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COMMITTEE ON COMMODITY PROBLEMS

Seventy-first Session

Rome, 4–6 October 2016

MULTI-YEAR PROGRAMME OF WORK (MYPOW) OF THE COMMITTEE ON COMMODITY PROBLEMS: REPORT ON MYPOW 2012–16 AND DRAFT MYPOW 2016–19

Executive Summary

This document reports on the implementation of the CCP Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPOW) 2012–16 and presents the draft MYPOW for the period 2016–19. The development of multi-year programmes of work by FAO's Governing Bodies is meant to serve as an instrument to improve the governance and accountability of their work.

Suggested action by the Committee

The Committee is invited to:

- Review the progress report on the implementation of the CCP MYPOW 2012–16 and make recommendations for further improvement.
- Review and approve the proposed MYPOW 2016–19, as presented in the Annex to this document.

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

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I. Background

1. At its 70th Session, the Committee adopted the progress report on the implementation of the MYPOW 2012–16 and recommended improvements to be considered for the development of the Committee's MYPOW for the period 2016–19. The MYPOW is meant to serve as an instrument to improve the accountability and effective governance of FAO's Governing Bodies. The current document has been developed on the basis of the guidance received from the Committee, the Council and the Conference and intends to provide a basis for guiding the work of the Committee in 2016–19. As with the previous MYPOW, the new draft was developed based on the terms of reference of the Committee.

II. Progress report on the MYPOW 2012–16

2. In line with the approved MYPOW 2012–16, regular inter-sessional activities were facilitated by the Chairperson and the Bureau, with the support of the Secretariat. Six meetings of the CCP Bureau were organized to discuss the follow-up to the last CCP Session in October 2014 as well as the preparation for the 71st Session.

3. In considering the needed additional amendments to the Committee's Rules of Procedure, the Committee, at its 70th session, reviewed and approved, with immediate effect, the proposed amendments to its Rules of Procedure set out in Annex I to the document CCP 14/6, with the addition of the two amendments to Rule I on Officers.

4. The CCP Bureau has also improved the governance of the Committee by consulting with the regional groups, through the regional representatives in the Bureau member representatives. This has proved useful in the preparation of the draft agenda of the 71st Session of the Committee.

A. Strategy, priority setting and budget planning

5. The 70th Session of the Committee reviewed the state of commodity markets and policy matters related to markets and trade as well as key issues and work priorities in international commodity markets. The Committee's guidance and recommendations have provided a solid basis for setting work priorities and developing the Organization's work programme in the area of commodity markets and trade within the Medium Term Plan (MTP) 2014–17 and the Programme of Work and Budget (PWB) 2014–15.

6. The Chairperson presented the report of the 70th Session of the CCP to the 150th Session of the Council in December 2014, highlighting the Committee's recommendations regarding the technical priorities to be mainstreamed into the new Strategic Objectives and action plans and programmes for the future work of the Organization. The recommendations were fully endorsed by the Council and included in its final report¹.

B. Advice on global policy and regulatory matters

7. The Committee, through its Chairperson, presented in a timely manner its recommendations to the 39th Session of the Conference (3–6 June 2015). The recommendations, including those related to the work priority areas, were fully endorsed by, and reflected in the report of, the Conference².

8. A Ministerial Meeting was held on 6 October 2014, back-to-back with the Committee's 70th Session. The meeting, which followed two other ministerial meetings on food price volatility held in October 2012 and October 2013, discussed commodity governance related issues and provided an excellent opportunity to revisit the commodity institutional architecture and assess how fit it was in

¹ Report of the Council of FAO, Hundred and Fiftieth Session, Rome, 1-5 December 2014

² Report of the Conference of FAO, Thirty-ninth Session, Rome, 6-13 June 2015

view of the contemporary changes in market structures, policies and technology. The meeting provided a forum for policy dialogue and exchange of views on important issues related to commodity markets. It was chaired by the Chairperson of the 28th Session of the Regional Conference for Africa, the Minister for Agriculture of Tunisia.

9. On 2 November 2015, a briefing was held at FAO headquarters for the Director-General of the World Trade Organization (WTO), Ambassador Roberto Azevêdo. The event, with the theme “Looking ahead to Nairobi: Agriculture in WTO negotiations”, provided an excellent opportunity for delegates to receive an update on the various issues related to agriculture in the WTO negotiations ahead of the 10th WTO Ministerial Conference, held in Nairobi in December 2015.

