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Organización  
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para la  
Agricultura  
y la  
Alimentación

# COUNCIL

## Hundred and Thirty-third Session

Rome, 14-16 November 2007

### IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECISIONS TAKEN AT THE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-SECOND SESSION OF THE COUNCIL

1. The Approved Methods of Work of the Council require that an information document be prepared for each Council session reporting on the implementation of the decisions taken at the preceding session (CL 60/REP, Appendix G, paragraph 7.8).
2. Listed hereunder are the decisions taken by the Hundred and Thirty-second Session of the Council and their implementation up to the date of going to press.
3. The text in the decision column includes the Agenda Item title underlined, the text of the Council decisions and a reference in brackets to the paragraph in the Council Report.

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**DECISION****IMPLEMENTATION****HUNDRED AND THIRTY-SECOND  
SESSION OF THE COUNCIL  
(Rome, 18-22 June 2007)****ACTIVITIES OF FAO AND WFP****REPORT OF THE TWENTY-SEVENTH  
SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON  
FISHERIES (ROME, 5-9 MARCH 2007)**

Continue, as the only global fisheries body, to promote the implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, its related International Plans of Action and the Strategy for Improving Information on Status and Trends in Capture Fisheries, and strengthen the role of Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (para. 7)

Increase technical and financial assistance to developing states, in particular as regard their efforts to meet requirements for international market access (para. 10)

**REPORT OF THE EIGHTEENTH  
SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON  
FORESTRY (ROME, 13-16 MARCH 2007)**

Continue leadership role in the Collaborative Partnership on Forests and strengthen activities in the area of monitoring, assessment and reporting on forests at the national, regional and international levels (para. 14)

Enhance cooperation with the United Nations Forum on Forests to achieve the purposes of the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests (para. 14)

Facilitation of the implementation of the Code and its International Plans of Action is an on-going priority activity of the Fisheries Department, embracing most normative and field work. Work towards this end will be continued.

The Fisheries Department has an important ongoing programme of work in developing countries, including trade issues, and will continue these activities. Extra-budgetary funds are also being sought to support and strengthen this work.

The Assistant Director-General, Forestry Department continues to serve as the Chair of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF). FAO has proposed, and other CPF members have agreed, to use the FAO Global Forest Resources Assessments (FRA) as the framework for monitoring, assessing and reporting on forests. Additional monitoring parameters on policies, institutions and environmental indicators will also be included in FRA 2010.

The next cycle of Regional Forestry Commissions in 2008 and the Nineteenth Session of the Committee on Forestry (COFO) in 2009 will provide an opportunity for countries to consider actions designed to achieve the goals included in the non-legally binding instrument for all types of forests. FAO is fully committed to supporting country and regional initiatives in this regard.

**DECISION**

Continue efforts to strengthen the Regional Forestry Commissions, stressing the importance of an effective regional link between global forest policies and COFO, and implementation on the ground (para. 15)

Assist interested Member Nations to develop comprehensive strategies for bioenergy (para. 16)

Prepare an analytical report on the social, economic and environmental impacts of changes in the use of wood for energy generation (para. 16)

Continue to accord high priority to forests and climate change, and assist Member Nations in developing more effective strategies for adaptation (para. 17)

Continue to work with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change on the potential benefits of reduced deforestation in reducing carbon emissions (para. 17)

**IMPLEMENTATION**

In the spring and summer of 2007, the Executive Committees of all six Regional Forestry Commissions met to plan their work programmes for the medium-term, and to set the respective agendas for the next cycle of Commission meetings in 2008. All six Commissions will focus on strengthening regional links between global policies and actions on the ground. In addition, the COFO Steering Committee, which comprises the chairs of all six Commissions, will meet in the summer of 2008 to ensure that Nineteenth Session of COFO in March 2009 continues to emphasize linkages between global policies and actions at the regional and national levels.

FAO is preparing a concept note for the development of national bioenergy strategies. The Director-General has also invited Ministers to discuss these issues at a Special Event on Forests and Energy during the FAO Conference in November 2007.

Two analytical reports on this issue will be published by FAO in the autumn of 2007 to address impacts on both OECD and G-77 countries. These reports will be available for consideration by Members prior to the Special Event on Forests and Energy in November 2007.

