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Продовольственная и
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Organización
de las
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Unidas
para la
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y la
Alimentación

COUNCIL

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World Summit on Food Security

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The 136th Session of the Council (Rome, 15-19 June 2009) agreed that a World Summit on Food Security (WSFS) be held in November 2009, in close proximity to the FAO Conference. It underlined that the Summit should be fully funded from extra-budgetary contributions, in order for the FAO's established Programme of Work not to be negatively affected. The Council established an Open-Ended Working Group to decide on the necessary arrangements for the Summit, including its objectives and outcomes. The Open-Ended Working Group met on 3, 7 and 14 July, and on 9, 15 and 24 September 2009. Further meetings are foreseen in October.
- The World Summit on Food Security builds on the work of the High-Level Experts Forum (HLEF) on "How to Feed the World in 2050". Most of the technical documents are being prepared as part of the preparation for the 2050 HLEF and also using expert group meetings and consultations on subjects covered by normal activities of the Organization, in cooperation with partners and in relation to other relevant ongoing processes.
- The Finance Committee at its 128th session (27-31 July 2009) reviewed the financial arrangements for the Summit and the Secretariat prepared a document for that purpose (document FC 128/22). The Committee expressed its appreciation for the generous contribution of USD 2.5 million of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the organization of the Summit. The money has been effectively received in FAO and deposited in the dedicated account opened by the Technical Cooperation Department (TC) for the WSFS (multilateral trust fund project MTF/GLO/265/MUL "World Summit of Heads of State and Government on Food Security in 2009"). The Committee endorsed the establishment of a second multidonor Trust Fund to cover the costs of participation of representatives from Least Developed Countries. TC is exploring with Members their willingness to contribute extra-budgetary resources to this Trust Fund.
- An information note "Updated Information Regarding the 2009 World Summit on Food Security: Review of Financial Arrangements" was made available by the Secretariat to the 129th session of the Finance Committee (Rome, 18-19 September 2009). The Secretariat had sought to update the estimated financial figures and confirmed that, based on latest available information, the budget of USD 2.5 million for the logistics expenditures was found appropriate.
- As indicated in document CL 136/22 – "Proposed World Summit on Food Security in 2009", prepared for the 136th Session of Council, in addition to the Plenary Meeting of Heads of State and Government, special events will be held in the days preceding the Summit: (i) an NGOs, CSOs and Farmers' Organizations Forum organized by FAO and the City of Rome, in collaboration with IFAD and WFP; (ii) a Private Sector Forum organized by the City of Milan and FAO; and (iii) a Parliamentary Meeting organized by the Italian Parliament and the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) with the support of FAO.

GUIDANCE SOUGHT FROM THE COUNCIL

- The Council is invited to take note of the information provided.

I. Introduction

1. The FAO Council at its 136th Session held from 15 to 19 June 2009, agreed that a World Summit of Heads of State and Government on Food Security, as proposed in Council document CL 136/22, be held in November 2009, in close proximity to the FAO Conference, in view of, *inter alia*, the increasing number of hungry, the need to keep the challenge of food insecurity on top of the international agenda and that the role of FAO was fully recognized.
2. The Council underlined that the Summit should be fully funded from extra-budgetary contributions, in order for the FAO's established Programme of Work not to be negatively affected. It requested that the Secretariat report to the FAO Finance Committee at its July 2009 session on the detailed cost estimates and the status of extra-budgetary contributions for the Summit.
3. To ensure a participatory and Member-driven preparatory process, the Council directed the establishment of an Open-Ended Working Group to decide as soon as possible on necessary arrangements for the Summit, including its objectives and outcomes, and possibly moving it one day either way from the initial dates proposed by the Secretariat.

II. Preparation for the Summit

4. The Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG) established by Council met on 3, 7 and 14 July and on 9, 15 and 24 September 2009. It appointed an Executive Committee composed of the Independent Chairperson of the Council and the Representatives of Chile and Finland. Members appointed three spokespersons per Regional Group. Members welcomed the participation of WFP and IFAD in the work of the OEWG.
5. The OEWG endorsed the proposal to hold the Summit on 16, 17 and 18 November just before the FAO Conference, which should start on 18 November in the afternoon. The OEWG also received information on the pre-summit events and discussed the roundtables. The number of roundtables was reduced from five as proposed by the Secretariat to four. The Group also held discussions on the themes of the roundtables.
6. A draft declaration will be put before the Summit for adoption. The Open-Ended Working Group has started the preparation of a draft declaration for the Summit. In addition, and at the request of the OEWG, the Secretariat had provided a contribution to defining the objectives and possible outcomes of the Summit. Countries prepared in July/August contributions for the drafting of the Summit declaration. The OEWG started to review these contributions in a meeting on 9 September and will continue in subsequent meetings in September and October, with the aim of arriving at a consensus before the Summit. The Summit Secretariat is providing full support to the process.
7. As regards technical subjects, preparations for the Summit is building on the work of the High-Level Expert Forum (HLEF) on "How to Feed the World in 2050" and using regular expert meetings and consultations organized by the different technical departments, in cooperation with partners and in relation to other relevant ongoing processes.

