

171st Session of the Council

Written Correspondence Procedure – inputs from Members - English version

Item 13 – Arrangements for the 172nd Session of the Council (24-28 April 2023) and the 43rd Session of the Conference (1-7 July 2023)

| Member Name | Comments |
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| Chile (Monday, 14 November 2022 – 17.16) | Regarding the proposal of the FAO Director-General to invite Palestine as an Observer to the next FAO Conference to be held in July 2023, Chile expresses its support for the proposal as this is standard practice for the Organization. |
| Japan (Wednesday, 16 November 2022 – 16.09) | Japan welcomes that FAO provides the information on the <i>Arrangements for the 172nd Session of the Council and 43rd Session of the Conference</i> . In recognition that management of water resources is one of the most important themes, we support the consideration of the topic for the General Debate at the 43rd Session of the Conference and the biennial theme for 2024-25 as “Water resources management for the four betters: better production, better nutrition, better environment and better life”. |
| European Union (Friday, 18 November 2022 – 11.06) | <p>Chairperson,</p> <p>I am honoured to write to you on behalf of the European Union and its 27 Member States regarding the above-mentioned agenda item for the 171st Session of the FAO Council.</p> <p>We welcome the proposal to have “water resources management” as the topic for the General Debate at the 43rd Session of the Conference. Indeed, addressing water-related challenges is at the heart of the 2030 Agenda and concerns directly or indirectly a whole range of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).</p> <p>The sustainable, integrated and efficient management of water resources is critical in the context of climate change and the transformation of food systems. It also has a fundamental role to play in addressing the increasing problem of severe drought episodes. Moreover, sustainable integrated water resources management, based on an inclusive, territorial and systemic vision of rural development, can make a significant contribution to fighting global poverty.</p> <p>It is critically important to ensure that FAO’s work on water resources management is duly aligned with ongoing UN initiatives in this area and that FAO works in close cooperation with other UN agencies and international <i>fora</i> dealing with water-related issues.</p> |

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| | With these observations, we support “water resources management” both as the topic for the General Debate at the 43rd FAO Conference and as the theme for the 2024-2025 biennium. |
| United States of America (Wednesday, 23 November 2022 – 14.18) | The United States would appreciate confirmation that the secret ballot vote will be conducted only in an in-person modality, similar to the ICC election held at Conference 42. |