

November 2012



منظمة الأغذية
والزراعة للأمم
المتحدة

联合国
粮食及
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Food and
Agriculture
Organization
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United Nations

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

Продовольственная и
сельскохозяйственная
организация
Объединенных
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Organización
de las
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para la
Alimentación y la
Agricultura

COUNCIL

Hundred and Forty-fifth Session

Rome, 3-7 December 2012

Status of Implementation of Decisions taken at the 144th Session of the Council

Executive Summary

The Multi-year Programme of Work of Council (CL 140/REP, Appendix H, Section F) requires Council to review the status of implementation of decisions taken at its previous session.

The following table lists decisions taken by Council at its 144th Session (Rome, 11-15 June 2012) and includes a reference to (i) the relevant paragraph(s) of the Council Report and the background report/document in brackets; and (ii) the status of implementation of each decision.

Suggested action by the Council

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

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

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ACTION ARISING		Status of Implementation			COMMENTS
		Completed	Ongoing	Not Yet Started	
Programme, Budgetary, Financial and Administrative Matters					
<p align="center">Immediate Plan of Action – IPA annual report for 2011 and direction for 2012 ----- <i>Reporting Officer: David Benfield</i></p>					
1.	Accelerate implementation of open IPA actions (para. 9)		X		Initiative to accelerate implementation of open IPA actions in place. Most actions will be completed by December 2012. However, 10 actions will extend into 2013.
2.	Complete the majority of IPA actions by end 2012, and all IPA actions by end 2013, and place due regard to not sacrificing quality for speed (para. 10)		X		Same as above.
3.	Include those actions not completed by end 2012 in a detailed report to be presented to the Council session preceding the 38 th Session of the Conference, on the basis of a timeline to be communicated in advance to Members (para. 10)			X	A report covering these actions will be presented to the Governing Bodies Sessions in 2013, leading to the 38 th Session of the FAO Conference.
4.	Provide further information regarding difficulties encountered in implementing individual IPA projects, such as Results-based budgeting, Results-based Management and IT projects (para. 10)		X		Document CL 145/10 and CL 145-Sup.1 http://www.fao.org/docrep/meeting/026/MF032E.pdf updates Members on progress on these projects. Information will continue to be provided in future reports.
5.	Have future reports focus on realization of benefits rather than on implementation of actions in keeping with the initiative launched in this regard starting from 2012 (para. 12)		X		The Benefits Realization initiative has been the main focus of Reform activities from January 2012, as reflected in CL 145/10 http://www.fao.org/docrep/meeting/026/MF032E.pdf and will continue to be included in all future reports.

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6.	Continue efforts aimed at ensuring realization of benefits, including those relating to Culture Change, Human Resources Management, gender balance and mobility (para. 13)		X		The Benefits Realization initiative has been the main focus of Reform activities from January 2012, as reflected in CL 145/10 and will continue to be included in all future reports.
7.	Make available the draft Programme of Work and Budget 2014-15 to Members by 31 January 2013, and provide to Members by September 2012 a note on Preparation for an Informal Meeting on Extra-budgetary Funding (para. 14)		X		1. The draft PWB will be available by the requested date. 2. Document CL 145/INF/3 http://www.fao.org/docrep/meeting/026/mF133e.pdf updates Members on progress made in preparation of the Informal Meeting on Extra-Budgetary Funding.
8.	Provide the provisional timetable of the work of the Ethics Committee, including the expected dates for the Committee to report to the Finance Committee, the CCLM and the Council (para. 14)		X		Two meetings of the Ethics Committee were held in 2012. The Ethics Committee will provide their first annual report to the CCLM in February 2013, and to the Finance Committee in March 2013.
9.	Appointment of the Ombudsman as soon as possible (para. 14)		X		The process to appoint the Ombudsman has begun. A review aimed at re-designing and harmonizing the roles and responsibilities of associated and related functions (e.g. Staff Relations Officer, Ethics Officer, etc) has also begun.
10.	Complete IPA Action 2.1000 regarding the drafting of desirable qualifications for the post of Director-General (para. 15)		X		The Independent Chairperson of Council is facilitating a process through which proposals for desirable qualifications for the post of Director-General are being drafted for consideration by Members.
11.	Prepare a document on the main aspects of "Post IPA Implementation Arrangements" for consideration by the Programme and Finance Committees no later than 2013 (para. 16)			X	A report covering these aspects will be presented to the Governing Bodies Sessions in 2013, leading to the 38 th Session of the FAO Conference.

