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Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
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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

منظمة
الغذية والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة

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CONFERENCE

Fortieth Session

Rome, 3-8 July 2017

Second Report of the General Committee

I. Election of Council Members

1. The General Committee draws the attention of the Conference to the following paragraphs of Rule XXII of the General Rules of the Organization (GRO):

"3. In selecting Members of the Council, the Conference shall give due consideration to the desirability of:

- a) including in its membership a balanced geographical representation of nations interested in the production, distribution and consumption of food and agricultural products;
- b) ensuring the participation in the work of the Council of such Member Nations as contribute in a large measure towards the success of the Organization;
- c) giving to the greatest possible number of Member Nations an opportunity, by rotation of membership, to serve on the Council.

4. Member Nations shall be eligible for re-election.

5. No Member Nation shall be eligible for election to the Council if it is in arrears in payment of its financial contributions to the Organization in an amount equal to or exceeding the contributions due from it for the two preceding calendar years."

2. The Conference set at **12:00 hours on Tuesday 4 July 2017** the deadline for submission of nominations for election to the Council. The General Committee, at its Second Meeting, recommended that the deadline be extended to **12.00 hours on Wednesday 5 July**, and agreed that the election be held on **Friday 7 July 2017**.

3. The General Committee has examined the nominations received by the deadline and found the following nominations to be in order:

REGION	PERIOD	CANDIDATES
AFRICA	(a) end of 40 th Conference – 30 June 2020 (4 SEATS)	1. Algeria 2. Cabo Verde 3. Cameroon 4. South Africa

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	(b) 1 July 2018 – end of 42 nd Conference (3 SEATS)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Congo 2. Equatorial Guinea 3. South Sudan
ASIA	(a) end of 40 th Conference – 30 June 2020 (3 SEATS)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. India 2. Pakistan 3. Thailand (end of the 40th Conference – 31 December 2018)/ Malaysia (1 January 2019 – 30 June 2020). <i>Special agreement, see paragraph 6</i>
	(b) 1 July 2018 – end of 42 nd Conference (6 SEATS)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. China 2. Japan 3. Republic of Korea 4. Sri Lanka 5. Philippines (from 1 July 2018 to 31 December 2019)/ Myanmar (from 1 January 2020 to the end of the 42nd Conference). <i>Special agreement, see paragraph 6</i> 6. Viet Nam (from 1 July 2018 to 31 December 2019)/ Indonesia (from 1 January 2020 to the end of the 42nd Conference). <i>Special agreement, see paragraph 6</i>
EUROPE	(a) end of 40 th Conference – 30 June 2018 (2 SEATS)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Estonia 2. The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
	(b) 1 July 2018 – end of 41 st Conference (2 SEATS)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Austria 2. France
	(c) end of 40 th Conference – 30 June 2020 (4 SEATS)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bulgaria 2. Finland 3. Italy 4. Spain
	(d) 1 July 2018 – end of 42 nd Conference (3 SEATS)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Estonia 2. Russian Federation 3. The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN	(a) end of 40 th Conference – 30 June 2018 (1 SEAT)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
	(b) end of 40 th Conference – 30 June 2020 (1 SEAT)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ecuador
	(c) 1 July 2018 – end of 42 nd Conference (3 SEATS)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Nicaragua 2. Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) 3. Chile (from 1 July 2018 to the end of the 41st Conference/ Peru (from the end of the 41th Conference to the end of the 42nd Conference). <i>Special agreement, see paragraph 6</i>
NEAR EAST	(a) end of 40 th Conference – 30 June 2020 (3 SEATS)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Afghanistan 2. Egypt 3. Saudi Arabia

	(b) 1 July 2018 – end of 42 nd Conference (1 SEAT)	1. Jordan
SOUTHWEST PACIFIC	(a) end of 40 th Conference – 30 June 2020 (1 SEAT)	1. Australia

4. For all periods, the number of candidates is the same as the number of seats to be filled for the regions of Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, Near East and Southwest Pacific. The Committee recommends that, in accordance with Rule XII.10 (a) of the GRO, the Conference elect by clear general consent the candidates nominated for the specified periods for such regions.