FAO is developing a capacity-building programme to assist in better responding to the potential opportunities under the proposed instrument on reducing emissions from deforestation. The Forestry Department is also leading regional studies of forestry adaptation strategies in Africa and Latin America. Moreover, Decentralized Forestry Officers participated in a workshop in September 2007 on strategies to assist developing countries in implementing more effective forestry programmes and in accessing funding sources to reduce deforestation and afforestation, as well as on promoting reforestation measures in mitigating climate change.

FAO hosted the UNFCCC Workshop on Adaptation Planning and Strategies in September 2007 that dealt with adaptation in the forest and other sectors within its mandate.

**DECISION****IMPLEMENTATION**

Continue efforts in assisting developing countries to implement sustainable forest management by addressing the social, economic and environmental dimensions of forests and trees outside forests (para. 18)

FAO continues to provide input to intergovernmental deliberations on a UNFCCC instrument to reduce deforestation emissions (including through a Side Event at the UNFCCC Scientific Body for Scientific and Technological Advice in May 2007 and planned events at the UNFCCC Conference of the Parties in December 2007). FAO is also involved in recently-launched related initiatives by the Government of Australia and the World Bank.

FAO continues to support national efforts to increase countries' capacity to assess forest resources and to strengthen policies and institutions, primarily through support extended for national forest assessments and programmes. The National Forest Programme Facility hosted by FAO has currently expanded its support to 60 developing partner countries as a result of increasing donor assistance.

Continue support to countries in developing their capacities for forest information (para. 19)

FAO support to national forest assessments continues to increase, but is subject to the availability of extra-budgetary resources. The Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) programme will sponsor eight Regional Workshops and a Global Workshop for all countries in 2008 and Regional Training Workshops on Forest Policies, Laws and Institutions are planned for French-speaking and English-speaking African countries in 2008, following a successful Workshop in Latin America in 2007. National and Regional Workshops are also planned in 2008 for national correspondents for forest products information. A Forest Information Management Project in Central America, planned for late 2007, will serve as a pilot for other Sub-regions.

**REPORT OF THE SIXTY-SIXTH SESSION  
OF THE COMMITTEE ON COMMODITY  
PROBLEMS (ROME, 23-25 APRIL 2007)**

Continue to support the Doha process (para. 22)

Activity has begun and is ongoing.

**DECISION****IMPLEMENTATION**

Extend work on “Special Products” in the multilateral trade negotiations and focus on assisting developing countries to make proper use of the flexibility and policy space provided (para. 23)

Activity has begun and is ongoing.

Engage in further economic analysis on the impact of the growth of biofuels on some agricultural commodity prices (para. 25)

Action is under way.

Continue analytical work on trade and market issues (para. 27)

Action is under way.

**REPORT OF THE TWENTIETH SESSION  
OF THE COMMITTEE ON  
AGRICULTURE  
(ROME, 25-28 APRIL 2007)**

Continue work, in no particular order of priority, on diseases and pests of animals and plants (International Plant Protection Convention, Rotterdam Convention, Emergency Prevention System for Transboundary Animal and Plant Pests and Diseases (EMPRES) and crisis management), nutrition and consumer protection (Codex Alimentarius, food quality and safety), genetic resources for food and agriculture (Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, animal genetic resources), sustainable natural resources management (climate change, environmental degradation), capacity-building support to developing countries to participate more effectively in multilateral trade negotiations, agro-industries, biotechnology, extension and research, agrarian reform and rural development, gender issues, policy analysis and advice, knowledge exchange and capacity-building, and information and statistics (FAOSTAT) (para. 29)

The recommendations of COAG regarding these areas are being implemented, and the Organization will continue to give them priority. Efforts are also underway to identify extra-budgetary resources to offset some of the costs involved.

