TWENTY-NINTH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Caracas, Venezuela, 24 to 28 April 2006

PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA

Technical Committee
24 to 25 April 2006

I. Introductory Items

1. Opening of the Technical Committee Meeting
2. Election of the Technical Committee Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson and Appointment of the Rapporteur
3. Adoption of the Technical Committee Agenda and Timetable

II. Technical Items

4. Territorial policies for the economic and social development of rural areas
   The document reviews experiences in territorial and coordination policies in Latin America among diverse actors operating in a specific region, as the basis for policy design for regional and territorial development, with a focus on the generation of socio-economic value and the strengthened organization and management of rural and urban areas.

   In particular, the document reviews the experiences and lessons of the Regional Development Project being developed by the Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean in different regions of Brazil, Chile and Mexico. Additionally, it covers specific experiences at country level, including the people’s participation law in Bolivia and the national programme for sustainable rural development in Brazil. It examines the European LEADER initiative and strategies adopted by multilateral agencies such as the World Bank and the International Development Bank.
These experiences serve to identify rural development policies and instruments and to determine proposals to incorporate a rural territorial development approach into national policies.

5. **Food safety and animal and plant health: trends and challenges for Latin America and the Caribbean**

The document studies the implications of free trade agreements on food safety and quality standards and additional sanitary requirements, and evaluates their impact on the export of agricultural commodities of the Latin American countries, with special attention to small producers.

It looks in particular at the importance of private-sector food safety and quality standards and their implications for the access of small producers to Latin American and export markets.

The document analyses experiences in different countries of this and other regions in order to propose development and technical assistance policies and instruments to counteract the effects of these standards on the small producer sector.

6. **Trends and challenges in agriculture, forestry, fisheries and food security in Latin America and the Caribbean**

This document analyses recent trends in agriculture, rural development and food security in Latin America and the Caribbean. It also reviews the main challenges anticipated for agriculture in the region.

The analysis explains developments in five main areas: i) international entry; ii) macro-economic framework; iii) food security; iv) sectoral agricultural development and; v) international trade in agricultural commodities.

7. **Consultation meetings and group discussions among delegations**

In follow-up to a request made at the 25th Regional Conference, this item offers delegations the opportunity to hold multilateral, regional or subregional meetings to discuss topical issues of common interest.

### III. Conclusions

8. **Adoption of the Technical Committee Report**

9. **Closure of the Technical Committee Meeting**
Plenary Session
26 to 28 April 2004

I. Introductory Items

1. Opening Ceremony
2. Election of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons and Appointment of the Rapporteur
3. Adoption of the Agenda and Timetable

II. Statements

4. Statement of the Director General
5. Matters arising from the 33rd Session of the FAO Conference
   FAO Reform. Part I: The Director-General's revised proposals. Part II: A vision for the twenty-first century
   This item will cover the reform proposal and implications for the Latin America and Caribbean region, based on the deliberations of the 33rd Session of the Conference held in Rome, Italy, from 19 to 26 November 2005, on how the Organization can face the new challenges of the 21st century.
6. Report on FAO activities (2004-2005) with a focus on the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and action taken on the recommendations of the 28th FAO Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean
   Particulars on the Special Forum on Follow-up to the World Food Summit Plan of Action – Committee on World Food Security 2006
   This item will look at the work of FAO in the region, with a focus on the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. It will analyse the evolution of priorities for agricultural and rural development and will discuss the orientation of FAO’s activities in Latin America and the Caribbean. It will address the main problems facing the region and will explain the principal measures taken in application of the recommendations of the 28th FAO Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean.
7. Strengthening regional capacity for the prevention and control of Avian Influenza in Latin America and the Caribbean
   In the past, the countries of Latin America have been affected by outbreaks of strains of the Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) virus which they have successfully controlled and eliminated. The region is not currently affected by the H5NI strain that caused a severe epidemic in late 2003 in the Asian countries. This document describes FAO’s activities in Latin America and the Caribbean to strengthen regional cooperation to prevent the introduction and spread of this transboundary animal disease.
8. Reports of the regional commissions: Western Central Atlantic Fisheries Commission (WECAFC); Commission for Inland Fisheries of Latin America (COPESCAL); Latin American and Caribbean Forestry Commission (LACFC)

This item looks at the reports of the regional commissions. The 29th Conference of FAO (Rome, November 1997) urged regional bodies established under Article VI of the FAO Constitution to seek additional extrabudgetary funding and recommended a series of measures to streamline their work and increase their efficiency. To facilitate examination of this item, documents LARC/06/INF/8, LARC/06/INF/9 and LARC/06/INF/10 provide a synthesis of the background information, main achievements and recommendations of the last meeting of the respective commissions. The Regional Conference is invited to examine the proposed measures together with other measures that Member Nations might put forward to strengthen the role of these regional commissions.


In the presence of Ministers of Agriculture and technical experts from the Latin American and Caribbean region and subregional, regional and multilateral organizations, these round table meetings will provide an opportunity to discuss the problems and perspectives of a regional agricultural common market and the institutional challenges in the region.

III. Conclusions

11. Date, place and agenda items of the 30th Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean

The Memorandum of Responsibilities will be forwarded to Member Nations interested in hosting the Conference.

12. Other matters

13. Adoption of the Report (including the Technical Committee Report)

14. Closure of the Regional Conference