5. The General Committee noted the situation in the Europe and Latin America and the Caribbean Regions, as follows:

- a. Cyprus and San Marino would step down from the Council at the end of the 40th Session of the Conference, and Estonia and The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia would stand to replace them for the remainder of their term of office (8 July 2017 until 30 June 2018), in accordance with Rule XXII.6 and 9 of the GRO.
- b. Germany and Montenegro would step down from the Council effective 30 June 2018 and Austria and France would stand to replace them for the remainder of their term of office (1 July 2018 until the end of the 41st Session of the Conference in June 2019), in accordance with Rule XXII.6 and 9 of the GRO.
- c. Since the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela is deemed to have resigned in accordance with Rule XXII.7 GRO, the vacated seat should be filled for the period from the end of the 40th Session of the Conference (8 July 2017) to 30 June 2018 (the remainder of the term of office from the end of the 39th Session of the Conference to 30 June 2018), as provided by Rule XXII, paragraphs 6 and 9 of the GRO.

6. The General Committee was also informed of the situation in the Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean Regions, as follows:

- a. Thailand and Malaysia applied jointly for one Council seat as follows: Thailand would stand for a seat from the end of the 40th Session of the Conference (8 July 2017) to 31 December 2018. Malaysia would replace Thailand for the remainder of the term of office (from 1 January 2019 to 30 June 2020).
- b. Philippines and Myanmar applied jointly for one Council seat as follows: Philippines would stand for a seat from 1 July 2018 to 31 December 2019. Myanmar would replace Philippines for the remainder of the term of office (from 1 January 2020 to the end of the 42nd Conference Session (June 2021))
- c. Viet Nam and Indonesia applied jointly for one Council seat as follows: Viet Nam would stand for a seat from 1 July 2018 to 31 December 2019. Indonesia would replace Viet Nam for the remainder of the term of office (from 1 January 2020 to the end of the 42nd Conference Session (June 2021)).
- d. Chile and Peru applied jointly for one Council seat as follows: Chile would stand for a seat from 1 July 2018 to the end of the 41st Conference Session. Peru would replace Chile for the remainder of the term of office (from the end of the 41st Conference to the end of the 42nd Conference Session).

7. The Committee submits to the Conference in *Appendix A* of this report a list of FAO Member Nations by Region for Council election purposes.

II. Payment by the European Union to cover Administrative and Other Expenses Arising out of its Membership in the Organization

8. Article XVIII, paragraph 6 of the Constitution provides that:

A Member Organization shall not be required to contribute to the budget as specified in paragraph 2 of this Article, but shall pay to the Organization a sum to be determined by the Conference to cover administrative and other expenses arising out of its membership in the Organization (...).

9. At its 27th Session in 1993 the Conference requested the Finance Committee to examine the methodology for the calculation of the lump sum paid by the European Union. At its 78th Session in April 1994 the Finance Committee recommended a methodology on the basis of which the Conference set the payment to be made by the European Union at various sessions.

10. The methodology was re-examined by the Finance Committee at its 108th Session (September 2004) and 109th Session (May 2005). The Committee examined a proposal for a revised methodology whereby the biennial adjustment to the European Union's contribution would reflect the official cost of living increases in the Euro area or in the host country. Under the revised methodology, the adjustment formula would be more in line with the system of split assessment and would not have a material impact on the biennial adjustment to the contribution of the European Union to the Organization. The Committee agreed with the proposed revision of the methodology whereby the higher rate of the official cost of living increase in the Euro area or in the host country would be used to adjust the European Union's contribution for any given biennium.

11. Applying the new methodology, the 39th Session of the Conference in 2015 set the lump payment due by the European Union at Euro 568 705 for the 2016-17 biennium.

12. In accordance with the above, the methodology to be used for adjusting the lump sum is based on the higher rate of the official cost of living increase in the Euro area or in the host country. Using the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) figures, the consumer price inflation for the Euro Area for 2016 was 0.2% and for 2017 is forecast to be 1.6% which gives an average of 0.9%. The EIU figures for harmonized consumer price index for Italy are, for 2016, -0.1% and for 2017, forecast at 1.4%, which gives an average of 0.7%. Therefore, the inflation figure which should be used in the calculation is 0.9%, being the higher of the two. Applying this rate to the previous contribution of Euro 568 705 gives the new figure of Euro 573 823.

13. Therefore, the General Committee recommends to the Conference that it set the lump-sum payment due by the European Union to cover administrative and other expenditures arising out of its membership in the Organization at Euro 573 823 for the 2018-19 biennium.

