Regional Initiatives for Food Security and Nutrition

Discussions in the APRC

Republic of Korea
36th Session of CFS
October 12, 2010
1. The 30th APRC
2. State of Food and Agriculture in the Region
3. Experiences and Lessons from Food and Financial Crisis
4. Regional priority for 2010-11 and 2012-13
5. Other Recommendations
6. CFS Reform
7. Side Event on CFS
The 30th APRC

- 27 Sep. – 1 Oct., Gyeongju, ROK
- 351 participants from 28 member countries, 5 observers, 14 NGOs
- Side events
  - Enhancing National and Regional Governance of Food Security and Nutrition: Capitalizing on CFS Reform
  - Responsible agricultural investment
- CSO consultation (27-28, Sep.)
  - 70 representatives from small food producers and CSOs
  - Discussed issues affecting global food security
State of Food and Agriculture in the Region

- The largest number of undernourished people in the world – about 63 percent

- Challenges to attain food security
  - stagnation of crop productivity
  - impact of climate change
  - high and unstable food prices
  - natural disasters
The region coped with the 2007-2008 food security crisis without suffering serious consequences.

Some countries responded to the sharp increases in food prices with:
- bans on the export of food commodities, price stabilization, strengthening of social safety nets

Participants recognized the need for greater investment in the entire food chain.
Encouraged member countries to

- strengthen social safety net
- enhance the effectiveness of regional food banks or food security reserves
- enhance the accuracy, timeliness and transparency of production statistics and information on stockpiles

Recommended FAO to

- conduct analytical studies and policy dialogue to develop policy options for more stable global trading system (suggested high level discussion in the CFS)
- continue close collaboration with ASEAN, SAARC, PIF and other sub-regional organizations
Regional priority for 2010-11 and 2012-13

- Areas of regional priority for FAO work
  I. Strengthening food and nutritional security
  II. Fostering agricultural production and rural development
  III. Enhancing productive and sustainable natural resource management
  IV. Improving capacity to prepare and respond to food and agricultural threats and emergencies
  V. Coping with the impacts of climate change

- Emphasized the need for identifying detailed priorities
Other Recommendations

- Need for adequate financial resources to be provided to the Asia-Pacific region
- Need for due consideration to the Pacific and small island nations, particularly with respect to high vulnerability to climate change
- Encouraged additional support to priority programmes through extra-budgetary contributions
- Encouraged regional office to collaborate closely with other development partners and regional organizations
CFS Reform

- Considered as a critical process for coherence and consistency to ensure food security
- Appreciated increased inclusiveness in the CFS
- Encouraged effective involvement from civil society as well as industry
- Welcomed efforts to establish closer linkages between CFS and the Regional Conference
  - Preferred using the existing food security fora in the region
Side Event on CFS

- “Enhancing National and Regional Governance of Food Security and Nutrition: Capitalizing on CFS Reform”

- Primary consideration was the multisectoral and multistakeholder nature of food security & nutrition
  - shared best practices and lessons learned in promoting multi-stakeholder participation at national and regional level
• Lessons learned in tackling food insecurity
  – the commitment by national governments as a pre-condition to successful regional efforts
  – the need for a clear demarcation of responsibilities among all stakeholders
  – the need to mainstream the nutritional component of food security

• Identified the need for improved regional coordination and sharing a common framework

• Encouraged existing regional bodies and initiatives to involve other intergovernmental organizations, CSOs, private sector, research institutions