

February 2011

	<p>منظمة الأغذية والزراعة للأمم المتحدة</p>	<p>联合国 粮食及 农业组织</p>	<p>Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations</p>	<p>Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture</p>	<p>Продовольствен ная и сельскохозяйств енная организация Объединенных</p>	<p>Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Agricultura y la Alimentación</p>
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FINANCE COMMITTEE

Hundred and Thirty eighth Session

Rome, 21 – 25 March 2011

Status of Recommendations of the Finance Committee

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- At its 135th Session in October 2010, the Finance Committee requested the Secretariat prepare a document outlining the status of its previous recommendations.
- The recommendations made by the Committee at its previous sessions are presented in a format which mirrors the Committee's approved Multi-Year Programme of Work for 2010-13, and the status of each recommendation is provided.

GUIDANCE SOUGHT FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

- The Committee is invited to take note of the information presented in this document.

RECOMMENDATION	STATUS
I. FINANCIAL POSITION	
Report of the 135th Session of the Finance Committee – document CL 140/21	
The Committee <u>noted</u> that the item entitled <i>Audited Accounts – FAO 2008-2009</i> (...) would be placed on the agenda of the Committee at its next regular session in March 2011 – paras. 5-7	In progress – dedicated item on the Provisional Agenda of the 138 th Session
The Committee <u>urged</u> all Member Nations to make timely payment of assessed contributions to ensure that FAO could meet the operating cash requirements for the Programme of Work – para. 13	In progress – the Council endorsed the Committee’s recommendation at its 140 th Session
II. BUDGETARY MATTERS	
Report of the 137th Session of the Finance Committee – document CL 141/6	
The Committee <u>requested</u> additional information relating to the proposed savings arising from the initiative on Common Procurement with the Rome-based agencies – para. 10	In progress – information to be provided at the 138 th Session
The Committee <u>looked forward</u> to receiving proposals on other areas of savings outside the IPA (...in the PWB 2012-13) – para. 10	In progress – information to be provided at the 138 th Session in the PWB 2012-13
The Committee <u>requested</u> an expanded version of Annex 1 of document FC 137/2.1, listing all IPA actions that would be reduced in scope or withdrawn – para. 14	In progress – information to be provided at the 138 th Session
The Committee <u>requested</u> that future reports to the Committee on the IPA in 2011 and in 2012-13 include information relating to IPA expenditures – para. 14	In progress – information to be provided at the 138 th Session
The Committee <u>requested</u> further information on how the other (...non-IPA...) Capital Expenditure projects had been prioritized – para. 21	In progress – information to be provided at the 138 th Session
The Committee <u>urged</u> the Secretariat to continue to focus on achieving efficiency gains and ensuring return on investment, and to use all appropriate mechanisms for recovering costs – para. 21	In progress - information to be provided at the 138 th Session in the PWB 2012-13 and in document relating to agenda Item 7

RECOMMENDATION	STATUS
The Committee <u>looked forward</u> to reviewing the proposals for Capital Expenditure in the context of the MTP 2010-13 / PWB 2012-13 – para. 21	In progress – information to be provided at the 138 th Session
The Committee <u>looked forward</u> to reviewing the anticipated cost increases in the MTP 2010-13 / PWB 2012-13 based on a proposed level of the Net Appropriation – para. 32	In progress – information to be provided at the 138 th Session in the PWB 2012-13
The Committee <u>requested</u> the Secretariat to keep potential areas of risk under review and report any significant changes to the cost increase assumptions and estimates to the Governing Bodies prior to the Conference in June 2011 – para. 32	In progress – will be updated in the PWB 2012-13
The Committee <u>requested</u> a legal interpretation of Article 12 of the Statute of the ICSC and an opinion on the discretion available to Council concerning the determination of General Service salary adjustments in Rome – para. 32	In progress – information to be provided at the 138 th Session
The Committee <u>looked forward</u> to receiving at a future session information on the impact of the revised General Service methodology being considered by the ICSC – para. 32	In progress – information to be provided to the Committee after ICSC revision
Report of the 135th Session of the Finance Committee – document CL 140/21	
The Committee <u>requested</u> the Secretariat to include in future annual reports more detailed financial data on the activities implemented through the SFERA (Special Fund for Emergency and Rehabilitation Activities) – para. 18	In progress – information to be provided at the October 2011 session
The <u>recalled</u> its request to review the governance and management of the SFERA within the framework of the implementation of the recommendations of the evaluation on FAO operational capacities in emergency and <u>asked</u> that this be provided at the Committee’s October 2011 meeting – para. 18.	In progress – information to be provided at the October 2011 session
The Committee <u>took note</u> that the forecasted budgetary transfers arising from the implementation of the Programme of Work would be reported to the Committee for review and approval in March 2011 – para. 22	In progress – information to be provided at the 138 th Session