14. As in previous biennia, it is proposed that the sum due by the European Union be paid into a trust or special fund established by the Director-General under Financial Regulation 6.7.

III. Voting Rights

15. At its first meeting (Monday, 3 July 2017), the General Committee noted that 22 Member Nations had not paid sufficient amounts of their assessed contributions to retain their vote in the Conference. Since then the following changes outlined in paragraphs 16 to 22 have taken place.

16. Four Member Nations (Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ghana and Vanuatu) made a payment which was sufficient for them to regain their right to vote

17. Four Member Nations (Antigua and Barbuda, Comoros, Marshall Islands, Solomon Islands) have not requested special consideration and have not registered at the Conference.

18. Five Member Nations attending the Session (Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Gabon, Papua New Guinea and Turkmenistan) have not requested restoration of voting rights nor advised that payment was in process. The Secretariat continues actively to follow up with the delegations of these Member Nations to ensure that they are aware of their contributions position and its consequences on their right to vote.

19. Eight Member Nations have requested special consideration under Article III.4 of the Constitution and request permission to vote:

- Chad – letter dated 21 June citing difficult circumstances;
- Kyrgyzstan – letter dated 30 June citing difficult financial situation;
- Libya – letter dated 4 July citing a difficult economic situation causing civil unrest;
- Sao Tome and Principe – letter dated 21 June citing a difficult economic situation caused by climate change;
- Somalia – letter dated 4 July 2017 citing difficult economic and political situation caused by civil war and recurrent severe adverse events;
- South Sudan – letter dated 27 June citing difficult situation caused by economic crisis and political upheavals;
- Ukraine – letter dated 27 June citing the financial difficulty beyond its control with a commitment of payments during 2017;
- Yemen – letter dated 1 July and Note Verbale dated 3 July citing a difficult financial situation due to the security situation in the country and a deterioration in economic development.

20. One Member Nation (The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia) provided confirmation of a bank transfer of the minimum amount of USD 35 632.91 required for restoration of voting rights. Though the value date of the payment is 6 July 2017, the day after this meeting, the Committee recommends that the Conference restore their voting rights based on the adequate confirmation supplied.

21. One of the Member Nations currently with voting rights problems, Libya, proposes to repay their arrears according to an instalment plan. The Committee therefore recommends that the Conference restore their voting rights (see resolution in *Appendix C*).

22. Furthermore, the General Committee recalled that the 37th Session of the Conference in 2011 had endorsed an instalment plan for Kyrgyzstan to liquidate part of its arrears of contributions totalling USD 870 801.26 and EUR 1 832.40 through the payment of fourteen annual instalments of USD 62 200.09 and EUR 130.89 each from 2012 to 2025. Kyrgyzstan has requested that their instalment plan rescheduled for a period of 20 years beginning in 2018. The Committee recommends that the Conference adopt a draft Resolution endorsing the instalment plan submitted by Kyrgyzstan (*Appendix D*).

23. After using these criteria for a case-by-case evaluation of the eight petitions, the General Committee recommends that voting rights should be restored to nine Member Nations, Chad, Kyrgyzstan, Libya, Sao Tome and Principe, Somalia, South Sudan, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, and Yemen.

Appendix B List of Member Nations with potential voting rights problems as of 5 July 2017.

IV. Appointment of the Independent Chairperson of the Council

24. The General Committee recommends that the Conference adopt the following resolution

Resolution .../2017

Appointment of the Independent Chairperson of the Council

THE CONFERENCE,

Taking into account Rule XXIII of the General Rules of the Organization regarding the Independent Chairperson of the Council and Resolution 9/2009 regarding the Independent Chairperson of the Council¹;

Having regard to the need to safeguard the independence and accountability of the role of the Independent Chairperson of the Council:

