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para la
Agricultura
y la
Alimentación

29th FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

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PARTICULARS ON THE SPECIAL FORUM ON FOLLOW-UP TO THE WORLD FOOD SUMMIT PLAN OF ACTION - COMMITTEE ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY 2006

BACKGROUND

1. Objective 7.3 of the World Food Summit Plan of Action (WFS PoA) specifies the actions that need to be taken to monitor actively the implementation of the World Food Summit Plan of Action. It calls on “governments, in partnership with all actors of civil society, in coordination with relevant international institutions and, in conformity with ECOSOC Resolution 1996/36 on the follow-up to the major international UN conferences and summits, as appropriate,” to, *inter alia*,
2. “(h) By 2006, undertake, in the CFS and within available resources, a major broad-based progress assessment of the implementation of the World Food Summit Plan of Action and a mid-term review of achieving the target of reducing the number of undernourished people to half their present level no later than 2015. This progress assessment and review should be in the context of a special forum of a regular session of the CFS and involve active participation from governments, relevant international organizations and actors of civil society.”

CONTEXT

3. At the Thirtieth and Thirty-first Sessions of CFS, held respectively in September 2004 and May 2005, Member States discussed the modalities for the holding of the Special Forum foreseen in the WFS PoA. During the Thirtieth Session, the CFS reaffirmed the decision to convene a Special Forum in 2006 in order to undertake a major broad-based progress assessment and to undertake during the Thirty-first Session a multi-stakeholder dialogue on the Agenda item dealing with the preparatory process of the Special Forum.

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4. Subsequently, the CFS, at its Thirty-first Session (May 2005) organized a multi-stakeholder dialogue, the outcome of which was summarised by the Chairperson¹. At this special segment, representatives of 25 Non-Governmental and Civil Society Organizations had the opportunity to speak on equal footing with Governments during the discussions.

5. The Committee recommended the broadest possible participation of stakeholders in the preparations for and conduct of the Special Forum. It emphasized the importance of the participation of all relevant groups, including NGOs, CSOs and private sector associations.

DOCUMENTATION FOR THE SPECIAL FORUM

6. The participants in the multi-stakeholder dialogue noted that the FAO Secretariat will prepare an analytical document for consideration by the Special Forum in 2006. The document will review the global and regional situations regarding under-nourishment and identify the underlying causes. Case studies and successful examples of addressing hunger will be highlighted. In the second part of the document the FAO Secretariat will identify considerations affecting and proposals regarding possible ways forward to 2015.

7. The participants in the Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue suggested that the FAO Secretariat, in preparing background documentation for the mid term review of progress and issues for consideration by the Special Forum in September 2006, should take into consideration *inter alia* the following important events and themes:

Events

- The outcome of the High-Level Segment of ECOSOC in July 2005;
- the outcome of the High-Level Plenary of the UN General Assembly on the Millennium Declaration including an examination of the MDGs in September 2005;
- developments in the Convention on Biological Diversity;
- the WTO Ministerial Conference as part of the Doha Round in December 2005;
- the outcome of the meeting of the Governing Body of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture in Spain during 2006;
- reports of the Member States on follow up to the World Food Summit;
- the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines to the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security; and
- the International Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development in 2006.

Themes

- Access to productive natural resources and genetic resources;
- national budgets devoted to support agricultural production and the development of local markets;
- official development assistance;
- FAO's adaptation of its programmes to the MDGs, as presented in the paper and Special Event at this session of CFS; and
- issues regarding nutrition, such as home economics, education and HIV/AIDS.

Other Stakeholders

8. The CFS Secretariat will invite relevant international agencies and organizations to participate in the Special Forum with a view to highlighting the impact and relevance of the work of their agencies on the World Food Summit goal and objectives

¹ See Appendix E (Outcome of the Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue at the 31st Session of CFS Regarding the Modalities for the Special Forum in 2006) attached to the Report of the 31th Session of the Committee on World Food Security (Rome, 23-26 May 2005) downloadable at: <http://www.fao.org/DOCREP/MEETING/009/J5568e.HTM>.