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Organización
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Alimentación

COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL MATTERS

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PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE NAME OF THE FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR EUROPE

I. BACKGROUND

1. At the Twenty-sixth FAO Regional Conference for Europe held in Innsbruck, Austria on 26 and 27 June 2008, the delegation of Kyrgyzstan proposed that the name of the FAO Regional Conference for Europe be changed to “*FAO Regional Conference for Europe and Central Asia*”. The delegations of Armenia and Tajikistan voiced support for the proposal of the delegation of Kyrgyzstan. The Chairperson took note of the proposal and informed the Regional Conference that it would be forwarded to the FAO Council¹. A list of Members invited to participate as Members at the Twenty-sixth FAO Regional Conference for Europe is given in the appendix to this document.

II. PAST PRACTICE REGARDING CHANGES IN THE NAME OF REGIONAL CONFERENCES

2. In the past, when similar requests were made, the matter was referred to the Council and the Conference for decision, and the decision of the Conference was reflected in Resolution N° 14/69 entitled “*Authority, terms of reference and constitutional status of Regional Conferences*”. The two past decisions on similar requests were the following.

3. In 1978, at the Thirteenth Session of the FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Far East, governments of Members of the region asked that a change be made in the titles both of the Regional Conference and the Regional Office, so that they should refer

¹ ERC/8/REP, paragraph 47.

to “*Asia and the Pacific*”. These changes reflected “*the geographical reality of the region, the membership in the regional conference and, in addition, the new titles would correspond to those of other regional bodies*”. In 1979, the Council agreed with the proposals and invited the Conference to change the titles². At its Twentieth Session in November 1979, the Conference endorsed the proposed changes. “*At the same time, in order to prevent any uncertainty in the future, the Conference decided that the list of Member Nations to which the term ‘Asia and the Pacific’ currently referred should appear in its Report*”³.

4. In 1980, the Regional Conference for Latin America, at its Seventeenth Session, endorsed a proposal to change the name of the region from “*Latin America*” to “*Latin America and the Caribbean*”. Subsequently, the Council agreed with the proposal and invited the Conference to endorse it⁴. Then the Conference, at its Twenty-second Session in 1983, endorsed the change in title of the Region, as well as the changes to the name of the Regional Conference and the Regional Office servicing the region⁵.

III. PROPOSED ACTION FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROPOSAL

5. The request for change in name of the FAO Regional Conference for Europe is made at a particular moment, insofar as Resolution N^o 14/69 on “*Authority, terms of reference and constitutional status of Regional Conferences*” should be removed from the Basic Texts as part of the ongoing amendment process and provisions regarding the operation of Regional Conferences should be incorporated into new Rule XXXV of the General Rules of the Organization (GRO). Regional Conferences are listed in paragraph 1 of the proposed new Rule XXXV.

6. Therefore there would be a need to amend paragraph 1 of the proposed new Rule XXXV of the GRO, which would read as follows:

“There shall be Regional Conferences for Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Europe and Central Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean and the Near East, which shall normally meet once every biennium in non-Conference years”.

IV. SUGGESTED COURSE OF ACTION

7. The CCLM is invited to review the above proposal and provide such guidance as appropriate.

² CL 75/REP, paragraphs 203-204.

³ C 79/REP, paragraphs 457-461.

⁴ CL 82/REP, paragraphs 241-243.

⁵ C 83/REP, paragraphs 325-326.

APPENDIX I**Members invited to participate as Members at the Twenty-sixth FAO Regional Conference for Europe⁶**

Albania	Lithuania
Andorra	Luxembourg
Armenia	Malta
Austria	Moldova
Azerbaijan	Monaco
Belarus	Montenegro
Belgium	Netherlands
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Norway
Bulgaria	Poland
Croatia	Portugal
Cyprus	Romania
Czech Republic	Russian Federation
Denmark	San Marino
Estonia	Serbia
Finland	Slovakia
France	Slovenia
Georgia	Spain
Germany	Sweden
Greece	Switzerland
Hungary	TFYR of Macedonia
Iceland	Tajikistan
Ireland	Turkey
Israel	Turkmenistan
Italy	Ukraine
Kazakhstan	United Kingdom
Kyrgyzstan	Uzbekistan
Latvia	European Community
	The Faroe Islands (Associate Member)

⁶ The Holy See and the Sovereign Order of Malta were invited as observers.