



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
Alimentación y la Agricultura

منظمة
الأغذية والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة

COUNCIL

Hundred and Fifty-second Session

Rome, 15 June 2015

Developments in *Fora* of Importance for the Mandate of FAO

Executive Summary

In keeping with established practice, the Council is informed of developments in other fora of importance for FAO's mandate. Presentations will be made on the following topics at the 152nd Session of Council:

- 1) Outcome of the 13th Meeting of the Consultative Group of International Agricultural Research Centres (CGIAR) Fund Council (Bogor, Indonesia, 28-30 April 2015)
- 2) FAO's role in Pesticide Risk Reduction in International Fora
- 3) Outcome of the 7th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent (PIC) Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade (COP-7) (Geneva, 4-15 May 2015)
- 4) The 11th Session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) (New York, 4-15 May 2015)

Suggested action by the Council

The above topics are presented to the 152nd Session of the Council for information only.



I. Outcome of the 13th Meeting of the Consultative Group of International Agricultural Research Centres (CGIAR) Fund Council (Bogor, Indonesia, 28-30 April 2015)

1. The 13th Meeting of the CGIAR Fund Council was held in Bogor, Indonesia, from 28 to 30 April 2015. The CGIAR Fund Council is a representative body of Fund donors and other stakeholders, that governs the CGIAR Fund – a multi-donor trust fund that finances CGIAR research guided by the Strategy and Results Framework – of which FAO is a member. Following the mid-term review in 2014, emanating from the outcome of the 2008-2009 CGIAR system review, the 13th Meeting of the Fund Council agreed to:

- i) further reform the governance structure and establish a unified governance model, comprising a CGIAR System Council and a CGIAR System Office. The Council would comprise FAO, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the World Bank and the Global Forum for Agricultural Research (GFAR), attending Council meetings as active observers with the right to participate in discussions and propose agenda items. Transition arrangements have been initiated with a view to have the new governance structure in place in 2016. The decision for further reform will undoubtedly have profound implications for the global agricultural research for development, as well as for the CGIAR system and its partners. The proposed changes in the governance structure recognize the continued importance of the partnership between the CGIAR System and FAO, IFAD and the World Bank, and they would provide it with an essential context within the multilateral system and position it in the broader development context;
- ii) continue with the arrangement whereby FAO hosts two CGIAR system offices: the Independent Science and Partnership Council, responsible for providing scientific advice on CGIAR research strategy and priority setting; and the Independent Evaluation Arrangement. Maintaining this arrangement would reinforce the independence of these two offices and facilitate close cooperation with the Rome-based agencies' staff by supporting planning, evaluation and impact assessments;
- iii) submit to a CGIAR Funders' Forum a new CGIAR Strategy and Results Framework for 2016-2030 to set targets in respect of three System Level Outcomes: reduced poverty, improved food and nutrition security for health, and improved natural resource systems and ecosystem services. These targets would be in line with FAO's Strategic Objectives and with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to be adopted in 2015, as well as the United Nations Zero Hunger Challenge. The new Framework would also support the second call for CGIAR Research Programmes for the period 2016-2030; and
- iv) approve the CGIAR Fund financing through the Global Crop Diversity Trust for 2017-2021 to cover the core operations of the CGIAR genebanks which would not be fully covered during that period.

II. FAO's role in Pesticide Risk Reduction in International Fora

2. FAO has been invited to lead the process of developing a proposal for action on Highly Hazardous Pesticides (HHPs), which will be presented to the 4th International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM4) in Geneva from 28 September to 2 October 2015, and which is the decision-making forum of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM).

3. The 131st Session of FAO Council (November 2006)¹ agreed on the importance of the SAICM in assisting countries to meet the goals of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in 2002 and on its contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), recognizing the importance for FAO to incorporate SAICM into its programmes, in line with its mandate and existing resources. The Council further recommended that these FAO activities comprise risk reduction, including the progressive ban on Highly Hazardous Pesticides (HHPs); the promotion of good agricultural practices, ensuring environmentally-sound disposal of stock-piles of

¹ CL 131/REP, paragraphs 79-86

obsolete pesticides; and capacity-building in establishing national and regional laboratories. Further to these recommendations, FAO's work has led to the definition of criteria for HHPs, the inclusion of HHPs in the revised International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management, endorsed by the 38th Session of the FAO Conference (June 2013), and the preparation of a technical guideline on HHPs through the Joint FAO/WHO Meeting on Pesticide Management (JMPPM).

4. SAICM has furthermore called for increased action on HHPs, including the possible establishment of a Global Alliance on HHPs, to accelerate and coordinate action in this area, and FAO, WHO and UNEP have been invited to facilitate the preparation of a proposal on how to best address HHPs to be submitted to ICCM4 for consideration.

5. FAO is considered to be the lead organization on matters related to pesticide management in the SAICM process, as well as among the UN organizations participating in the Inter-Organizational Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC).

III. Outcome of the 7th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent (PIC) Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade (COP-7) (Geneva, 4-15 May 2015)

6. The 7th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent (PIC) Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade (COP-7) was convened back-to-back with the respective COPs of the Basel and Stockholm Conventions in Geneva from 4 to 15 May 2015.

7. Parties to the Rotterdam Convention agreed on the inclusion of an insecticide (methamidophos) in Annex III of the Convention, making its international trade subject to the PIC procedure, while decisions concerning an additional pesticide (trichlorfon), two severely hazardous pesticide formulations (paraquat and fenthion), and one industrial chemical (chrysotile asbestos) were deferred and will be considered at the next Conference of the Parties in 2017. Parties also agreed to convene the meetings of the Chemical Review Committee and the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee in 2016 and 2017 at FAO headquarters in Rome, and encouraged FAO to continue to provide direct support to the Secretariat of the Rotterdam Convention.

IV. The 11th Session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) (New York, 4-15 May 2015)

8. The 11th Session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) met from 4 to 15 May 2015 in New York with the objective of reviewing progress over the last 15 years and defining the future of the International Arrangement on Forests (IAF). The Forum included a high-level segment which adopted the Ministerial Declaration on "The International Arrangement on Forests We Want Beyond 2015", wherein Ministers responsible for forests committed inter alia to: implement sustainable forest management and integrate it into poverty reduction strategies and national sustainable development strategies; a stronger and more effective post-2015 arrangement on forests; and to support the work of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) as a strategy for improving coherence and synergy on forest issues at all levels.

9. The Forum also adopted the Draft Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Resolution "International Arrangement on Forests beyond 2015", whereby Members agreed to extend the mandate of the IAF to 2030 and to strengthen it through various measures, including: the re-establishment of annual UNFF sessions with an alternating focus on policy development and discussion on implementation and technical advice; development of a Strategic Plan for the period 2017-2030; extension of the timeline of the global objectives on forests to 2030; and strengthening of the facilitation process, to be renamed the "Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network".

10. Of particular relevance for FAO was the agreement to expand the core functions of the CPF to include the implementation of non-legally binding instruments on all types of forests and the contribution of forests to the Post-2015 Development Agenda. Members further encouraged the CPF to strengthen the partnership by formalizing its working modalities; assessing its membership and the potential value-added of additional members and other stakeholders; developing a work plan aligned with the UNFF strategic plan; and further developing and expanding its thematic joint activities.

11. The Draft ECOSOC Resolution also invited CPF members to identify funding in support of CPF activities, in line with their respective mandates. With regard to FAO, the draft resolution recognizes FAO's leadership role in the CPF and recommends that it continue to strengthen the partnership in collaboration with other members.