



联合国
粮食及
农业组织

Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

Organisation des Nations
Unies pour l'alimentation
et l'agriculture

Продовольственная и
сельскохозяйственная организация
Объединенных Наций

Organización de las
Naciones Unidas para la
Alimentación y la Agricultura

منظمة
الغذية والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة

E

COUNCIL

Hundred and Fifty-third Session

Rome, 30 November - 4 December 2015

Report of the Joint Meeting of the 118th Session of the Programme Committee and 160th Session of the Finance Committee (4 November 2015)

Executive Summary

The Joint Meeting of the Programme and Finance Committees brings to the attention of the Council its findings and recommendations on:

- a) Adjustments to the Programme of Work and Budget 2016-17 (para. 4)
- b) Independent review of decentralized offices networks (para. 5-6)
- c) Progress report on FAO strategy for partnerships with the private sector (para. 7)
- d) Progress report on FAO strategy for partnerships with civil society organizations (para. 7)

Suggested action by the Council

The Council is requested to endorse the findings and recommendations of the Joint Meeting.

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

Rakesh Muthoo
Secretary, Programme Committee
Tel. +3906 5705 5987



**REPORT OF THE JOINT MEETING OF THE
HUNDRED AND EIGHTEENTH SESSION OF THE PROGRAMME
COMMITTEE AND HUNDRED AND SIXTIETH SESSION OF THE FINANCE
COMMITTEE**

Rome, 4 November 2015

INTRODUCTION

1. The Joint Meeting submitted its Report to the Council.
2. In addition to the Chairperson, His Excellency Serge Tomasi (France), and Mr Khalid Mehboob (Pakistan), Chairperson of the Finance Committee, the following representatives of Members were present:

Mr C.A. Amaral (Angola)	Mr V. Sharan (India)
H.E. C.J. Rozencwaig (Argentina)	Mr O. Kubota (Japan)
Mr M. Worrell (Australia)	Mr F.R. Salamh Al Argan (Jordan)
Mr A.O. Sá Ricarte (Brazil)	Mr M. Hooper (New Zealand)
Mr E. Robinson (Canada)	H.E. I. Nordang (Norway)
H.E. Niu Dun (China)	Mr L. Jr. Lazaro (Philippines)
Mr M. Mankoussou (Congo)	Mr A. Halasiewicz (Poland)
Mr J.A. Carranza Barona (Ecuador)	Mr V.V. Kuznetsov (Russian Federation)
Mr K. M.S.H. El Taweel (Egypt)	Ms A. Malik Osman Malik (Sudan)
H.E. C. Obama Ondo (Equatorial Guinea)	Ms N.E. Brown (USA)
Mr H. Thofern (Germany)	Mr H.A. Shoja'aadin (Yemen)
Mr M. Nassir Camara (Guinea)	

Introduction

3. The Joint Meeting welcomed the engagement by the Director-General with Members of the Joint Meeting.

Adjustments to the Programme of Work and Budget 2016-17¹

4. Having considered the separate deliberations of the Programme and Finance Committees on the adjustments to the Programme of Work and Budget 2016-17, and noting the spirit of cooperation among Members and with the Secretariat, the Joint Meeting:
 - a) welcomed the document reflecting the decisions of the Conference;
 - b) expressed satisfaction that the required budgetary savings of USD 2.7 million would be achieved through reductions in staff costs, noting that the Finance Committee would receive further information on measures to achieve the savings during the biennium;
 - c) welcomed the alignment of FAO's Strategic Framework with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and noted there would be opportunity for bringing further coherence during 2016 in preparing the Medium Term Plan 2018-21;
 - d) welcomed the updated results framework, and supported the introduction of climate change as a cross-cutting theme under Objective 6;

¹ CL 153/3

- e) emphasized the importance of strengthening the Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP), and welcomed the USD 2 million mobilized so far toward the SIDS² Trust Fund, and encouraged more voluntary contributions from Members and resource partners;
- f) welcomed the additional clarifications and noted with appreciation the emphasis on enhanced programme delivery through internal management arrangements, including the establishment of Strategic Programme leaders and teams; and
- g) encouraged the Secretariat to continue consolidation of decentralization efforts, and enhancing capacity and internal control at decentralized locations, while maintaining the technical capacity at headquarters to achieve the programme of work.

Independent review of decentralized offices network³

5. The Joint Meeting:

- a) recommended the Council to consider the review paper as a response to a Conference request following the five individual evaluations of FAO's regional and subregional offices, and noted the independent validation of the document carried out in each region;
- b) appreciated the fact that the document provided comprehensive and sound technical analysis based on objective and relevant data on FAO's decentralized offices;
- c) recognized the need to update the historic legacy of coverage of FAO offices in decentralized locations, in order to meet shifting global realities and trends so as to deliver more effectively against Strategic Objectives;
- d) supported in principle a budget neutral approach to any potential adjustments to country coverage;
- e) welcomed the proposed principles and criteria contained in the document and underlined the need for a tailored approach on a case-by-case basis in reviewing the findings and recommendations contained in the document;
- f) with regards to regional and subregional offices, stressed the need to take into account the criteria outlined in the report; and
- g) recommended the Council transmit the document for review to the 2016 Regional Conferences, and thereafter re-examine the coverage of FAO's decentralized offices at its session in June 2016.

6. Concomitantly, the Joint Meeting:

- a) encouraged the Secretariat to continue consolidation of decentralization efforts, and enhancing capacity and internal control at decentralized locations, while maintaining the technical capacity at headquarters to achieve the programme of work; and
- b) looked forward to the outcome of analysis of skills gaps at headquarters and in decentralized locations for enhanced programme delivery.

² Small Islands Developing States (SIDS)

³ CL 153/14

Progress report on FAO strategy for partnerships with the private sector⁴

Progress report on FAO strategy for partnerships with civil society organizations⁵

7. The Joint Meeting welcomed these progress reports, and:
- a) commended the Secretariat on finalizing 40 new agreements with the private sector and with civil society organizations since its last report in November 2014;
 - b) recalled the importance of partnerships in supporting the Strategic Objectives, building bridges and increasing FAO's visibility;
 - c) appreciated that partnerships contribute to one or more Strategic Objectives of the Organization;
 - d) appreciated the due diligence process carried out in assessing risks and maintaining neutrality in approaching partners;
 - e) encouraged the Organization to further engage in partnerships contributing to FAO's work on climate change;
 - f) stressed the importance of gender considerations in partnership work;
 - g) highlighted the importance of regional balance in forging partnerships;
 - h) welcomed the work on fostering application and dissemination of Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (VGGT); Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food; the Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems (RAI), the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries (SSF) in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication; and the Framework for Action for Food Security and Nutrition in Protracted Crises (CFS-FFA); and
 - i) looked forward to continued annual progress reports, including information on the diversity and geographic distribution of partnerships.

Any other business

8. The Joint Meeting reiterated that the proper functioning of the governing bodies is impeded by the late submission of documents and requested the Secretariat to comply with standing guidance to ensure the timely submission of documents at least two weeks in advance in all official languages of the Organization in the future.

⁴ JM 2015.2/2

⁵ JM 2015.2/3