III. Financing of the Summit

8. As indicated in all previous documents, the Summit is entirely financed from extra-budgetary resources, in full compliance with the Financial Regulations and with no negative impact on the regular work programme of the Organization. The Technical Cooperation Department (TC) has opened a dedicated account for this purpose (multilateral Trust Fund project MTF/GLO/265/MUL 'World Summit of Heads of State and Government on Food Security in 2009').

9. Subsequent to the 136th Session of the Council, the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia announced that it would make an extra-budgetary contribution of USD 2.5 million to meet the provisional costs for the logistics of the World Summit on Food Security.
10. The 128th Session of the Finance Committee (27-31 July 2009) reviewed the proposed budget for the Summit and the Secretariat prepared a document (FC 128/22) for that purpose. The Committee took note of the provisional logistical costs of USD 2.5 million, which were estimated based on past experiences and the latest available information. The Committee expressed its appreciation for the generous contribution of USD 2.5 million of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the organization of the Summit. The money has been effectively received in FAO and deposited in the Trust Fund account dedicated for that (multilateral trust fund project MTF/GLO/265/MUL “World Summit of Heads of State and Government on Food Security in 2009”).
11. The Committee also endorsed the establishment of a second multidonor Trust Fund for the purpose to cover the costs of participation of representatives from Least Developed Countries (MTF/GLO/272/MUL “Funding of LDC countries for participation to the Summit on World Food Security 2009”). TC is presently approaching potential donors for this second trust fund.
12. The Committee took note that contacts were also underway with IFAD and WFP for possible contributions, in cash or in kind, towards the organization of the Summit.
13. The TC and KC departments continue to contact companies that have collaborated with FAO in the past, as well as new ones, to explore their potential interest in financing some activities. FAO’s Private Sector Partnership Advisory Committee (PSPAC) is engaged in this process to ensure conformity with the principles and guidelines of the Organization.
14. The 129th session of the Finance Committee (Rome, 18 September 2009) was provided with an update on the financial aspects of the Summit through document FC 129/INF/2 – “Updated Information Regarding the 2009 World Summit on Food Security: Review of Financial Arrangements”.

IV. Documentation

15. The technical underpinning of the World Summit on Food Security is the preparation for, and the outcome of, the HLEF on “How to Feed the World in 2050”, which will be held in Rome on 12 and 13 October 2009. Technical documents for the Summit are being prepared as part of the work undertaken in preparation for the 2050 HLC, and also using expert group meetings and consultation on technical subjects covered by normal activities of the Organization, in cooperation with partners and in relation to other relevant ongoing processes.
16. The main documents for the Summit will consist of a synthesis paper addressing world food security issues and ten thematic policy briefs.

V. Pre-Summit Special Events and Roundtables

17. As in the cases of the 1996 and 2002 Summits, in addition to the Plenary Meeting of Heads of State and Government, special events will be held in the days preceding the Summit: (i) an NGOs, CSOs and Farmers’ Organizations Forum, organized by FAO and the City of Rome, in collaboration with IFAD and WFP, will be held in Rome on 14, 15 and 16 November 2009; (ii) a Private Sector Forum, organized by the City of Milan and FAO, will be held in Milan on 12 and 13 November ; and (iii) a Parliamentarian Meeting of national parliaments, organized by the Italian Parliament and the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) with the support of FAO, will be held in Rome on 13 November 2009.
18. Four Roundtables will be organized during the Summit. The themes of the Roundtables were discussed by the Open-Ended Working Group, and it was agreed that the overall goal of the

four Roundtables is to discuss how to deliver on the Summit's Declaration. As of 24 September 2009 the proposed themes were as follows:

1. Minimizing the negative impact of the food, economic and financial crises on world food security.
 2. Implementation of the reform of global governance of food security.
 3. Climate change adaptation and mitigation: challenges for agriculture and food security.
 4. Non-distorting support measures to farmers for global food security: trade and rural development considerations.
19. The Secretariat is finalizing a concept note for the four roundtables based on Members' contributions and comments on previous drafts.

VI. Cooperation with UN Rome-based Agencies

20. The World Summit on Food Security is convened and organized by FAO, with the full involvement of the UN Rome-based food and agriculture agencies.

VII. Arrangements for the Summit

21. Information on the arrangements for the Summit and information for participants will be posted on the website of the Summit (<http://www.fao.org/wsfs/world-summit>) and will be updated regularly.