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Structure and Functioning of Decentralized Offices ----- <i>Reporting Officer: Daniel Gustafson</i>					
12.	Continue implementation of proposals regarding a) improved planning and prioritization; b) a more flexible network of Decentralized Offices, and c) and integrated model for programme delivery (para. 17)		X		Good progress has been made on all the three proposals. Document CL 145/3, paras. 13 through 21 refers. Implementation is continuing. http://www.fao.org/docrep/meeting/026/me906e.pdf
13.	Support the decentralization process with measures ensuring due accountability, internal controls, transparency and coherence and particularly strengthen internal cooperation and exchange of knowledge between Headquarters and the Decentralized Offices (para. 18)		X		Progress is reported in document CL 145/3 paras. 25 through 26.
14.	Establish effective measures to monitor the performance of Decentralized Offices (para. 18)		X		Progress is reported in document CL 145/3 paras. 22 through 24.
15.	Collaborate closely with regional economic integration and other regional organizations, national institutions, UN Agencies, including the Rome-based Agencies, the private sector, universities, research institutions, as well as civil society (para. 19)		X		Progress is reported in document CL 145/3 para. 20 and others. The meeting in New York with the Executive Secretaries of the UN Regional Economic Commissions could not take place due to the severe weather conditions. There is a possibility that the global MOU may be signed in Rabat, Morocco during the period 12-13 December 2012 when the Regional Commissions will be meeting.
16.	Continue to promote South-South and Triangular Cooperation (para. 19)		X		South-South and Triangular Cooperation continues to be promoted by the Organization.

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17.	Finalize Country Programming Frameworks (CPFs), to the extent possible, by the end of 2012 to be used as inputs in the preparation and implementation of the Programme of Work and Budget 2014-15 and in guiding the flexible use of Decentralized Office staff and resources (para. 20)		X		Progress is reported in document CL 145/3, para. 15. http://www.fao.org/docrep/meeting/026/me906e.pdf Out of 148 countries where FAO conducts activities, and where a CPF could usefully serve as a guide to future operations, CPFs (either full or light form) are expected to be created in in 140 countries by the end of 2012.
18.	Implement the proposed measures for training of staff in the Decentralized Offices to upgrade their technical skills and to enable them to undertake responsibilities of a multi-disciplinary nature, within the context of gender equality (para. 20)			X	This activity will begin as soon as possible.
19.	Produce a report by the end of the 2012-13 biennium on lessons learned and costs involved in transferring management and accountability of emergency activities to the Decentralized Offices (para. 20)			X	This activity will begin as soon as possible.
20.	Implement the proposed measures for the selection and appraisal of heads of Decentralized Offices based on merit (para. 21a)		X		Progress is reported in document CL 145/3, paras. 22-24.
21.	Promote mobility of Professional staff between Headquarters and the Field (para. 21b)		X		Progress is reported in document CL 145/3, para. 22.
22.	Transform the Sub-regional Offices into Technical Hubs, and tailor their staff composition according to local needs (para. 21c)			X	This activity will begin as soon as possible.