**DECISION**

Organize high-level consultations on the issue of managing livestock, assist countries, upon request, in designing and implementing policy frameworks, and build a body of guidelines, policy papers and decision-support tools in collaboration with Member Nations and other interested parties, including the private sector (para. 31)

Strengthen efforts to determine the consequence of climate change on water resources and for the agricultural sector (para. 35)

Provide an overview of the existing and ongoing activities of FAO on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development; the capacities of the Regional Offices to deal with the issue of Agrarian Reform and Rural Development; FAO technical cooperation programmes on the matter and cost estimates for possible implementation by FAO of recommendations contained in paragraph 30 of the ICARRD Declaration (para. 36)

**REPORT OF THE THIRTY-THIRD  
SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON  
WORLD FOOD SECURITY  
(ROME, 7-10 MAY 2007)**

Coordinate and lead further in-depth analytical work to assess the opportunities and risks offered by biofuels from various sources, including non-food sources, and provide technical assistance and policy advice to Members in this regard (para. 39)

**IMPLEMENTATION**

Following the publication of the “Livestock’s Long Shadow – Environmental Issues and Options” and of the publications stemming from the inter-institutional process on “Livestock in a Changing Landscape”, the Organization will organize consultations agreed with all the relevant stakeholders, including from the private sector and from relevant government units of the targeted countries, to produce the outputs envisaged.

The “Livestock in a Changing Landscape” process is underway, and major publications on status and action requirements, including on livestock as important direct and indirect water users, have been produced. The focus is shifting from crop management and improvement systems to in enhancing resilience to the effects of climate variation.

An information document will be submitted to the Thirty-fourth Session of Conference in November 2007 for consideration by the Thirty-fourth Session of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) in 2008. See document C 2007/INF/21.

The Organization is currently leading the development of the State of Food and Agriculture 2008 (SOFA) entitled: Bioenergy: Can it Fuel a Rural Renaissance? The report will examine bioenergy, especially liquid biofuels, and address the biophysical and economic potential, global and local environmental impacts, agricultural commodity price impacts and implications for poverty and hunger, and will explore policy options conducive to positive results for people and the environment.

**DECISION****IMPLEMENTATION**

Include every two years in the CFS Agenda a standing item on “Status and Lessons Learned from National and Regional Programmes for Food Security” (para. 40)

The Organization’s Interdepartmental Working Group (IDWG) on Bioenergy is actively engaged in addressing environmental concerns.

As stated in document CL 132/10 and agreed upon during the Thirty-third Session of the Committee on World Food Security, the standing item will start in 2009, and be addressed or discussed every two years, until 2015. The CFS Secretariat will work with the relevant divisions to ensure this activity is completed.

Convene the Thirty-fourth Session of CFS in October 2008 in conjunction with World Food Day (para. 42)

Preparations have begun for the Thirty-fourth Session of the Committee on World Food Security, which will include a Report on the Progress in the Implementation of the World Food Summit Plan of Action.

**WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME**

*Annual Report of the WFP Executive Board on its Activities in 2006*

Transmit amendments of the General Regulations of WFP to the Thirty-fourth Session of the FAO Conference for approval (para. 49)

See document C 2007/INF/14.

**PREPARATIONS FOR THE THIRTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE FAO CONFERENCE**

*Arrangements for the Session and Provisional Timetable*

Submit to the Conference for approval the provisional Agenda, the tentative Timetable and the arrangements outlined in the Council document CL 132/12-Rev. 1 (para. 51)

Action will be taken in due course.

*Deadline for Nominations for the Post of Independent Chairperson of the Council*

Establish a deadline for the receipt of nominations for Independent Chairperson of the Council at 12.00 hours on Friday 7 September 2007 (para. 52)

Action has been taken.

**DECISION****IMPLEMENTATION****PROGRAMME, BUDGETARY,  
FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE  
MATTERS****SUMMARY PROGRAMME OF WORK  
AND BUDGET 2008-2009**

Take action to place FAO on a more satisfactory financial footing while noting that the time period and modalities for tackling this matter require further reflection (para. 60)

This matter has been addressed in the PWB 2008-09, under Section III.C by having a more phased approach in addressing the financial health of the Organization.

Use the proposed maintenance budget in the SPWB as a basis for further development in the full PWB (para. 62)

This is addressed in the PWB 2008-09, under Sections II.D and III.B.

Undertake further analysis in the full PWB to facilitate informed decisions by the Conference (para. 63)

This is addressed in the PWB 2008-09, under Sections II and III, and related Annexes, on substantive thrusts and key financial and budgetary issues.

Provide further details in the full PWB on the requirements leading to incremental costs for capital expenditure requirements included within the maintenance budget (para. 63)

This matter is addressed in the PWB 2008-09, under Section III.B.

