CONFERENCE

Forty-first Session

Rome, 22-29 June 2019

Fourth Report of the General Committee

A. Appointment of the Director-General

1. The General Committee recommends that the Conference adopt the following Resolution:

Resolution .../2019

Appointment of the Director-General

THE CONFERENCE,

Acting in accordance with Article VII of the Constitution,

Having proceeded to a secret ballot as laid down in Rules XII and XXXVII of the General Rules of the Organization,

1) Declares that Dr Qu Dongyu is appointed to the office of Director General for a period of four years from 1 August 2019, the term of office expiring on 31 July 2023; and

Having considered the recommendation regarding the conditions of appointment of the Director-General submitted by the General Committee in accordance with Rules X, paragraph 2(j) and XXXVII, paragraph 4 of the General Rules of the Organization,

Resolves that:

a) the Director-General shall receive a gross annual salary of USD 248,617 corresponding to a net annual salary of USD 187,532 at the dependency rate, or USD 166,764 at the single rate, and an annual post adjustment corresponding to USD 1,875.32 for each multiplier point at the dependency rate, or USD 1,667.64 at the single rate, payable in accordance with the provisions of the Organization governing the salary of staff members;

b) the Director-General shall receive a representation allowance of USD 50,000 net per annum;

c) the Organization will directly rent appropriate housing accommodation to be assigned as the official residence of the Director-General and pay related expenses, in lieu of rental subsidy;
d) the Director-General shall be entitled to all other allowances and benefits accruing to staff members of the Organization in the Professional and Higher Categories;

2) **Further resolves** that the Director-General shall have the option to either be a participant in the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund, or in lieu thereof, he shall be entitled to receive, in monthly instalments, the equivalent of the Organization’s contributions to the Fund that would have been payable had he been a participant, as a supplement to his monthly remuneration; and

3) **Further resolves** that the terms and conditions of appointment of the Director-General shall be governed by the relevant provisions of the Staff Regulations subject, however, to the provisions of the contract to be signed by the Chairperson of the Conference on behalf of the Organization and by the Director-General elect, in accordance with Rule XXXVII, paragraph 4.

**B. Voting Rights**

2. At its second meeting (Saturday, 22 June 2019), the General Committee recommended that voting rights should be restored to ten Member Nations that requested special consideration under Article III.4 of the Constitution: Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Iran (Islamic Republic), Liberia, Papua New Guinea, Sao Tome and Principe, Somalia, Turkmenistan and Venezuela.

3. The General Committee noted that one of the Member Nations, Chad, had now made a payment above the minimum required to vote and was no longer on the list of Member Nations with voting rights problems.

4. Two of these Member Nations, Liberia and Papua New Guinea have now proposed to repay their arrears according to an agreed instalment plan. The Committee now recommends that the Conference adopt the draft resolutions endorsing the instalment plans submitted by Liberia (Appendix A) and Papua New Guinea (Appendix B).

**C. Appointment of the Independent Chairperson of the Council**

5. The Conference had before it one nomination for the office of Independent Chairperson of the Council.

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

**Resolution .../2019**

*Appointment of the Independent Chairperson of the Council*

**THE CONFERENCE,**


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

1. **Declares** that Mr Khalid Mehoob is appointed Independent Chairperson of the Council until the Forty-second Session of the Conference (June 2021);

2. **Decides** that the conditions of appointment attached to the office of the Independent Chairperson of the Council will be as follows:

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1 Basic Texts, Volume II, Section E
a) 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;
b) An annual allowance equivalent to USD 23,831 will be paid to the Chairperson;
c) A per diem allowance equivalent to the applicable standard daily subsistence allowance (DSA) rate at 140% will be paid to the Chairperson when travelling out of Rome in the performance of his functions;
d) The travel expenses of the Chairperson will be covered by the Organization when he travels in the performance of his functions;
e) Secretariat services will be made available to the Chairperson to assist him in the performance of his functions;
f) Interpretation services will be made available to the Chairperson, at his request, depending on the availability of resources;
g) Office space, equipment and supplies required by the Chairperson in the performance of his functions will be made available to him;
h) 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 _June 2019_)