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23.	Implement the proposed integrated model for programme delivery, and maintain the Organization's capacity to respond to emergencies and mobilize resources (para. 21d)		X		Progress is reported in document CL 145/3, para. 21. http://www.fao.org/docrep/meeting/026/me906e.pdf
24.	Identify further efficiency gains arising from the implementation of the decentralized services (para. 21e)			X	This activity will begin as soon as possible.
25.	Regularly inform the Programme and Finance Committees and the Council of progress on decentralization, including information on accountability, internal controls, affected Decentralized Office postings and related funding sources (para. 22)		X		Progress is reported in document CL 145/3, Section A on Decentralization.
26.	Provide information on lessons learned from the integration of development and emergency operations (para. 22)			X	Activities will begin as soon as possible.
Further Adjustments to the Programme of Work and Budget 2012-2013 ----- <i>Reporting Officer: Boyd Haight</i>					
27.	Implement the proposals for reallocation of savings to strengthen the Decentralized Offices Network, increase strategic planning capacity, provide resources for interdisciplinary work, and reinvest savings in the Security Expenditure Facility (para. 25)	X			Actions are reported in document CL 145/3, Transformational Changes in the 2012-13 Biennium, Section II http://www.fao.org/docrep/meeting/026/me906e.pdf

ACTION ARISING		Status of Implementation			COMMENTS
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28.	Provide the next regular session of the Joint Meeting of the Programme and Finance Committees with detailed information on the Multidisciplinary Fund, including process and criteria for project selection and monitoring (para. 25)	X			Actions are reported in document CL 145/3, Transformational Changes in the 2012-13 Biennium, Section II.C (http://www.fao.org/docrep/meeting/026/me906e.pdf)
29.	Implement the proposed measures for the transformation of (i) the Office of Corporate Communications and External Relations (OCE) into the Office for Communication, Partnerships and Advocacy (OCP), and (ii) the Human Resources Management Division (CSH) into the Office of Human Resources (OHR) in the Apex, and the Human Resources Support Service (CSP) reporting to the ADG, CS with a functional linkage to OHR (para. 26)	X			Actions are reported in document CL 145/3, Transformational Changes in the 2012-13 Biennium, Sections II.D and II.E.
30.	Provide information on the transformation of the Human Resources Management Division to the 146 th Session of the Council in April 2013, through the Programme and Finance Committees, with emphasis on: (a) transparency and timeliness of decision making; (b) merit-based recruitment and equitable geographical/gender balance; (c) development and implementation of HR policies/strategy; (d) staff mobility; (e) communication on HR management policy (para. 27)		X		Activities are on schedule.
31.	Develop further proposals for institutional strengthening, including a coherent strategy and approach towards resource mobilization and policy assistance activities, as well as enhanced internal control initiatives and present these to the 145 th Session of Council (para. 29)	X			Activities are reported in document CL 145/3, Transformational Changes in the 2012-13 Biennium, Section III.

ACTION ARISING		Status of Implementation			COMMENTS
		Completed	Ongoing	Not Yet Started	
<p align="center">Outline of Revised Strategic Framework</p> <p align="center">-----</p> <p align="center"><i>Reporting Officer: Boyd Haight</i></p>					
32.	Give more attention in the Strategic Thinking Process to sustainable management of natural resources and to the contribution of agriculture, fisheries and forests, as stated in the Third Global Goal of FAO (para. 31)	X			Reported in document CL 145/4, Reviewed Strategic Framework and outline of the Medium Term Plan 2014-17, para. 26 and Action Plans (preliminary versions) in Section III.C. http://www.fao.org/docrep/meeting/026/me999e.pdf
33.	Include the following elements in further elaborating the Strategic Objectives and in preparing the results-based action plans (para. 32):	X			Activities are reported in document CL 145/4, Reviewed Strategic Framework and outline of the Medium Term Plan 2014-17.
	a) regional specificities and priorities provided by the Regional Conferences in 2012, including the Informal Regional Conference for North America;	X			Activities are incorporated in Strategic Objective Action Plans (preliminary versions), Section III.C.
	b) guidance of the Technical Committees, especially on sustainable management of natural resources in the fields of agriculture, fisheries, forests, agricultural heritage, genetic resources and food safety within the context of global climate change;		X		Activities are incorporated in Strategic Objective Action Plans (preliminary versions), Section III.C.
	c) Guidance of 38 th CFS on Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security;		X		Activities are reported in document CL 145/4 - Reviewed Strategic Framework and outline of the Medium Term Plan 2014-17. They are also incorporated in Strategic Objective Action Plans (preliminary versions), Section III.C, and they will be further elaborated in the draft MTP 2014-17/PWB 2014-15.

