

166th Session of the Council
Written Correspondence Procedure – inputs from Members - English version
Item 15 - FAO Awards

Member Name	Comments
<p style="text-align: center;">Dominican Republic – Member (Wed 14/04/2021 16:00)</p>	<p>The Dominican Republic recognizes and supports the fundamental role played by FAO Awards, given the importance they have garnered over time as an instrument for raising the profile of the Organization’s work, as an incentive to improve the quality of rural projects, and as a way to enhance FAO’s global prestige.</p> <p>As the Dominican Republic has been a recipient of an FAO Award, we are well aware of the impact that this type of incentive has on our rural communities and their development.</p> <p>We endorse the entire process and the structural proposal prepared by Management for the new set of FAO Awards, noting that they retain the institutional relevance and strategic importance of the previous ones.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Australia – Member (Wed 14/04/2021 17:09)</p>	<p>Australia respectfully provides the following comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We consider that FAO Awards are useful in giving visibility to FAO’s work and promoting excellence in the field, and we support the concept of the awards in general. • We have previously expressed concern that the projected biennial costs of the existing awards program do not reflect sustainable levels of expenditure from the Regular Programme Budget. • We have also previously expressed concern that, with the application of term-limits for Directors-General, there would likely be an increase over time in the number of awards, further questioning their sustainability. • Noting the above points, Australia welcomes the proposal to introduce a new set of systemic and sustainable institutional awards. • Australia also has no concerns with maintaining awards which have no financial implication on the Organisation (e.g. such as those that are funded in full by a Member). • From a principles base, Australia emphasises: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the importance of the allocated budget of the awards remaining stable and not resulting in an ongoing financial burden on the Organisation; and ○ the need to ensure that the total number of awards do not dilute the overall significance of the awards program.
<p style="text-align: center;">Japan – Members (Thu 15/04/2021 14:32)</p>	<p>Japan welcomes new proposals by FAO Management for the establishment of new awards.</p> <p>Nevertheless, it is necessary to ensure transparent and sound criteria for selecting award winners. Japan requests a clear explanation of their selection criteria for member states once it has been developed by the Secretariat.</p>