Provide more detailed information and justifications on efficiency gains and savings (para. 63)

This is addressed in the PWB 2008-09, under Section I.D.

Articulate better in the full PWB the programmatic content under the maintenance budget, including implementation at the field level and the recommendations of the recent sessions of the Technical Committees to the maximum extent possible (para. 65)

This question is addressed in the PWB 2008-09, under Section II and Annexes 1 and 2 on substantive thrusts, programme narratives and regional dimensions.

**REPORT OF THE NINETY-SEVENTH  
SESSION OF THE PROGRAMME  
COMMITTEE (ROME, 21-25 MAY 2007)**

Use the livelihoods approach for locust management and control (para. 74)

FAO is collaborating with WFP as regards livelihoods and vulnerability mapping work for the Yemen Summer Desert Locust Campaign. Special efforts are underway to prevent conventional pesticide-associated risks to beekeeping, which is a major livelihood strategy in the locust-affected communities.



**DECISION**

Include middle-income countries among the sample of country evaluations in the rolling evaluation plan of work (2006-09) as a contribution to the UN System-wide evaluation (para. 75)

Undertake a process evaluation, preferably with the support of the Office of the Inspector General, to analyse the nature of the operational constraints and the risks associated with any procedural changes (para. 75)

Implement the arrangements for evaluation of extra-budgetary work, as indicated in paragraph 39 of the Programme Committee Report (para. 76)

**REPORTS OF THE HUNDRED AND SEVENTEENTH (ROME, 24 JANUARY 2007), AND HUNDRED AND EIGHTEENTH (ROME, 17-25 MAY 2007) SESSIONS OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE**

*Status of Contributions and Arrears*

Remind Member Nations who have not done so to pay their contributions in full in order to enable the Organization to continue to fulfil its mandate (para. 79)

**IMPLEMENTATION**

Honduras, a middle income country, is currently under evaluation.

This evaluation will begin in October 2007, with expected completion in the first half of 2008.

The procedures are gradually being put in place for this. Instructions for emergency projects have been issued and those for development projects are being drafted. The first stakeholder consultative meetings have taken place. Difficulties of implementation are being experienced with certain major donors.

In June 2007, the Director-General wrote to Heads of State or Government and Ministers, soliciting payment from all Member Nations with large outstanding arrears.

In June 2007, the Director, Finance Division sent electronic statements to all FAO Representatives in Countries with outstanding Regular Programme amounts, requesting their assistance in contacting Governments to solicit prompt payment of all outstanding amounts.

Quarterly Statements continue to be sent out on an ongoing basis to all Member Nations with outstanding amounts. The last such Statements were sent as at 30 June 2007.

**DECISION****IMPLEMENTATION***Budgetary Performance 2006*

Continue charging the under-budgeted ASMC current service costs to the General Fund (para. 82)

During 2007 the Organization is continuing to charge ASMC unbudgeted costs to the General Fund.

*Scale of Contributions 2008-2009*

Forward a Draft Resolution on Scale of Contributions 2008-2009 to the Conference for adoption (para. 84)

A draft Resolution on the Scale of Contributions 2008-09 is included in the draft Provisional Agenda of the Thirty-fourth Session of the FAO Conference.

*Appointment of the External Auditor*

Implement Resolution 1/132 on Appointment of the External Auditor (para. 89)

The Council approved the appointment of the new External Auditor by adoption of this Resolution. The formal communication to the new External Auditor informing him of his appointment was signed by the Director-General on 10 August 2007.

*Adoption of Russian as a Language of FAO*

Elaborate proposals of various models and funding modalities for the provision of Russian language services, in close consultation with interested countries, for further consideration at the next session of the Finance Committee (para. 93)

Document CL 133/6 *Adoption of Russian as a Language of FAO - Funding Modalities* sets out two options: (i) phased implementation and (ii) full implementation of Russian as a language of the Organization. After considering such options and the related costs, the 119th Session of the Finance Committee (September 2007) supported phased implementation in principle, and underscored that this should be financed by extra-budgetary contributions available in the next two biennia.

*Other Matters Arising from the Reports***Measures to Improve the Organization's Cash Shortage Situation**

Continue all measures currently in place to enhance payments by Member Nations (para. 96)

All measures currently in place to enhance payments by Member Nations are being continued.

