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para la  
Alimentación y la  
Agricultura

# FAO Regional Conference for Africa

## TWENTY-EIGHTH SESSION

Tunis, Tunisia, 24-28 March 2014

### REPORTING ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 27<sup>TH</sup> ARC

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#### Executive summary

This report presents the outcomes of the follow-up to the 27<sup>th</sup> ARC recommendations which require the attention of both the Council and the Conference. The recommendations have put emphasis on FAO activities in 2010/2011 and the areas of Priority Actions for Africa in the biennium following the Programme of Work and Budget 2012-2013. Achievements of the decentralization process in FAO show efforts mobilized so far at regional level to provide close and timely support to the different countries. Challenges and actions taken with regards to the implementation of regional policy through collaboration with the main partners aiming at improving food security and nutrition are highlighted.

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### Reporting on the recommendations of the 27th ARC

The following table provides an update on progress made in the implementation of the recommendations made by the 27<sup>th</sup> session of the Regional Conference for Africa. Several of the recommendations are addressed in other ARC/14 documents prepared for the 28<sup>th</sup> Session. This table provides a summary of actions taken to address each recommendation and refers as appropriate to relevant ARC/14 documents.

The number indicated in the table corresponds to the same number in the summary of the main recommendations of the 27<sup>th</sup> Session of the ARC as presented in the Report of the 27<sup>th</sup> Session. Each recommendation has been reproduced (**in bold**) and is followed by key-points reflecting the achievements.

A tracking tool initially proposed by the Group of African Representatives has been used and the interim tables have been presented to the Chairperson of the Africa Group in November 2012 and to the Chairperson of the 27<sup>th</sup> ARC in May 2013.

<b>I. Report on FAO activities in Africa in the Biennium 2010–2011</b>	
<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>
<b>36. Endorsed RAF Results-based management focus and urged allocation of human and financial resources to establish a Monitoring and Evaluation Unit in the Regional Office for Africa (RAF) in order to better monitor, evaluate and measure results.</b>	<p>As part of efforts to strengthen results-based management, two experts (monitoring and evaluation consultant and project officer) are based at RAF providing support to the M&amp;E functions under the programme planning and budget group. A network of M&amp;E officers and focal points in country and sub-regional offices has also been established.</p> <p>The regional priorities endorsed by the 27<sup>th</sup> ARC for 2012-13 were elaborated into a set of measurable outputs, outcomes, and corresponding indicators.</p>

<b>II. Programme of Work and Budget 2012-2013 and Areas of Priority Actions for Africa in the Following Biennium 2014-15</b>	
<b>RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>
<b>48. Endorsed the Strategic Thinking Process launched by the Director-General of FAO and confirmed that the main challenges are consistent with the conditions in the Region.</b>	<p>The new Strategic Framework and Medium Term Plan 2014-17<sup>1</sup> were developed taking account of the region's priorities and challenges and were approved by the FAO Conference in June 2013.</p> <p>ARC/14/5 ARC/14/6 and ARC/14/7</p>
<b>49. Endorsed RAF 2012-13 and 2014-15 priority areas, expanding the agricultural productivity scope to forestry, fisheries, livestock and aquaculture, and focusing attention on the value chain approach, water management, soft infrastructure and climate change.</b>	<p>The formulation of the new strategic objectives (specifically SO 2) and the Regional Initiatives through which the three priority streams (corporate strategic objectives, regional priorities and CPFs) will be delivered in 2014-15 upholds the view of agricultural productivity as inclusive of forestry, livestock, fisheries and aquaculture, and places emphasis on the value chain approach, water management, and climate change.</p> <p>ARC/14/5</p>
<b>50. Strongly recommended that the FAO Council allocate increased budgetary and human resources needed to address the priority challenges in the Africa Region</b>	<p>To address regional priorities, total field programme budget in 2012 was USD 332 million, while in 2011 and 2010 it was respectively USD 291 million and USD 272 million. New approvals for 2013 amount to USD 421 million. As of 9 December 2013, 90 percent of TCP appropriation was allocated to address the regional priority areas (USD 35 639 925) through 129 projects. 20 countries used TCP funds to formulate the CPFs.</p>
<b>56. Endorsed the Results-Based-Management (RBM) Pilot Projects to develop the cassava and maize value chains in a multi-disciplinary, multi-stakeholder approach that will test new ways of working and partnering in order to achieve tangible results.</b>	<p>Two projects to support the cassava value chain Results-based management (RBM) Pilot in Ghana and DRC have been approved for implementation with interventions integrated in the pilot regional initiative on rural poverty (Ghana). The maize and cassava studies for identifying technical and policy options to be considered in the RBM Pilots have been concluded and are ready to be used as reference points in the initiative.</p>