10. The new edition of The State of Agricultural Commodity Markets (SOCO), on the theme “Trade and food security: achieving a better balance between national priorities and the collective good”, was launched on 9 December 2015. The primary objective of the report was to reduce the polarization of views on the impacts of agricultural trade and food security and on the manner in which agricultural trade should be governed to ensure that increased trade openness is beneficial to all countries. By providing evidence and clarity on a range of topics, including the complex relationship between trade and food security, the 2015–16 edition of SOCO seeks to contribute to a more informed debate on policy choices and to identify required improvements in the policy processes within which these choices are made.

11. As mandated at the 70th Session of the CCP, the Bureau created a Working Group to review the functioning of the Consultative Sub-Committee on Surplus Disposal (CSSD) and formulate recommendations as regards its future. The work of the Working Group was conducted under the overall leadership of the Chairperson of the CCP Bureau, Ambassador Maria Laura da Rocha of Brazil, with the support of the Secretariat. The Working Group held a total of six meetings between March 2015 and May 2016 and agreed on a number of recommendations for presentation to the 71st Session of the Committee. The report of the Working Group is presented in document CCP 16/9, entitled “Review of the Consultative Sub-Committee on Surplus Disposal (CSSD)”.

C. Work planning and working methods

12. CCP Report: the format of the documents and the deliberations of the 70th Session of the Committee had enabled the preparation of a concise report, focussing on specific action-oriented recommendations for presentation to the FAO Council and Conference.

13. During the 70th session, and for the first time, the Committee received a progress report on its first MYPOW for the period 2012–16. This represented a further step towards the improvement of the work of the CCP in terms of accountability and effectiveness of governance.

14. The CCP Bureau, and particularly the Chairperson, has maintained regular and constant contact with the Secretariat, located in the Trade and Markets Division (EST).

15. The draft agenda for the 71st Session of the CCP was prepared through close consultation between the Bureau and the Secretariat. The Bureau’s more balanced regional representation further facilitated interaction with the different regional groups and contributed to the shaping of the agenda.

16. Regular meetings were held between the CCP Secretariat and the Secretariats of the other FAO Technical Committees to enhance cooperation and coordination, particularly with regard to broad global governance issues related to climate change and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

ANNEX

COMMITTEE ON COMMODITY PROBLEMS

Seventy-first Session

Rome, 4–6 October 2016

MULTI-YEAR PROGRAMME OF WORK (MYPOW) 2016–19 OF THE COMMITTEE ON COMMODITY PROBLEMS

I. Overall Objectives for the Committee on Commodity Problems for 2016–19

1. The Committee on Commodity Problems (CCP) conducts periodic reviews of commodity problems of an international character and prepares factual and interpretative surveys of the world commodity situation, with a view to guiding concerted action by Member Nations and the Organization. It advises the Council on the overall work programme of the Organization relating to agricultural commodity markets, agricultural and trade policy and emerging issues related to markets and trade. The Committee provides evidence-based advice and action-oriented recommendations to the Conference on global policy and regulatory matters, in its areas of mandate.

II. Results for 2016–19

A. Strategy, priority setting and budget planning

2. Result:

The Organization has a clear strategy, well-defined priorities, programmes, organizational structures and budgets on issues of relevance to the mandate and terms of reference of the Committee.

3. Indicators and targets:

- Summary presentation of commodity market and policy developments is part of the regular sessions of the CCP.
- Analysis of the world agricultural commodity situation (The State of Agricultural Commodity Markets 2015–16) considered by the 71st Session of the Committee.
- Recommendations relating to the Strategic Framework, the Medium Term Plan (MTP) and the Programme of Work and Budget (PWB) are reflected in the Council reports.

4. Output:

Report of the Committee with clear, precise and consensual recommendations on strategy, priorities, programmes and budget for the Organization are considered by Council, providing a solid basis for its guidance and decision-making.

5. Activities:

- Review the current situation in its areas of mandate, including issues of topical significance to the international community.
- Review decisions and recommendations from other global and regional fora relevant to commodities and their implications for Members and FAO.
- Review decisions and recommendations from other FAO governing and statutory bodies and sub-committees.
- Review implementation of the PWB in areas falling within the Committee's competence.

