# Conference

## Fortieth Session

Rome, 3-8 July 2017

### Arrangements for the 40th Session of the Conference

(Recommendations to the Conference)

*Extract from the Report of the 155th Session of Council (5-9 December 2016)*

### Arrangements for the 40th Session of the Conference

35. The Council agreed to submit to the Conference the Provisional Agenda and the Arrangements outlined in document CL 155/8 for approval, and in particular recommended that:

   a) two Commissions be established to examine, respectively: (i) Substantive and Policy Matters in Food and Agriculture; and (ii) Programme and Budgetary Matters;
   b) the deadline for receipt of nominations for election to the Council be set at 12.00 hours on Monday 3 July 2017, and the election be held on Friday 7 July 2017;
   c) agreed that the details of a proposal to hold a Special Event on Gender during the Conference, allowing for the dynamic participation of Members, be further discussed at Informal Meetings convened by the Independent Chairperson of the Council (ICC) with the Chairs of the Regional Groups.

36. The Council further agreed to recommend to the Conference that the topic for the General Debate at the 40th Session be "Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security” and that statements by heads of delegation be limited to a maximum of five minutes each.

37. The Council also endorsed the following biennial theme for Governing Body sessions to be held in the 2018-19 biennium: “Climate Change and its impact on the work and activities of FAO”.

### Deadline for Nominations for the Post of Independent Chairperson of the Council

38. The Council decided to establish a deadline for the receipt of nominations for the Office of Independent Chairperson of the Council at 12.00 hours on Wednesday 5 April 2017; and Wednesday 12 April 2017 as the dates by which nominations would be circulated through the FAO Members Gateway and by letter by the Secretary-General.

### Nomination of the Chairperson of the Conference and the Chairpersons of Commission I and Commission II

39. The Council noted that consultations within the FAO Asia Regional Group had led to consensus on nominating the Honourable Emmanuel F. Piñol, Secretary of Agriculture of the Philippines as Chairperson of the Conference. Furthermore, it agreed that the Chairperson of

---

1 CL 155/8 Rev.1 (English only); CL 155/PV/6; CL 155/PV/8

*This document can be accessed using the Quick Response Code on this page; a FAO initiative to minimize its environmental impact and promote greener communications. Other documents can be consulted at www.fao.org*
Commission I be from a country belonging to the G77 and China Group; and that the Chairperson of Commission II be from a country not belonging to the G77 and China Group.

40. The Council agreed to proceed at its 156th Session (April 2017) with the nomination of candidates for the offices of:

- a) Chairperson of the Commissions of the Conference;
- b) Three Vice-Chairpersons of the Conference;
- c) Seven elected Members of the General Committee to the Conference; and
- d) Nine Members of the Credentials Committee.

41. The Council agreed to recommend to the Conference that Palestine be invited to the Conference in an observer capacity.


Arrangements for the 40th Session of the Conference

16. The Council agreed to submit the Provisional Timetable set out in CL 156/8 Rev.1 to the Conference for approval.

17. The Council agreed to propose the deadline of 12.00 hours on Tuesday 4 July 2017 for receipt of nominations for Council membership (for the periods July 2017 to June 2020 and July 2018 to June 2021).

Nomination of the Chairperson and the Vice-chairpersons of the Conference and the Chairpersons of the Commissions of the Conference

18. In accordance with Rule XXIV.5 (b) of the GRO, the Council noted that consultations had taken place among delegations and that there was consensus on nominating Mr Emmanuel F. Piñol, Secretary for Agriculture of the Philippines, as Chairperson of the Conference.

19. The Council agreed to submit to the Conference the following three nominations for the office of Vice-Chairperson of the Conference:
   - Mr Aziz Akhannouch (Morocco);
   - Mr Thomas Duffy (United States of America);
   - Mr Matai Seremaiah\(^3\) (Vanuatu)

20. The Council agreed to submit to the Conference the following nominations for the Chairpersons of Commissions I and II:
   - Chairperson of Commission I: Mr Ahmed bin Nasser Al-Bakry (Oman);
   - Chairperson of Commission II: Mr Johannes Petrus Hoogeveen (Netherlands)

Nomination of Seven Members of the General Committee

21. In accordance with Rule XXIV.5(b) GRO, the Council agreed to put the following nominations before the Conference:
   - Australia
   - Egypt
   - Malaysia
   - Peru
   - San Marino
   - Uganda
   - United States of America

\(^2\) CL 156/8 Rev.1; CL 156/PV/5; CL 156/PV/7  
\(^3\) Name communicated by the Government of Vanuatu on 22 May 2017 by Note Verbale
22. In accordance with Rule XXIV.5(b) GRO, the Council agreed to put the following nominations before the Conference:

- Austria
- Canada
- Cuba
- Guinea
- Indonesia
- Jordan
- New Zealand
- Nicaragua
- San Marino