<sup>1</sup> C 2013/7 and C 2013/3

<b>III. Decentralization issues</b>	
<b>RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>
<b>59. Recommended strengthening the liaison function in the region with the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and the African Union (AU), with a corresponding increase in budget allocation to enable this role to be carried out effectively.</b>	<p>Position of Sub-regional coordinator upgraded to D2 and filled in January 2013 with liaison functions with AU/UNECA</p> <p>ARC/14/6 and ARC/14/7</p>
<b>61a. Endorsed FAO's decentralization proposal based on more flexible and innovative technical hubs, needs-oriented typologies of country office models, and to consider additional factors beyond per capita income in applying models.</b>	<p>ARC/14/6 and ARC/14/7</p> <p>Two new posts have been created in Addis Ababa and Gaborone to enhance liaison and cooperation respectively with the AU and SADC. Negotiations are currently on-going to upgrade the offices in Equatorial Guinea, South Africa and Nigeria from FAO Representations to Partnership and Liaison Offices, with additional staffing and a more flexible office model.</p>
<b>63. Endorsed integration of emergency and development programmes and recommended transfer of authority, human and financial resources to the Regional Office for Africa, the Sub-regional Offices and FAO Country Representations.</b>	<p>Integration completed in 45 Countries. RAF reinforced through the recruitment of 8 officers to deal with resilience programmes as fully part of the Integrated Regional Programme. Several operations officers deployed at country level.</p>

<b>IV. Other matters: Multi-year Programme of Work 2012–2015 for the FAO Regional Conference for Africa</b>	
<b>RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>
<b>68. Requested FAO to develop follow-up mechanisms to systematically monitor the implementation of the recommendations of the Regional Conference and to facilitate regular contacts between the Chairperson of the Regional Conference, the FAO Management, the African Ministers and the African Group of Representatives to FAO.</b>	Chairperson has presented report to Council 2012 and 2013 and related Side Event, as well as to Conference 2013; FAO is presenting its work to regional fora (AU/NEPAD, RECs, etc).
	Monitoring table prepared with the guidance of the Africa Group of Representatives (AGR) in Rome to track progress made against 27 <sup>th</sup> ARC recommendations. Progress made against 27 <sup>th</sup> ARC recommendations presented to Chair of the AGR in November 2012 and to the AGR in April 2013; Communication and several meetings with Chair of the AGR; Communication with Chairperson of the Regional Conference through FAOR Congo.
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<b>V. Regional and Global Policy and Regulatory Issues: The CAADP Implementation Challenge, 2012-13</b>	
<b>RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>
<b>13. Encouraged FAO to collaborate with regional and continental partners in a comprehensive assessment of the CAADP process as well as facilitation of cross country, peer learning with a view to identify key success factors</b>	FAO is collaborating with NPCA, AUC and other development partners in organizing a meeting on 10 years of CAADP: "Stocktaking of Country Level Implementation and Donor Alignment and Consultation on Sustaining CAADP Momentum". The preparatory work is being carried out in some countries to assess the progress in the implementation of the CAADP NAIPs and to identify priority issues in each country.
<b>14. Urged FAO to continue supporting countries, regional economic communities and the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA) in the formulation and implementation of the Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP). The Conference further requested FAO support for policy and budget reviews, institutional strengthening and building innovative financing partnerships.</b>	40 countries have signed compacts and 28 developed investment plans. FAO is continuing to support countries and RECs in 2013 in CAADP formulation in Central, Eastern and Southern Africa. FAO is strengthening national capacity in CAADP formulation and implementation in six countries in SSA; FAO Partnership to End Hunger in Africa in four countries contributes to integrating social protection in CAADP compacts. FAO is supporting Regional Economic Communities to formulate their sub-regional CAADP programmes.
<b>17. Advocated that countries increase budgetary allocations to catalyse public investments and accelerate policy and regulatory reform needed to attract private sector investment</b>	On-going evidence-based study of budgetary allocation and economic performance in countries that have met 10 percent budgetary allocation to agriculture (Maputo; MAFAP RAF). Presented results on budget allocation, investment (SOFA) and CAADP best practices at 2013 CAADP Partnership Platform meeting and other fora. Advocacy event (High-Level Meeting for Africa) organized in Addis Ababa on 30 June -1 July 2013.
<b>19. Recommended countries to enhance the capacity and integration of producer and civil society organizations and the private sector into the CAADP formulation and implementation process, particularly small producers, women and youth.</b>	CAADP formulation is an inclusive process; FAO supporting national stakeholders- FAO support to Pan African Farmers' Organization (PAFO) through TCP with NEPAD; TCP under preparation with ROPPA and PROPAC; Stakeholder engagement in countries within the Partnership to End Hunger in Africa. In collaboration with Country Offices, a database on CSOs has been established with information from 38 countries and will be used to strengthen the partnership at country level (CPF), sub-regional and regional levels and implementation of recently adopted Strategy on Civil Society and to guide the selection of CSOs.