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d)	FAO's core functions and comparative advantages;	X			Strategic Objectives were derived on the basis of the core functions and comparative advantages, Section II.C. The core functions are incorporated in Strategic Objective Action Plans (preliminary versions) (Section III.C).
e)	Greater detail on linkages between the global challenges and Strategic Objectives;	X			These linkages are incorporated in Strategic Objective Action Plans (preliminary versions), Section III.C.
f)	the linkage of normative and standard-setting work with each Strategic Objective and how this work would be supported and enhanced;		X		These linkages are incorporated in Strategic Objective Action Plans (preliminary versions) (Section III.C) and will be further developed in the Medium Term Plan 2014-17.
g)	the formation and strengthening of meaningful relationships with development partners, including other UN Agencies, Member Nations, civil Society, Non-governmental Organizations, cooperatives and the private sector, research institutes and regional economic integration organizations;		X		These are incorporated in Strategic Objective Action Plans (preliminary versions) (Section III.C) and will be further developed in the Medium Term Plan 2014-17.
h)	robust results-based planning, management and reporting framework in developing action Plans from the Strategic Objectives, including indicators and targets that clearly distinguish objectives and activities on the ground and that align FAO's normative and standard-setting work with country priorities, as determined by Country Programming Frameworks;		X		These points are being developed in preparing the Medium Term Plan 2014-17.
i)	a smooth and transparent transition from the current four-year results framework in the Medium Term Plan (MTP) 2010-13 to the new results framework in the MTP 2014-17 regarding areas of work to be continued or dropped, new areas of work, and accountability for results and		X		These points are being developed in preparing the Medium Term Plan 2014-17.

ACTION ARISING		Status of Implementation			COMMENTS
		Completed	Ongoing	Not Yet Started	
	allocation of resources.				
34.	Submit the Reviewed Strategic Framework and the outline of the MTP 2014-17 to the 145 th Session of the Council as guidance for the preparation of the PWB 2014-15 (para. 33)	X			Action has been taken in document CL 145/4 - Reviewed Strategic Framework and outline of the Medium Term Plan 2014-17> (http://www.fao.org/docrep/meeting/026/me999e.pdf)
35.	Submit the Reviewed Strategic Framework, the MTP 2014-17 and the PWB 2014-15 at the 146 th Session of the Council in April 2013 with documents available by 31 January 2013 (para. 34)		X		These documents are on schedule, pending guidance from 145 th Session of the Council.
Regional Conferences ----- <i>Reporting Officer: Daniel Gustafson</i>					
36.	Focus FAO's efforts in areas where it has a comparative advantage, particularly in the dissemination of knowledge through policy advice, technical assistance, capacity-building and the facilitation of South-South and Triangular Cooperation (para. 36a)		X		Efforts to further focus the activities of the Organization are ongoing. Regional Conferences, particularly those scheduled in 2014, will play a key role.
37.	In preparing the Country Programming Frameworks (CPFs), improve the effectiveness of FAO assistance and contribute more strategically to strengthening national capacities (para. 36c)		X		This recommendation has been incorporated into the guidance provided for the development of new CPFs and for the operationalization of existing ones.
38.	Closely align CPFs to National Priorities, Strategic Objectives and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) (para 36c)		X		Same as above.

ACTION ARISING		Status of Implementation			COMMENTS
		Completed	Ongoing	Not Yet Started	
39.	Prepare CPFs in close cooperation with national stakeholders, resource partners, international financial institutions, civil society and the private sector (para. 36c)		X		Same as above.
40.	Assure regular consultation with stakeholders, and coordinate the identification of priorities, planning, programming and monitoring (para. 36c)		X		Same as above.
41.	Facilitate greater collaboration at (sub) regional level in enhancing the effectiveness, impact and synergy of regional and sub-regional programmes, and engage in close partnerships with (sub) regional entities involved in development and/or humanitarian assistance, including with regional economic organizations, civil society organizations, the private sector and other partners (para. 36d)		X		This action is being implemented as part of overall changes in the activities of the Organization. The next round of Regional Conferences will move this process forward.
42.	Take into consideration the findings of the Regional Conferences and the Informal Regional Conference for North America in the further review or development of the Revised Strategic Framework 2010-19, the MTP 2014-17 and the PWB 2014-15 (para. 37)	X			

