



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
Agricultura
y la
Alimentación

World Summit on Food Security

Rome, 16–18 November 2009

Arrangements for the World Summit on Food Security

I. Introduction

1. In his statement to the Thirty-fifth (Special) Session of the FAO Conference (Rome, 18 to 22 November 2008), the Director-General proposed the convening of a World Summit of Heads of State and Government on Food Security in 2009, with the aim of reaching a broad consensus for the rapid and total eradication of hunger from the planet.
2. The Council at its one Hundred and Thirty-sixth Session (15-19 June 2009) was further informed of the reasons for organizing the proposed Summit and its intended objectives. It agreed to the proposal to hold a World Summit on Food Security in November 2009, in close proximity to the FAO Conference, in view of, *inter alia*, the increasing number of hungry, the need to keep the challenge of food insecurity on top of the international agenda and that the role of FAO was fully recognized. The Council also determined that decisions on necessary arrangements for the Summit, including its objectives and outcomes, should be made through an Open-Ended Working Group of the Membership.

II. Organizational Arrangements

3. The World Summit on Food Security will be held on 16, 17 and 18 November 2009, at FAO headquarters in Rome, back-to-back with the Thirty-sixth Session of the FAO Conference.
4. The Summit is convened and organized by FAO, with full involvement of the UN Rome-based food agencies. Financial support for the Summit has been received from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
5. In addition to plenary meetings of Heads of State and Government, special events will precede the Summit: (i) NGOs, CSOs and Farmers' Organizations Forum (organized by FAO and the City of Rome in collaboration with IFAD and WFP, in Rome on 14, 15 and 16 November 2009); (ii) Private Sector Forum (organized by the City of Milan and FAO, in Milan on 12 and 13 November 2009); and (iii) Parliamentary Meeting of national parliaments (organized by the

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Italian Parliament and the Inter-Parliamentarian Union (IPU) with the support of FAO, in Rome on 13 November 2009).

6. Thematic Roundtables will be held during the Summit as parallel events. The themes of these roundtables, to be finalized through the Open-Ended Working Group, will be indicated in the provisional timetable of the Summit.

III. Provisional agenda and timetable

7. The Provisional Agenda and Provisional Timetable of the World Summit on Food Security are set out in documents WSFS 2009/1 and WSFS 2009/INF/1, which can be downloaded from the Summit website at <http://www.fao.org/wsfs/>.

IV. Participation

8. The Organization has invited to the Summit Heads of State and Government of FAO Member Nations as well as the Executive Heads of the United Nations and its Specialized Agencies and of Regional Organizations.

9. All Members of FAO and non-Member Nations that are Member States of the United Nations or of its Specialized Agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency have been invited. A total of 194 countries, one FAO Member Organization (the European Community) and one FAO Associate Member (Faroe Islands) have thus been invited.

10. Each participating country, Member Organization and Associate Member shall be represented by a Head of Delegation and such other representatives, alternate representatives and advisers as may be required. The Head of Delegation may designate an alternate representative or adviser to act as a representative. Country delegations can be as large as needed but seating in the Plenary Hall is limited to three places per country. The rest of the delegation could, however, follow the proceedings in an overflow room (Red or Green Rooms).

V. Observers

11. Intergovernmental organizations outside the United Nations system that have formal relations with FAO and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with FAO have also been invited to participate in an observer capacity.

12. In addition, pursuant to the General Rules of FAO concerning attendance by the general public to plenary meetings, other international non-governmental and civil society organizations (INGOs/ICSOs) may request to be accredited, provided that they are representatives of major FAO constituencies, in particular food producers and consumers, or have knowledge and experience in areas related to food security.

13. INGOs/ICSOs applying for accreditation will need to be well-established organizations, with an international scope of work. They will need to be prepared to provide a copy of the legal documents establishing the organization and any other information considered appropriate.

14. National NGOs/CSOs (non-profit and private sector) could attend the Summit, either as part of an INGO/ICSO, or as part of the respective official government delegation.

VI. Statements

15. Due to the limited availability of speaking time, statements will be limited to five minutes for Heads of delegation and four minutes in the case of representatives of UN system agencies and intergovernmental organizations. When a representative or observer has spoken for his/her allotted time, the Chairperson may call him/her to order. The Request for Speaking Time form for

heads of country delegations can be downloaded from the password-protected FAO Permanent Representatives Web site at: <http://permreps.fao.org/> .

16. INGOs and ICSOs invited to the Summit may designate representatives to sit as observers. The Chairperson shall invite such organizations to form themselves into a limited number of constituencies. Upon invitation by the Chairperson, such constituencies may, through spokespersons, make oral statements of up to four minutes.

17. The above arrangements will not preclude the distribution of more extensive texts by the speakers. In order to ensure a faithful and comprehensive interpretation of their statements in the other languages, participants are invited to send a copy by e-mail to the Summit Secretariat at: WSFS2009-Secretariat@fao.org in one of the languages of the Summit, for distribution to interpreters prior to the sessions.

VII. Officers of the Summit

18. The World Summit on Food Security will elect a Chairperson and seven Vice-Chairpersons. It will also elect two Co-Chairpersons for each Roundtable.

19. It is not envisaged that the Summit should have a Credentials Committee. In accordance with established long-standing practice of FAO, any relevant issue would be addressed by reference to the position of the General Assembly of the United Nations on the matter, and taking into account the work already undertaken by the Credentials Committee of the Thirty-sixth Session of the FAO Conference, nominated by the Council of FAO at its Hundred and Thirty-seventh Session.

VIII. Applicable rules of procedure

20. The World Summit on Food Security will be governed by the General Rules of FAO.

IX. Documents of the Summit

21. The documents of the World Summit on Food Security will be posted, as they become available, at <http://www.fao.org/wsfs>. A limited quantity of printed documents will also be made available during the Summit at the Documents Desk in the Korean Conference Service Centre, located on the first floor of Building A (at the entrance of the Red and Green Rooms).

X. Languages of the Summit

22. Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish shall be the languages of the World Summit on Food Security.