<b>VI. Regional and Global Policy and Regulatory Issues: Public-private partnership for initiating agricultural programmes to sustain livelihoods and create wealth</b>	
<b>RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>
<b>27a. Requested FAO to advise governments on how to create the necessary financial and regulatory enabling environments for public-private partnerships and on how to mainstream PPPs into national strategy, planning and investment policies, including CAADP investment frameworks;</b>	This request will be addressed in a programme of work that includes support to Ministry of Agriculture agri-business units. In addition, FAO (AGS) is engaged in diverse, innovative financing initiatives (3ADI) to secure funds for investment plans. FAO has initiated a set of actions which aim at providing guidelines and policy options to promote inclusiveness as well as private sector-led agribusiness development and to facilitate PPPs. A kind of platform will be put in place to better support the countries in the region regarding the promotion of Inclusive business models.
<b>27d. Requested FAO to provide more detailed, analytical and disaggregated information on Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) in order to understand what works in Africa, who participates and what are the benefits and the impacts of PPPs on small-scale producers, especially women and youth.</b>	Presently undertaking a study of PPP regulatory frameworks supporting agri-business development in SSA; builds on global PPP study (AGS and RAF); Advocacy, engagement and partnership in diverse fora related to PPPs in SSA (2012 and 2013 African Green Revolution Forum). .
<b>27g. Advised governments to pay special attention to actions required to protect the interests of small producers and processors, especially women and youth.</b>	To strengthen business relationships and transactions between small producers and processors on the one hand and commercial agro-enterprises on the other, FAO has pilot tested an inclusive business model (IBM) approach in seven countries across Africa to improve business relationships between groups of smallholders and their direct buyers. FAO is also assisting the African Union's youth development efforts by supporting components of the African Youth Charter for the promotion of decent rural employment. This strategy is being translated into practice in at least seven African countries through provision of policy and technical support on youth employment and entrepreneurship

<b>VII. Regional and Global Policy and Regulatory Issues: Multi-stakeholder dialogue on the Global Strategic Framework for Food Security and Nutrition</b>	
<b>RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>
<b>30. Endorsed the recommendation of the 37th session of CFS to develop a Global Strategic Framework for Food Security and Nutrition (GSF) through a multi-stakeholder preparation process.</b>	<p>Countries of Central, Eastern and Southern Africa are supported to develop a Nutrition Countries Papers considered as part of Mapping of food and nutrition Security intervention. The Nutrition Country Papers are prepared through Capacity Building workshops on mainstreaming nutrition in CAAPD investment plans organized in November 2011 for West Africa and 2013 for Central, Eastern and Southern Africa and ICN2 preparation as well.</p> <p>ARC/14/4 CFS: 2013/40</p>
<b>31. Recommended that regional perspectives and frameworks are fully reflected in future drafts of the GSF and urged regional organizations and stakeholders to provide inputs toward this aim while also giving a voice at national and local level</b>	<p>The Committee adopted a first version of the Global Strategic Framework for Food Security and Nutrition with CAADP as Africa Regional perspective at its 39th Session in 2012. During its 40<sup>th</sup> Session in 2013, it endorsed the Second Version of the GSF (2013) that includes the policy recommendations for Social Protection for Food Security and Nutrition, and Food Security and Climate Change; the Committee encouraged all stakeholders to promote and make use of the Second Version of the GSF (2013) acknowledging its voluntary nature. Delegates from most African countries participated and contributed to the two (39<sup>th</sup> &amp; 40<sup>th</sup>) sessions of the CFS.</p> <p>ARC/14/4</p>
<b>34. Requested FAO to work with appropriate stakeholders to facilitate the development and capacity of food security and nutrition mapping systems</b>	<p>Capacity building of 20 stakeholders from Niger, Angola, Ethiopia and Malawi are strengthened on Diet Diversity score methodology and Food Insecurity Experience scale (FIES) approach.</p> <p>A sub regional food security and nutrition information system is established for the Mano River Union. Capacities of national stakeholders from Member Countries (Cote d'Ivoire, Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone) strengthened to generate and disseminate information in different formats.</p>