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		Completed	Ongoing	Not Yet Started	
Reports of the Joint Meetings of the Programme Committee and the Finance Committee (7 May and 31 May-1 June 2012) ----- Reporting Officer: Rakesh Muthoo					
43.	Submit proposals for overall enhancement of the Technical Cooperation Programme, consistent with the Strategic Thinking Process and Country Programming Frameworks, to the next session of the Council, through the Programme and Finance Committees (para. 39)	X			Action has been completed. Document CL 145/8 (http://www.fao.org/docrep/meeting/026/mf113e.pdf) was also considered by the Joint Meeting of Programme and Finance Committees on 7 November 2012 (see document CL 145/5, para.15).
Report of the 110th Session of the Programme Committee (7-11 May 2012) ----- Reporting Officer: Rakesh Muthoo					
44.	Proceed with the high-level roadmap for the process of recruitment of the new Director of Evaluation as contained in Appendix 2 of document PC 110/9 (http://www.fao.org/docrep/meeting/025/md815E.pdf) and in conformity with the Charter of the Office of Evaluation (para. 42)		X		This action is ongoing. A Vacancy Announcement (milestone 3) will be issued in early December 2012.
45.	Provide an update on the implementation of the Programme Committee's Evaluation of FAO's work in tenure, rights and access to land and other natural resources at the 145 th Session of the Council (para. 43)	X			Action has been taken. Document PC 112/INF/4, issued in October 2012, provides details. (http://www.fao.org/docrep/meeting/026/mf008e.pdf)

ACTION ARISING		Status of Implementation			COMMENTS
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46.	Have the future focus of FAO's work in food and agricultural policy integrated into the Reviewed Strategic Framework 2010-19, the Medium Term Plan 2014-17 and the Country Programming Frameworks (para. 44b)		X		This focus is being integrated in the preparation of Country Programming Frameworks (end 2012) and the Medium Term Plan 2014-17 (January 2013).
47.	Integrate emergency and development activities in the Country Programming Frameworks to increase resilience and promote sustainability (para. 45c)		X		These activities are being integrated in the preparation of Country Programming Frameworks (end 2012) and the Medium Term Plan 2014-17 (January 2013).
Reports of the 143rd (7-11 May 2012), 144th (14-15 May 2012) and 145th (1 June 2012) Sessions of the Finance Committee ----- Reporting Officer: David McSherry					
48.	Implement the Finance Committee recommendations regarding further efforts to encourage timely payment of Assessed Contributions and Arrears (para. 48b)		X		The Secretariat continues its efforts at Headquarters and FAO offices to remind Member Nations of their financial obligations and to emphasize the importance of timely payment of Assessed Contributions in its cash management for the execution of the Programme of Work including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • distribution of timely statements; • publishing monthly updates on the status of the Contributions and Arrears on the FAO public websites; • developing changes to the FAO public website to make information on the Status of the Contributions more accessible and visible to the clients (structure, new graphic presentation, payment highlights); • soliciting payments of current Contributions and Arrears through official correspondence and direct contacts with Member Nation Representatives and Government Officials;