- Formulate clear, consensual, timely, well-developed and actionable recommendations for areas pertinent to commodities and trade on strategy, priorities, programmes and budget under the reviewed Strategic Framework.
- Organize events, as appropriate, in the areas of the Committee's mandate.

B. Advice on global policy and regulatory matters

6. Result:

Based on the Committee's recommendations, and taking into consideration regional priorities and specificities, FAO, through Conference, gives clear, relevant and useful advice on major policy and regulatory issues confronting the world, regions and individual Member Nations, within the areas of its competence.

7. Indicators and targets:

- Members obtain value from the deliberations of the CCP, using the resulting advice and recommendations to guide domestic actions and policies.
- Clear and action-oriented recommendations on global policy and regulatory matters are reflected in the Committee's reports.
- Clear and specific recommendations made in a timely manner by CCP to the Conference regarding global policy and regulatory matters in areas of mandate.
- Recommendations of the Committee taken up by other international fora, in particular the High-level Political Forum for the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the ECOSOC forum on Financing for Development follow-up to the Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA).

8. Output:

Clear and consensual recommendations for FAO Conference on policy and regulatory frameworks, mechanisms and instruments.

9. Activities:

- Report to Conference on global policy and regulatory issues arising out of the Committee's deliberations.
- Review the status of relevant international agreements, instruments and processes in areas of competence of the Committee.
- Address new and emerging issues and recommend possible policy and action options for Members, FAO and other relevant stakeholders.
- Provide input to other international processes and instruments, as appropriate.

III. Effective work planning of CCP

10. Result:

CCP works effectively and efficiently, in an action-oriented and inclusive way, according to established work plans and improved working methods.

11. Indicators and targets:

- CCP agendas are prepared in close consultation with the Regional Groups and are focused and responsive to emerging needs.
- CCP reports are concise and contain specific, action-oriented recommendations and are made available to Members, Council and Conference in a timely manner.

- CCP documents are made available in all FAO languages four weeks before commencement of the session.
- Inter-sessional activities and events organized on issues of topical and timely importance to the international community falling within the mandate of the CCP.

12. Outputs:

- Progress report on the implementation of CCP's MYPOW 2012–16 endorsed.
- MYPOW for the period 2016–19 adopted in 2016.

13. Activities:

- Pay continued attention to effective arrangements for the formulation of agendas and drafting of the final report.
- Consider ways to improve the conduct of sessions, including more efficient use of the time available.
- Facilitate coordination with other FAO Technical Committees, as appropriate.

IV. Working methods

14. The work of the Committee is based on regular review and analysis of global trends in commodity markets, trade policy and related issues within the areas of its competence. It operates based on the following working methods:

- Regular contacts and consultation with the CCP Secretariat based in the Trade and Markets Division (EST).
- Collaboration with FAO Governing Bodies and relevant statutory bodies under FAO auspices.
- Liaison with the Programme Committee on strategy and priority matters and with the Finance Committee on financial and budgetary matters.
- Interaction with other global fora active in areas of relevance to the Committee, including through the possible participation of Bureau members in international meetings and events.
- Regular inter-sessional activities facilitated by the Committee's Chairperson and the Bureau and with support from the Secretariat.
- Promotion and facilitation of the participation of farmers and civil society organizations and the private sector, within the rules and regulations of the Organization.
- Promotion of the visibility of the CCP, including through making its recommendations and work more accessible to the global follow-up and review processes.

15. The Committee shall have the following standing items on its future agendas:

- Adoption of the Provisional Agenda and Timetable
- Designation of the Drafting Committee
- Commodity market situation and outlook: short- and medium-terms
- Update on WTO agricultural negotiations and Regional Trade Agreements
- Reports of the Intergovernmental Groups (IGGs) on commodities
- FAO's programme of work in trade and markets
- Multi-year Programme of Work (MYPOW)
- Election of the new Bureau Members
- Arrangements for the next Session of the Committee
- Adoption of the Report

16. Recommendations for specific issues for the agenda of the 72nd session will be developed by the Bureau, in consultation with regional groups, with due consideration of relevant decisions by the

other FAO Governing Bodies as well as developments in relevant international and regional processes and instruments related to agricultural commodities and trade.