

March 2013

	منظمة الأغذية والزراعة للأمم المتحدة	联合国 粮食及 农业组织	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture	Продовольственная и сельскохозяйственная организация Объединенных Наций	Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Alimentación y la Agricultura
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## COUNCIL

### Hundred and Forty-sixth Session

Rome, 22-26 April 2013

### Report of the 113<sup>th</sup> Session of the Programme Committee (18-22 March 2013)

### Report of progress on the Multi-year Programme of Work (MYPOW) of the Programme Committee

1. The Committee reviewed and approved its Report of progress on the Multi-year Programme of Work (MYPOW) during the course of its current term from July 2011 to March 2013.

#### A. PROGRAMME PLANNING AND PRIORITY SETTING

2. During its current term, the Programme Committee discussed the following issues pertaining to programme and priority setting:

- Adjustments to the Programme of Work and Budget 2012-13
- Further Adjustments to the Programme of Work and Budget 2012-13 (Joint Meeting)
- Transformational Changes in the 2012-13 Biennium
- Reviewed Strategic Framework 2010-19
- Medium Term Plan 2014-17 and Programme of Work and Budget 2014-15
- Strategy and vision for FAO's role in nutrition
- Country Programming Guidelines
- Enhancement of the Technical Cooperation Programme (Joint Meeting)

3. All recommendations proposed by the Committee were endorsed by the Council. The Committee's recommendations were clear, constructive and consensual.

4. The Committee played its role in the Strategic Thinking Process aimed at reorienting the future strategic direction of the Organization, and supporting development and review of the Organization's main planning and programming documents. This included the review of the Strategic Framework, and formulation of the Medium Term Plan 2014-17 and the Programme of Work and Budget 2014-15.

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## **B. RESULTS-BASED MONITORING OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION**

5. The following issues pertaining to results-based monitoring of programme implementation were discussed by the Programme Committee, including in Joint Meetings with the Finance Committee:

- Programme Implementation Report (PIR) 2010-11
- Mid-term Review Synthesis report – 2012
- Progress on implementation of the TCP

6. All Council advice and decisions on the above issues duly reflected the recommendations of the Programme Committee and the Joint Meeting, which were clear, concise and consensual.

## **C. EVALUATION**

7. The Committee discussed the following Evaluation items, in addition to a number of follow-up reports on previously considered evaluations:

- Indicative Rolling Workplan of Strategic and Programme Evaluation 2012-14
- Evaluation of FAO's role and work related to gender and development
- Evaluation of FAO's role and work in nutrition
- Funding of Evaluations – Implementation of Council decisions
- Appointment of the Director of Evaluation
- Evaluation of FAO's role and work in tenure, rights and access to land and other natural resources
- Evaluation of FAO's role and work in food and agriculture policy
- Evaluation of FAO's response to the July 2010 floods in Pakistan
- FAO's effectiveness at country level: a synthesis of evaluations in countries with major emergency and rehabilitation programmes (Ethiopia, Zimbabwe and Haiti)
- Strategic Evaluation of FAO's role and work in forestry
- Evaluation of FAO's support to the implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries
- Peer review of the Evaluation Function at FAO
- Report on implementation of the Council decision on funding of evaluation in extrabudgetary activities
- Evaluation of FAO's role in investment for food and nutrition security, agriculture and rural development
- Evaluation of FAO's Regional and Subregional Offices for Europe and Central Asia

8. The Committee was careful in selecting topics for Evaluation, thereby providing guidance in order to focus FAO's evaluation work on strategic issues. All Evaluations agreed for the future are strategic in nature.

9. The Committee welcomed a proposal to increase efficiency and achieve cost savings by the translation of comprehensive executive summary of evaluation reports, while the entire documents would remain available on the website of the Office of Evaluation in the original language. A final decision in this regard should be taken in the near future.

#### **D. IPA IMPLEMENTATION AND INTEGRATION INTO PWB**

10. The Programme Committee considered a number specific IPA-inspired matters under its mandate during its current term, including in Joint Meetings with the Finance Committee:

- Structure and functioning of the Decentralized Offices
- FAO strategy on partnerships with the private sector
- FAO strategy on partnerships with civil society
- Review of Article XIV bodies
- Resource mobilization and management strategy

11. Decisions and guidance by the Council on all above matters reflected the recommendations of the Programme Committee and the Joint Meeting.

12. In addition to examining the above specific matters, separately the Programme Committee also considered comprehensive progress reports on implementation of the IPA within the context of its mandate during its current term. For the future, such issues will be considered consistent with their integration into the programme of work, and the MYPOW adjusted accordingly.

#### **E. IMPROVED METHODS OF WORK AND EFFICIENCY OF THE PROGRAMME COMMITTEE.**

13. During its current term, the Programme Committee strived to build on improvements of the past to further enhance its efficiency and effectiveness.

14. The Agenda for individual meetings were formulated in a focused manner, with due prioritization and considered analysis given to the selection of items for discussion jointly with the Finance Committee. The reports of the Committee were concise and focused, and its recommendations clear and constructive.

15. Informal meetings of the Committee were successful, with high attendance and with constructive exchange of views and ideas supported by the Secretariat. As a result, there was greater focus to discussion, and more efficient use of time, in formal sessions.

16. The introduction of an online forum aimed at providing an informal arena for exchange prior to formal meetings was not optimally utilized in the current term, and its fuller potential shall be further pursued in the future.

17. The Committee successfully introduced the practice of an informal presentation by the Secretariat on selected topics of interest on the programmatic work of the Organization at each of its meetings providing the formal Agenda had been successfully concluded.