests and diseases, and supports efforts to reduce hunger, malnutrition and poverty;

Recalling the urgent need to raise awareness and to promote and facilitate actions towards the management of plant health in order to achieve the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals by 2030;

Trusting that such initiative would establish a platform and encourage actions to promote and implement activities in favour of preserving and sustaining global plant resources as well as raise awareness of the importance of plant health in addressing issues of global concern, including hunger, poverty and threats to the environment;

Affirming the urgent and continuing need of raising public awareness of the importance of healthy plants for food security, right to food and ecosystem functions;

Recognizing the critical importance of healthy plants on agricultural development, biodiversity, food security and nutrition, the Committee called for strong international collaboration, including through South-South Cooperation, harmonization and standard setting;

Stressing that additional costs of activities arising from the implementation of the International Day of Plant Health be met through voluntary contributions, including from the private sector;

Requests the Director-General to transmit this Resolution to the Secretary-General of the United Nations with a view to having the General Assembly of the United Nations consider declaring 12 May as the International Day of Plant Health.

Appendix F
Draft Resolution for the Conference
International Year of Date Palm

THE CONFERENCE,

Considering the urgent need to raise awareness of the economic benefits of sustainably produced dates;

Recognizing the important contribution of dates to the adaptation to climate change;

Noting the importance of sustainable farming and production practices to the livelihoods of millions of rural farm families and small holder farmers in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) and other regions of the world;

Cognizant of the historical contribution of dates, to food security, nutrition, livelihoods and incomes of smallholder farmers;

Concerned over the current need to invigorate market recognition of the benefits of dates and to promote efficient value chains embracing innovative mechanization, digitalization and post-harvest services;

Recognizing the vast genetic diversity of dates and their adaptive capacities to a range of production environments and marketing demands;

Recognizing that date palms as an important source of income and the need to empower youth and women through education, to assure the quality of family diets and to develop an agribusiness system that includes the crop byproducts;

Recognizing that the observance of an International Year of Date Palm by the international community would contribute significantly to raising awareness of the suitability for sustainable cultivation of date palm under adverse climatic conditions, while directing policy attention to improving value chain efficiencies;

Stressing that costs for implementation of the Year and the FAO involvement will be covered by extra-budgetary resources to be identified;

Requests the Director-General to transmit this Resolution to the Secretary General of the United Nations with a view to having the General Assembly of the United Nations consider at its next session, declaring 2027 as the International Year of Date Palm.

Appendix G

Draft Resolution for the Conference

FAO Audited Accounts 2019

THE CONFERENCE,

Having considered the Report of the 165th Session of the Council, and

Having examined the 2019 FAO Audited Accounts and the External Auditor's Report thereon

Adopts the Audited Accounts.

Appendix H

Provisional Calendar of FAO/IFAD/WFP Governing Bodies and other Main Sessions 2020-2022

	2021		2022	
JANUARY				
FEBRUARY	34 COFI 47 CFS IFAD/GC WFP	1-5 8-12 15-19 22-26	36 NERC IFAD/GC 32 ARC WFP	7-11 14-18 21-25 28/2-4/3
MARCH	112 CCLM 73 CCP 184 FC 130 PC	8-10 10-12 22-26 22-26	37 LARC 114 CCLM	7-11 21-23
APRIL	IFAD/EB 166 CL*	19-23 26-30	36 APRC IFAD/EB	4-8 25-29
MAY			33 ERC 188 FC 132 PC	2-6 16-20 16-20
JUNE	185 FC (WFP)* WFP	7-9 21-25	189 FC (WFP) 169 CL WFP 45 CODEX (Rome)	1-3 6-10 20-24 27/6-1/7
JULY	44 CODEX 42 C 167 CL	5-9 (Geneva) 12-16 19	74 CCP 28 COAG	13-15 18-22
AUGUST				
SEPTEMBER	IFAD/EB 18 CGRFA*	13-17 27/9-1/10	35 COFI IFAD/EB	5-9 12-16
OCTOBER	48 CFS WFD 113 CCLM 186 FC (WFP)*	11-15 15 (Friday) 25-27 28-29	26 COFO WFD 49 CFS 115 CCLM 190 FC (WFP)	3-7 17 (Monday) 17-21 24-26 27-28
NOVEMBER	187 FC* 131 PC WFP 168 CL	8-12 8-12 15-19 29/11-3/12	191 FC 133 PC WFP	7-11 7-11 14-18
DECEMBER	IFAD/EB	13-17	170 CL IFAD/EB	5-9 12-16

Easter:	4 April 2021	Easter:	17 April 2022
Orthodox Easter:	2 May 2021	Orthodox Easter:	24 April 2022
Ramadan:	13 April – 12 May 2021	Ramadan:	2 April – 1 May 2022
Eid Al-Fitr:	13 May 2021	Eid Al-Fitr:	2 May 2022
Eid Al-Adha:	20 July 2021	Eid Al-Adha:	10 July 2022