RECOMMENDATION	STATUS
The Committee <u>looked forward</u> to the Secretariat providing updated information on the preliminary 2012-13 estimates within the context of the PWB 2012-13 at the forthcoming special session of the Committee in February 2011– para. 30	Completed – information provided at the 137th Session
Report of the 128th Session of the Finance Committee – document CL 137/4	
The Committee endorsed in principle the enlargement of FAO Support Cost policy scope to include these costs categories, and <u>looked forward</u> to receiving at a future session details of the revised policy for its consideration – para. 61	In progress – dedicated item on Provisional Agenda of the 138 th Session
III. HUMAN RESOURCES	
Report of the 135th Session of the Finance Committee – document CL 140/21	
The Committee <u>requested</u> that progress continue to be made in delivering against key HR initiatives and activities included in the HR Strategic Framework and Action Plan and that information also be provided on the impact of these initiatives– para. 33	In progress – dedicated item on Provisional Agenda of the 138 th Session
The Committee <u>took note</u> of the HR activities that were experiencing delays and <u>looked forward</u> to receiving periodic progress reports on their timely implementation at its future sessions – para. 33	In progress
The Committee <u>requested</u> that information on the nationality of consultants recruited by the Organization be included in the HR data pack to be provided at its next regular session – para. 33	In progress – information to be provided at the 138th Session
IV. ADMINISTRATIVE AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS FRAMEWORK	
Report of the 137th Session of the Finance Committee – document CL 141/6	
The Committee <u>requested</u> that more detailed information on the synergistic approach be presented at its next session as part of its discussions on the Progress Report on the IPSAS/R12 Programme and the PWB 2012-13. The Committee <u>requested</u> that the additional information should cover the following areas: scope and timeline of the programme; detailed breakdown of the budgeted costs by expenditure type; and comparative information with other UN System Agencies – paras. 17-18	In progress - dedicated item on Provisional Agenda of the 138th Session

RECOMMENDATION	STATUS
Report of the 135th Session of the Finance Committee – document CL 140/21	
The Committee <u>concluded</u> that the proposal for the creation of a single Shared Services Centre, or the maintenance of the <i>status quo</i> , should be submitted to the Council for review and for decision after feedback on the matter from the Regional Conference of the Near East – para. 41	In progress – dedicated item on the Provisional Agenda of the 138 th Session
The Committee <u>requested</u> that the estimated costs and proposed funding of the synergistic approach be presented at its Special Session in February 2011– para. 45	Completed – information provided at the 137 th Session
The Committee <u>agreed</u> to forward a draft resolution (...) containing proposed changes to the Financial Regulations which introduce annual audited financial statements, to the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters (CCLM) with the understanding that a yearly date for the issuance of annual audited financial statements would be added in the draft resolution following consultation between the Committee and the External Auditor – para 45	In progress – following consultation between Chairperson and External Auditor, draft resolution has been submitted to the CCLM’s 92 nd Session
The Committee <u>looked forward</u> to receiving at its next regular session: a report on progress in implementing the ERM (Enterprise Risk Management) project work plan; a report on the results of the pilots of ERM process; and a plan for implementation of the institutional ERM in FAO, including the format for reporting to the Governing Bodies – para. 47	In progress – dedicated item on the Provisional Agenda of the 138 th Session
The Committee <u>requested</u> that a revised proposal (...on the terms of reference and composition of the Ethics Committee...) reflecting its suggested amendments be referred to the CCLM for examination of legal issues and then to the Finance Committee in March 2011 – para. 50	In progress – dedicated items on the Provisional Agenda of the 92 nd Session of the CCLM and the 138 th Session of the Finance Committee
The Committee <u>looked forward</u> to the finalization of the study (...on language services...) to permit further consideration of improvement measures in the light of quantified financial implications in the PWB 2012-13 – para. 54	In progress – information to be provided at the 138 th Session within the PWB 2012-13
The Committee <u>noted</u> that it would receive a progress report on the implementation of the roadmap (...relating to the Financial Disclosure Programme...) at its session of March 2011 – para. 58	In progress – dedicated item on the Provisional Agenda of the 138 th Session

RECOMMENDATION	STATUS
V. OVERSIGHT	
Report of the 135th Session of the Finance Committee – document CL 140/21	
<p>The Committee <u>looked forward</u> to receiving in future (para 60):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • more information related to Management’s implementation of the recommendations of the Audit Committee; • both the Annual Report of the Inspector General and that of the Audit Committee at the regular sessions of the Finance Committee held in the spring on a yearly basis (...); and • a matrix that encompasses all fiduciary responsibilities and related actions (...) 	<p>In progress – information to be provided at the 138th Session</p> <p>In progress – both items on the Provisional Agenda of the 138th Session</p> <p>In progress – information to be provided at the October 2011 session</p>
<p>The Committee (...) <u>looked forward</u> to reviewing a proposed policy (...on disclosure of internal audit reports...) at its next regular session in March 2011 – para 78</p>	<p>In progress – dedicated item on the Provisional Agenda of the 138th Session</p>
<p>The Committee <u>looked forward</u> to reviewing the whistleblower policy at its next regular session of March 2011 – para 79</p>	<p>In progress – dedicated item on the Provisional Agenda of the 138th Session</p>
VII. IMPROVED METHODS OF WORK AND EFFICIENCY OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE	
Report of the 135th Session of the Finance Committee – document CL 140/21	
<p>The Committee approved its Multi-Year Programme of Work 2010-13 (...) and <u>recommended</u> its review by Council – para. 63</p>	<p>Completed – reviewed and endorsed by Council at its 140th Session</p>
<p>The Committee <u>requested</u> the Secretariat prepare a document for each session outlining the status of its previous recommendations – para 68</p>	<p>In progress – information document to be provided at the 138th Session</p>
<p>The Committee <u>agreed</u> the Chairperson would consult with the Independent Chairperson of the Council in order to explore modalities and practical issues relating to possible Field visits by Committee members – para 68</p>	<p>Completed – following consultation, Field visit took place in January 2011</p>