**D. José Graziano da Silva Award for Zero Hunger**

7. The General Committee considered the proposal of initiating a José Graziano da Silva Award for Zero Hunger to be made every biennium to an institution or an individual which has made significant achievements in promoting Zero Hunger best practices. The Committee **recommends** that the Conference adopt the following Resolution:

**THE CONFERENCE,**

**Appreciating** the eminent services rendered by Professor José Graziano da Silva to the Organization, throughout his two terms as Director-General, in promoting FAO’s vision of a world free from hunger and all forms of malnutrition, particularly during a period of combined challenges of climate change and the intensification of natural hazards, internal and global migration and increased numbers of protracted crises, disasters and conflicts;

**Recalling** that, in 2006, under the leadership of Professor José Graziano da Silva as Assistant Director General of FAO and Regional Representative for Latin America and the Caribbean, the region committed itself to the Latin America and the Caribbean without Hunger 2025 Initiative;

**Recognizing** that, in 2012, the Director-General, José Graziano da Silva, initiated a transformative reform of the Organization, based on the pillars of decentralization, and a strategic agenda with five major objectives, the first of which is Zero Hunger;

**Stressing** that, in 2015, countries adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the second of which is Zero Hunger;

**Recognizing** the strong commitment of Professor José Graziano da Silva to reform and to build a results-oriented, efficient and effective foundation for FAO’s vision;

**Expressing** its deep gratitude to Professor José Graziano da Silva for his outstanding services to the Organization, and for his unfailing dedication to the vision of Zero Hunger:
1) **Decides** that a “José Graziano da Silva Award for Zero Hunger” be established as a continuing tribute to Professor José Graziano da Silva in order to recognise successful efforts to achieve Zero Hunger through active involvement of civil society actors;

2) **Agrees** that the terms and conditions of the José Graziano da Silva Award for Zero Hunger be as follows:

   a) **Nature of the award**: the award will consist of a scroll describing the recipient's achievements, a medal inscribed with the name of the recipient, and a cash prize in the amount of USD 25,000 to be awarded to a civil society organization for major achievements in promoting Zero Hunger best practices;

   b) **Selection of award winners**: the winners will be selected by a Committee comprising the Independent Chairperson of the Council, the Chairperson of the Programme Committee and the Chairperson of the Finance Committee under the Chairmanship of the Director-General. The Committee will make its selection from a list drawn up by an ad hoc interdepartmental Screening Committee;

   c) **Conferment of the award**: the award will be presented by the Director-General at each regular session of the Conference to the individual recipient or a representative of the recipient institution, who will be invited to FAO headquarters in Rome for the ceremony, with the Organization bearing the cost of travel and per diem.

**E. Award of Prizes**

8. The General Committee recommended to the Conference that the Independent Chairperson of the Council should carry out an inclusive consultation process with a view to defining consistent and sustainable conditions for the award of prizes, taking account the global state of food and agriculture, and including options for a phasing out of the oldest awards. The outcome of this process would be referred for the approval by the 42nd Session of the Conference.
THE CONFERENCE,

Noting that the Government of Liberia had made a proposal that it liquidate its arrears of contributions over a period of four years commencing in 2020, 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 Liberia totaling USD 8,167.52 and EUR 5,723.78 be settled through the payment of four annual instalments of USD 2,041.88 and EUR 1,430.94 from 2020 to 2023.

2) The first instalment shall be payable in 1 January 2020.

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 Liberia 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 ... June 2019)
Resolution…/2019

Payment of Contributions – Papua New Guinea

THE CONFERENCE,

Noting that the Government of Papua New Guinea had made a proposal that it liquidate its arrears of contributions over a period of four years commencing in 2020, 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 Papua New Guinea totaling USD 10,827.98 and EUR 37,790.69 be settled through the payment of four annual instalments of USD 2,706.99 and EUR 9,447.67 from 2020 to 2023.

2) The first instalment shall be payable in 1 January 2020.

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 Papua New Guinea 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 ... June 2019)