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
COAG	Committee on Agriculture	PC	Programme Committee
CODEX	Codex Alimentarius Commission	WFD	World Food Day
COFI	Committee on Fisheries	WFP	World Food Programme Executive Board

(*) Change compared to Calendar submitted to the previous Council session

PROGRAMME COMMITTEE (July 2019 - July 2021)

Chairperson

Mr Hans Hoogeveen
(Netherlands)

Members

Argentina (Ms María Cristina Boldorini)*
Canada (Ms Jennifer Fellows)
Chile (Ms Tamara Villanueva)
China (Mr Ni Hongxing)
France (Ms Delphine Borione)*
Iran (Islamic Republic of) (Mr Mohammad Hossein Emadi)*

Jordan (Mr Salah Yousef Ahmad Al-Tarawneh)*
Malaysia (Mr Muhammad Rudy Khairudin Mohd Nor)*
Mali (Ms Traore Halimatou Kone)
New Zealand (Mr Donald Syme)
United Kingdom (Ms Marie Therese Sarch)
Zambia (Mr Kayoya Masuhwa)

* Details of substitute representative available at: www.fao.org/unfao/govbodies/gsbhome/programme-committee/substitute-representatives/en/

FINANCE COMMITTEE (July 2019 - July 2021)

Chairperson

Ms Imelda Smolcic
(Uruguay)

Members

Australia (Ms Lynda Hayden)*
Bangladesh (Mr Manash Mitra)
Brazil (Mr Rodrigo Estrela de Carvalho)
Egypt (Mr Haitham Abdelhady)
Ethiopia (Mr Mitiku Tesse Jebessa)*
Germany (Mr Heiner Thofern)*

Japan (Mr Toru Hisazome)*
Mexico (Mr Benito Santiago Jiménez Sauma)
Niger (Ms Rahila Rabiou Tahirou)
Russian Federation (Mr Vladimir Kuznetsov)*
Sudan (Mr Sid Ahmed Alamain Hamid Alamain)
United States of America (Ms Emily Katkar)*

* Details of substitute representative available at: www.fao.org/unfao/govbodies/gsbhome/finance-committee/substitute-representatives/en/

COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL MATTERS (July 2019 - July 2021)

Chairperson

Ms Daniela Rotondaro
(San Marino)

Members

Fiji (Ms Esala Nasayi)*
Gabon (Mr Charles Essonghe)
Jordan (Mr Ali Albsoul)
Nicaragua (Ms Mónica Robelo Raffone)*

Philippines (Mr Theodore Andrei Bauzon)*
Spain (Mr Rafael Osorio de Rebellón)
United States of America (Ms Emily Katkar)*

* Details of substitute representative available at: www.fao.org/unfao/govbodies/gsbhome/cclm/substitute-representatives/en/

WFP EXECUTIVE BOARD 2020

Term of office expiring

Elected by FAO Council

Elected by ECOSOC

31 December 2020

Algeria (A)
Brazil (C)
Denmark (D)¹
Equatorial Guinea (A)²
Norway (D)¹
Poland (E)

China (B)
Guatemala (C)
Hungary (E)
Japan (D)
Lesotho (A)
United Kingdom (D)

31 December 2021

Côte d'Ivoire (A)³
India (B)⁴
Kuwait (B)⁵
Netherlands (D)
Peru (C)⁶
United States of America (D)

Austria (D)⁹
Burkina Faso (A)
Iran (Islamic Republic of) (B)
Republic of Korea (B)
Russian Federation (E)
Sweden (D)

31 December 2022

Angola (A)⁷
Argentina (C)⁸
Canada (D)
Germany (D)
Saudi Arabia (B)
Somalia (A)

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

¹ Denmark and Norway replaced Belgium and Ireland for the remainder of their respective terms from 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020.

² Rotating seat occupied by a country of List A (2018-2020) held by Equatorial Guinea.

³ Côte d'Ivoire replaced Nigeria from 1 January 2020 until December 2021 having reached an agreement to share an FAO Council-elected seat.

⁴ India replaced Afghanistan from 1 January 2020 until 31 December 2021 having reached an agreement to share an FAO Council-elected seat.

⁵ Kuwait and Afghanistan reached an agreement to share an FAO Council-elected seat, with Kuwait serving in 2019 and 2020 and Afghanistan serving in 2021.

⁶ Peru replaced Mexico from 1 January 2020 until 31 December 2021 having reached an agreement to share an FAO Council elected seat.

⁷ Angola and South Africa reached an agreement to share an FAO Council-elected seat, with Angola serving in 2020 and 2021 and South Africa serving in 2022.

⁸ Argentina and Dominican Republic reached an agreement to share an FAO Council-elected seat, with Argentina serving in 2020 and Dominican Republic serving in 2021 and 2022.

⁹ Austria replaced Switzerland for the remainder of its term from 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2021. Austria will resign its seat effective 31 December 2020 and be replaced by Italy for the remainder of the term, serving from 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021.

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)	Turkey
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	