1. **Declares** that _____ is appointed Independent Chairperson of the Council until the Forty-first Session of the Conference (June 2019);
2. **Decides** that the conditions of appointment attached to the office of the Independent Chairperson of the Council will be as follows:
 - d) The Chairperson is required to be present in Rome for all sessions of the Council, the Conference, the Finance Committee and the Programme Committee and will normally be expected to spend at least six to eight months of the year in Rome;
 - e) An annual allowance equivalent to USD 23 831 will be paid to the Chairperson;
 - f) A *per diem* allowance equivalent to the applicable standard daily subsistence allowance (DSA) rate at 140% will be paid to the Chairperson [while in Rome and] when travelling in the performance of his functions;
 - g) The travel expenses of the Chairperson will be covered by the Organization when he travels in the performance of his functions;
 - h) [In the performance of his functions, whether in Rome or while travelling, the Chairperson will be enrolled as a participant in the Basic Medical Insurance Plan (BMIP) and that the cost for such medical insurance coverage will be borne by the Organization for a total amount of USD 3,336.48 per annum;]
 - i) Secretariat services will be made available to the Chairperson to assist him in the performance of his functions;
 - j) Interpretation services will be made available to the Chairperson, at his request, depending on the availability of resources;
 - k) Office space, equipment and supplies required by the Chairperson in the performance of his functions will be made available to him;
 - l) Assistance will be provided to the Chairperson in carrying out the necessary administrative formalities for the acquisition of the documents required for his stay in Rome and for his travels in the performance of his functions.
3. **Decides** that the implementation modalities of this Resolution will be agreed between the Chairperson and FAO.

(Adopted on _July 2017)

¹ Basic Texts, Volume II, Section E

Appendix A

FAO Member Nations by Region for Council election purposes

I. AFRICA

(Member Nations: 49 – Council seats: 12)

Algeria	Ethiopia	Niger
Angola	Gabon	Nigeria
Benin	Gambia	Rwanda
Botswana	Ghana	Sao Tome and Principe
Burkina Faso	Guinea	Senegal
Burundi	Guinea-Bissau	Seychelles
Cabo Verde	Kenya	Sierra Leone
Cameroon	Lesotho	South Africa
Central African Republic	Liberia	South Sudan
Chad	Madagascar	Swaziland
Comoros	Malawi	Togo
Congo	Mali	Tunisia
Côte D'Ivoire	Mauritania	Uganda
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Mauritius	United Republic of Tanzania
Equatorial Guinea	Morocco	Zambia
Eritrea	Mozambique	Zimbabwe
	Namibia	

II. ASIA

(Member Nations: 25 – Council seats: 9)

Bangladesh	Japan	Pakistan
Bhutan	Kazakhstan	Philippines
Brunei Darussalam	Lao People's Democratic Republic	Republic of Korea
Cambodia	Malaysia	Singapore
China	Maldives	Sri Lanka
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Mongolia	Thailand
India	Myanmar	Timor-Leste
Indonesia	Nepal	Uzbekistan
		Viet Nam

III. EUROPE

(Member Nations: 48 – Council seats: 10)

Albania	Georgia	Portugal
Andorra	Germany	Republic of Moldova
Armenia	Greece	Romania
Austria	Hungary	Russian Federation
Azerbaijan	Iceland	San Marino
Belarus	Ireland	Serbia
Belgium	Israel	Slovakia
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Italy	Slovenia
Bulgaria	Latvia	Spain
Croatia	Lithuania	Sweden
Cyprus	Luxembourg	Switzerland
Czechia	Malta	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Denmark	Monaco	Turkey

Estonia	Montenegro	Ukraine
Finland	Netherlands	United Kingdom
France	Norway	
	Poland	

Member Organization: European Union

Associate Member: Faroe Islands

IV. LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

(Member Nations: 33 – Council seats: 9)

Antigua and Barbuda	Dominican Republic	Paraguay
Argentina	Ecuador	Peru
Bahamas	El Salvador	Saint Kitts and Nevis
Barbados	Grenada	Saint Lucia
Belize	Guatemala	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Guyana	Suriname
Brazil	Haiti	Trinidad And Tobago
Chile	Honduras	Uruguay
Colombia	Jamaica	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
Costa Rica	Mexico	
Cuba	Nicaragua	
Dominica	Panama	

V. NEAR EAST

(Member Nations: 21 – Council seats: 6)

Afghanistan	Kuwait	Somalia
Bahrain	Kyrgyzstan	Sudan
Djibouti	Lebanon	Syrian Arab Republic
Egypt	Libya	Tajikistan
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Oman	Turkmenistan
Iraq	Qatar	United Arab Emirates
Jordan	Saudi Arabia	Yemen

VI. NORTH AMERICA

(Member Nations: 2 – Council seats: 2)

Canada
United States of America

VII. SOUTHWEST PACIFIC

(Member Nations: 16 – Council seats: 1)