**DECISION**

Propose to the Conference the introduction of the three measures recommended by the Finance Committee, as contained in paragraphs 54 to 57 of the Report of its Hundred and Eighteenth Session, on the understanding that their final language be discussed and refined during the Hundred and Thirty-Second Session of the FAO Council, for transmittal through the Council to the Conference for decision (para. 96)

**INDEPENDENT EXTERNAL  
EVALUATION OF FAO**

Implement the Timetable for the IEE process agreed by the Council (para. 104)

*Modalities for Implementation of a  
Sub-Regional Office in Central America*

Establish a new FAO Sub-regional Office for Central America in Panama (para. 107)

**IMPLEMENTATION**

See document CL 133/LIM/2.

The Timetable is being adhered to, and the release of the report of the IEE and the meetings of the CC-IEE and Friends of the Chair are on schedule.

After the decision of the Hundred and Thirty-second Session of the Council approving the choice of Panama as the location of the Sub-regional Office for Central America, the Host Agreement was signed. Preparations are under way to have the Office operational by the beginning of 2008 by making human resources, facilities and equipment available.

Consultations concerning the Sub-regional Office for the Gulf countries and Yemen are under way.

**DECISION****IMPLEMENTATION****CONSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL  
MATTERS****REPORT OF THE EIGHTY-FIRST  
SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON  
CONSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL  
MATTERS (ROME, 4-5 APRIL 2007)**

*Amendment of the Constitution and the General Rules of the Organization (Adoption of Russian as a language of the Organization)*

Forward a draft resolution on amendment of Article XXII of the FAO Constitution – Authentic Russian text of the FAO Constitution to the Conference (para. 114)

A circular letter transmitting the authentic Russian text of the FAO Constitution was dispatched on 20 July 2007.

Forward a draft resolution on amendment of Rule XLVII of the General Rules of the Organization to the Conference (para. 115)

See document C 2007/18.

*Process for a change in the nature of a statutory body of FAO established under Article XIV of the Constitution into a body outside the framework of FAO (change in the status of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission - IOTC)*

Have an informal group of legal experts of all the IOTC Members, CCLM Members, as well as representatives of relevant organizations of the United Nations System examine the matter and have the CCLM review the work of this informal group and provide its advice to the Council (para. 120)

An *Ad Hoc* Expert Consultation will be held on 23-24 October 2007.

Report on the outcome of discussions with IOTC Members regarding the efficiency and effectiveness of IOTC, as the stated reasons for the process under way, to the CCLM and any other appropriate body (para. 121)

The *Ad Hoc* Expert Consultation will report to the Eighty-second Session of the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters (25-26 October 2007).

**DECISION****IMPLEMENTATION***Financial disclosure requirements for designated staff members of the Organization (amendment of the Staff Regulations)*

Amend Article I of the Staff Regulations entitled “Duties, Obligations and Privileges” as per Council decision (para. 123)

The amendments approved by the Council will be reflected in the revised text of paragraphs 301.1.10 and 301.1.11 of the Staff Regulations. An Administrative Circular is being issued by the AF Department to communicate the Council's decision with regard to financial disclosure requirements for designated staff members.

Take, in view of the workload and cost considerations involved in the financial disclosure requirement, a pragmatic approach towards the matter to implement a simpler system of declaration of interest, as has been done in other organizations of the UN system (para. 124)

Practical modalities for the implementation of the decision of the Council are being defined.

*Representation of the Near East Region in the Finance Committee*

Have the next session of the CCLM examine the matter and report its conclusions to the Council (para. 127)

Consultations among the regional groups will take place before the matter is discussed in the CCLM.

Have the regional groups complete informal consultations to reach a common position to bring this long-standing issue to a successful conclusion (para. 127)

Ditto.

*Access by Members to Reports of the Office of the Inspector-General*

Postpone consideration of the matter to have the benefit of the conclusions of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (para. 129)

The conclusions of the review are still pending.

**DECISION****IMPLEMENTATION****OTHER MATTERS****MARGARITA LIZÁRRAGA MEDAL**

Present the Margarita Lizárraga Medal to the representative of Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) as part of the proceedings of the Thirty-fourth Session of the Conference (para. 132)

See document C 2007/LIM/6.