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conference

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS - ROME

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Twenty-seventh Session
Rome, 6-25 November 1993

FOURTH REPORT OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE (TRIBUTE TO EDOUARD SAOUMA)

1. The General Committee considered the proposal that the Conference allocate a specific time for paying tribute to the outgoing Director-General, Edouard Saouma.
2. The Committee recommends that the period from 9.30 to 11.30 hours on Wednesday 17 November 1993 be reserved for this, before the Conference adopts the report of Commission II on item 12 of the agenda, "Programme of Work and Budget 1994-95".
3. In order to respect the time-frame foreseen the Committee recommends that the number of speakers be limited to the Chairman of the Conference, the Independent Chairman of the Council, the Chairman of the Group of 77, the Chairman of the OECD Group, the Chairmen of each Regional Group and the Representatives of Cuba and Lebanon. A very limited number of other speakers may be given the floor, if time permits.
4. The General Committee also examined the question of initiating an Edouard Saouma Award to be made every biennium to an institution which has implemented with particular efficiency a project funded by the TCP. The Committee now recommends that the Conference adopt the following resolution:

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RESOLUTION .. /93

EDOUARD SAOUMA AWARD

THE CONFERENCE,

Considering that the Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP) has become an established and highly valued component of FAO action in the field, allowing the rapid mobilization of resources to respond to emergency situations and to meet unforeseen short-term technical assistance needs which could not be covered by other sources of support;

Noting that, since 1976, 5 398 TCP projects have been executed for a total value of US\$496 million;

Recalling the catalytic effect of the Programme which has generated investments and large-scale follow-up projects, thus expanding the overall volume of agricultural development financing;

Welcoming with appreciation the increasing role of national institutions in the direct execution of projects, which have contributed in a pragmatic and flexible manner to the strengthening of developing countries' capacities in the formulation of national policies for food production, agriculture, fisheries and forestry;

Recognizing the decisive role of the Director-General, Mr Edouard Saouma, in the conception and the implementation of this Programme over the past 18 years;

1. Decides that, in order to solemnly record this important achievement of FAO, an "Edouard Saouma Award" be established for presentation to a national or regional institution which has implemented with particular efficiency a project funded by the TCP.

2. Agrees that the general terms and conditions of the Edouard Saouma Award be as follows:

- Nature of the award: the award will consist of a medal inscribed with the name of the recipient institution; and a cash prize in the amount of US\$25 000;

- Selection of award winners: the winners will be selected by a Committee comprising the Independent Chairman of the Council, the Chairman of the Programme Committee and the Chairman of the Finance Committee under the Chairmanship of the Director-General. The Committee will make its selection from a list drawn up by the Field Programme Development Division (DDF).

- Presentation: the award will be presented by the Director-General at the beginning of each regular session of the Conference to a representative of the recipient institution. The representative will be invited to FAO Headquarters in Rome for the ceremony, the cost of travel and per diem being borne by the Organization.