Australia	Nauru	Samoa
Cook Islands	New Zealand	Solomon Islands
Fiji	Niue	Tonga
Kiribati	Palau	Tuvalu
Marshall Islands	Papua New Guinea	Vanuatu
Micronesia (Federated States of)		

Associate Member: Tokelau

Appendix B

Member Nations with Potential Voting Rights Problems at 5 July 2017

	Member Nation	Amount in Arrears USD	Amount in Arrears Euro	Minimum Payment required to Ensure Vote in USD
1.	Antigua and Barbuda	\$ 260,274.10	€ 34,879.24	\$ 286,629.29
2.	Chad	\$ 21,916.87	€ 7,656.27	\$ 11,268.86
3.	Comoros	\$ 249,745.50	€ 7,642.40	\$ 249,494.95
4.	Democratic Republic of the Congo	\$ 23,754.71	€ 17,206.00	\$ 15,220.26
5.	Djibouti	\$ 8,003.76	€ 5,735.45	\$ 5,159.75
6.	Gabon	\$ 158,642.72	€ 114,708.80	\$ 101,743.55
7.	Kyrgyzstan	\$ 58,496.31	-	\$ 38,202.48
8.	Libya	\$ 1,124,519.50	€ 946,643.27	\$ 900,335.97
9.	Marshall Islands	\$ 7,918.76	€ 7,559.65	\$ 7,555.67
10.	Papua New Guinea	\$ 28,281.34	€ 22,578.91	\$ 16,430.60
11.	Sao Tome and Principe	\$ 112,639.73	€ 14,146.26	\$ 119,904.33
12.	Solomon Islands	\$ 7,918.76	€ 7,160.90	\$ 7,013.37
13.	Somalia	\$ 369,491.47	€ 24,464.37	\$ 391,029.01
14.	South Sudan	\$ 39,115.74	€ 28,657.60	\$ 35,510.25
15.	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	\$ 80,710.72	€ 28,715.26	\$ 35,632.91
16.	Turkmenistan	\$ 775,594.60	€ 283,655.53	\$ 954,945.25
17.	Ukraine	\$ 569,644.90	€ 366,824.65	\$ 26,710.96
18.	Yemen	\$ 57,238.50	€ 49,886.86	\$ 19,081.61
		\$ 3,953,907.99	€ 1,968,121.42	\$ 3,221,869.07

Appendix C**Resolution.../2017****Payment of Contributions – Libya****THE CONFERENCE,**

Noting that the Government of Libya had made a proposal that it liquidate its arrears of contributions over a period of 7 years commencing in 2018, in addition to paying each current contribution in the calendar year of assessment.

Decides that:

- 1) Notwithstanding Financial Regulation 5.5 the arrears of contributions of Libya totaling USD 1,124,519.50 and EUR 946,643.27 shall be settled through the payment of seven annual instalments of USD 160,645.64 and EUR 135,234.75 from 2018 to 2024.
- 2) The first instalment shall be payable in 1 January 2018.
- 3) The annual payment of the instalments referred to above, together with the payment of each current contribution in the calendar year of assessment and any advances to the Working Capital Fund, shall be considered as fulfilment of the financial obligations of Libya to the Organization.
- 4) Instalments shall be payable in accordance with Financial Regulation 5.5.
- 5) Default in payment of two instalments shall render this instalment plan null and void.

(Adopted ... July 2017)

Appendix D

Resolution.../2017
Payment of Contributions – Kyrgyzstan

THE CONFERENCE,

Noting that the Government of Kyrgyzstan had made a proposal that it liquidate its arrears of contributions over a period of 20 years commencing in 2018, in addition to paying each current contribution in the calendar year of assessment.

Decides that:

- 1) Notwithstanding Financial Regulation 5.5 the arrears of contributions of Kyrgyzstan totalling USD 556,097.03 and EUR 1,027.82 shall be settled through the payment of twenty annual instalments of USD 27,804.85 and EUR 51.39 each from 2018 to 2037.
- 2) The first instalment shall be payable in 1 January 2018.
- 3) The annual payment of the instalments referred to above, together with the payment of each current contribution in the calendar year of assessment and any advances to the Working Capital Fund, shall be considered as fulfilment of the financial obligations of Kyrgyzstan to the Organization.
- 4) Instalments shall be payable in accordance with Financial Regulation 5.5.
- 5) Default in payment of two instalments shall render this instalment plan null and void.

(Adopted ... July 2017)