



منظمة الأغذية
والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة

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
Agricultura
y la
Alimentación

CONFERENCE

Thirty-fifth (Special) Session

Rome, 18 – 22 November 2008

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE THIRTY-FIFTH (SPECIAL) SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE

Table of Contents

	Paragraphs
INTRODUCTION	1 - 2
PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND TIMETABLE	3
COMPOSITION OF DELEGATIONS	4
OFFICERS OF THE CONFERENCE	5 - 7
INVITATIONS	8-11

APPENDICES

- A Extract from Article III of the Constitution of FAO

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INTRODUCTION

1. At its Thirty-fourth session (17-24 November 2007) the Conference, under Resolution 5/2007 *Follow-up to the Independent External Evaluation* (IEE), decided that a special session of the FAO Conference be convened to provide for the entirety of the membership to come together to discuss and decide upon proposals for an Immediate Plan of Action. The special session of the Conference will be held in Rome from 18 to 22 November 2008, as agreed upon by the Chairperson of the Conference Committee on Follow-up to the Independent External Evaluation in consultation with the Bureau of the Committee and the Chairpersons of the Regional Groups.
2. The Thirty-fourth session of the Conference established a time-bound Conference Committee with the functions of (a) recommending to the Conference proposals for the above mentioned Immediate Plan of Action and (b) providing review and feedback on the implementation of all IEE actions. The Report of the Conference Committee on the IEE is contained in document C 2008/4 and can be downloaded at: http://www.fao.org/unfao/bodies/conf/c2008/index_en.htm

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND TIMETABLE

3. A tentative Provisional Agenda and the Timetable of the Conference session are set out respectively in documents C 2008/1 and C 2008/INF/1, which can be downloaded at the above mentioned web site. Meetings are expected to last from 9.30 to 12.30 hours and from 14.30 to 17.30 hours, or later if required.

COMPOSITION OF DELEGATIONS

4. Delegations are normally headed by Ministers. In accordance with Article III of the Constitution, each Member of the Organization may be represented by one delegate, who may be accompanied by alternates, associates and advisers (see [Appendix A](#)).

OFFICERS OF THE CONFERENCE

5. In accordance with Rule XXIV-5(b) GRO, the Council, at its Hundred and Thirty-fifth Session (November 2008), will nominate candidates for the offices of Chairperson of the Conference, three Vice-Chairpersons of the Conference, seven Members of the General Committee and nine members of the Credentials Committee. Such candidates will then be approved by the Conference through the General Committee.
6. In keeping with past practice, the members of the Credentials Committee are expected to commence their work provisionally in the 15 days leading up to the Conference.
7. Given the special nature of the Thirty-fifth Session of the Conference, it is proposed that the functions normally carried out by the Resolutions Committee at an ordinary session of the Conference be discharged by the General Committee.

INVITATIONS

8. The United Nations, its Specialized Agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency are entitled to be represented at sessions of the Conference, without the right to vote. Other intergovernmental organizations having concluded an agreement with FAO which contains specific provisions to this effect have a right to attend as observers. Those non-governmental organizations which have consultative status are also entitled to send observers to Conference sessions.

9. Other intergovernmental organizations as well as non-governmental organizations having specialized consultative status or liaison status may be invited on a provisional basis by the Director-General, subject to Conference approval.
10. The above provisions are set out in Rule XVII GRO and also in the “FAO Policy Concerning Relations with International Non-Governmental Organizations” (FAO Basic Texts, Volume II, Section P).
11. In keeping with the established practice, the Palestine Liberation Organization is invited to attend the Thirty-fifth Session of the Conference in an observer capacity.

APPENDIX A
EXTRACT FROM ARTICLE III OF THE CONSTITUTION OF FAO

THE CONFERENCE
(provisions regulating composition of delegations)

1. There shall be a Conference of the Organization in which each Member Nation and Associate Member shall be represented by one delegate. Associate Members shall have the right to participate in the deliberations of the Conference but shall not hold office nor have the right to vote.
2. Each Member Nation and Associate Member may appoint alternates, associates and advisers to its delegate. The Conference may determine the conditions for the participation of alternates, associates and advisers in its proceedings, but any such participation shall be without the right to vote, except in the case of an alternate, associate, or adviser participating in the place of a delegate.
3. No delegate may represent more than one Member Nation or Associate Member.
4. Each Member Nation shall have only one vote. A Member Nation which is in arrears in the payment of its financial contributions to the Organization shall have no vote in the Conference if the amount of its arrears equals or exceeds the amount of the contributions due from it for the two preceding calendar years. The Conference may, nevertheless, permit such a Member Nation to vote if it is satisfied that the failure to pay is due to conditions beyond the control of the Member Nation.