ACTION ARISING		Status of Implementation			COMMENTS
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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> communicating the status of Contributions and Arrears, encouraging Member Nations to pay and expressing appreciation of timely payments when attending Sessions of Governing Bodies.
49.	Report on the achievements attained regarding the Human Resources Strategic Framework and Action Plan 2012-13, as well as the strategy to promote culture change, notably through an effective mobility policy (para. 48d)		X		<p>Regular progress reports on the HR strategic framework and Action Plan are presented to each session of the Finance Committee. Document FC 147/11 2012 issued in November 2012, http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/user_upload/bodies/Fin_Comm/Documents_FC_147/en/FC147-11.pdf contained an update on the progress in finalization of the corporate Mobility Policy, which aims, inter alia, to drive and support culture change.</p>
50.	Ensure that the core project objectives of International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) compliance, the R12 upgrade and the implementation of an Enterprise Risk Management Framework is delivered by the planned project target dates and within the reported budget estimates (para. 48e)		X		<p>IPSAS and R12: The GRMS has gone live as planned on 6 November 2012 for financial and human resource transaction processing at Headquarters and all Regional Offices. The timeline for the phased deployment to more than 100 Decentralized Offices worldwide has been accelerated to be completed by May 2013. IPSAS activities are progressing according to plan and the programme expects to deliver within the original USD 38.5 million budget (see document CL 145/7, paras. 32-36) http://www.fao.org/docrep/meeting/026/mf203e.pdf.</p> <p>ERM: A revised project plan to ensure completion of the ERM project by December 2013 has been developed as part of a wider initiative on accountability and internal control within the transformational change programme (see CL 145/3 paras. 25-26 http://www.fao.org/docrep/meeting/026/me906e.pdf and document CL 145/10, paras. 9vi, 50-51) http://www.fao.org/docrep/meeting/026/MF032E.pdf</p>

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Committee on World Food Security ----- <i>Reporting Officer: Kostas Stamoulis</i>					
	Report of the 38th (Special) Session of the Committee on World Food Security (11 May 2012)				
51.	Request the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), through the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) to endorse the VGGT and ensure their wide dissemination to all relevant UN Bodies and Agencies (para. 49d)			X	A request to endorse the VGGT and disseminate them widely will be included in the CFS Chairperson's Report to the United Nations General Assembly, through ECOSOC.
Constitutional and Legal Matters ----- <i>Reporting Officer: Antonio Tavares</i>					
	Report of the 94th Session of the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters (19-21 March 2012)				
52.	Maintain the current selection procedure of external members of the Ethics Committee, whereby each Committee makes its own recommendations to the Council (para. 52c)		X		The selection procedure will be maintained.

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Applications for Membership in the Organization					
53.	Submit the request for application for Membership in the Organization by the Republic of South Sudan to the 38th Session of the Conference in June 2013 for approval (para. 56)		X		Request for Membership by the Government of South Sudan will be submitted to 38th Session of Conference in document C 2013/10 http://www.fao.org/docrep/meeting/025/md644e.pdf
Governance Matters ----- <i>Reporting Officer: Louis Gagnon</i>					
Council Multi-year Programme of Work 2012-15					
54.	Add IPA actions that have not been completed to the Council MYPOW (para. 60)	X			All outstanding IPA actions are listed in Council MYPOW (see document CL 145/14: http://www.fao.org/docrep/meeting/026/ME958E.pdf)
55.	Include the Report of the Informal Regional Conferences for North America in the Council MYPOW (para. 61)	X			This item has been added to the MYPOW.
Status of implementation of decisions taken at the 143rd Session of the Council					
56.	Identify and categorize all actions according to their level of implementation (para. 63)	X			The new format of the present report takes on board those suggestions made by Members

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Other Matters					
	FAO's Contribution to the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020 <i>Reporting Officer: Boubaker Ben Belhassen</i>				
57.	Integrate relevant sections of the Istanbul Programme of Action into FAO's Programme of Work, and continue to assist the Least Developed Countries to implement sections of the Programme of interest to them (para. 58)		X		The three Rome-Based Agencies, FAO, WFP and IFAD have formed a Working Group on the relevant priority area in the IPoA, the Inter-Agency Working Group on Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition and Rural Development in LDCs. The main purpose of the Working Group is to contribute to the coordinated, coherent and effective, and gender-sensitive implementation of the IPoA in the areas of agriculture, food and nutrition security and rural development.
	Working Methods of the Council <i>Reporting Officer: Louis Gagnon</i>				
58.	Make available copies of the Basic Texts in all languages at all Council sessions (para. 80)		X		The Basic Texts are available on request at the Documents Desk and in the Red Room.
59.	Ensure that all documents be delivered for the Programme and Finance Committees, as well as the Council in all language versions by the indicated deadlines (para. 81)		X		An oral report on document delivery will be made by the Secretary-General at the start of the Session.