



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-sixth Session

Rome, 18-23 November 2009

REPORT OF THE THIRD MEETING OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE

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A. ELECTION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS¹

1. The Committee draws the attention of the Conference to the following paragraphs of Rule XXII of the General Rules of the Organization (GRO):

- “3. In selecting Members of the Council, the Conference shall give due consideration to the desirability of:
 - (a) including in its membership a balanced geographical representation of nations interested in the production, distribution and consumption of food and agricultural products;
 - (b) ensuring the participation in the work of the Council of such Member Nations as contribute in a large measure toward the success of the Organization;
 - (c) giving to the greatest possible number of Member Nations an opportunity, by rotation of membership, to serve on the Council.
- 4. Member Nations shall be eligible for re-election.
- 5. No Member Nation shall be eligible for election to the Council if it is in arrears in payment of its financial contributions to the Organization in an amount equal to or exceeding the contributions due from it for the two preceding calendar years”.

2. The Conference set at 12:00 hours on Friday 20 November 2009 the deadline for submission of nominations for election to the Council, and agreed that the election begin on the afternoon of Sunday 22 November.

3. The General Committee has examined the nominations received by that deadline and found the following nominations to be in order:

¹ C 2009/11-Rev.1

REGION	PERIOD	CANDIDATES
AFRICA	(a) November 2009 to 30 November 2011 (1 SEAT)	Mauritania
	(b) November 2009 to 30 June 2012 (3 SEATS)	Gabon, Mauritius, Mozambique
	(c) 1 January 2011 to 30 June 2013 (5 SEATS)	Cape Verde, Equatorial Guinea, Côte d'Ivoire, Tunisia, Uganda
ASIA	(a) November 2009 to 30 June 2012 (6 SEATS)	China, Japan, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand
EUROPE	(a) November 2009 to 30 June 2012 (3 SEATS)	Germany, Spain, Slovakia
	(b) 1 January 2011 to 30 June 2013 (3 SEATS)	Greece, Ireland, Russian Federation
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN	(a) November 2009 to 30 June 2012 (3 SEATS)	Chile, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
	(b) 1 January 2011 to 30 June 2013 (5 SEATS)	Argentina, Brazil, Cuba, Mexico, Trinidad and Tobago
NEAR EAST	(a) November 2009 to 30 June 2012 (1 SEAT)	Islamic Republic of Iran, Jordan, Syrian Arab Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
	(b) 1 January 2011 to 30 June 2013 (2 SEATS)	
NORTH AMERICA	(a) 1 January 2011 to 30 June 2013 (2 SEATS)	Canada, United States of America

4. Since for both periods, November 2009 – 30 June 2012 and 1 January 2011 – 30 June 2013, the number of candidates is the same as the number of seats to be filled for the regions of Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean and North America, the Committee recommends that, in accordance with Rule XII.10 (a) GRO, the Conference elect by clear general consent the candidates nominated for the specified periods for such regions.

5. The Committee also submits to the Conference in Appendix A of this report a list of FAO Member Nations by Region for Council election purposes.

B. VOTING RIGHTS

6. At its first meeting (Wednesday, 18 November 2009), the General Committee noted that **nineteen** Member Nations had not paid sufficient amounts of their assessed contributions to retain their vote in the Conference. Since then the following changes outlined in paragraphs 7, 8, 9 and 10 have taken place.

7. Confirmation has been received that **two** Member Nations (Democratic Republic of the Congo and Burundi) have made payments that would regularise their voting position.

8. **Six** Member Nations (Antigua and Barbuda, Kyrgyzstan, Nauru, Palau, Solomon Islands and Tajikistan) have not requested special consideration and have not registered at the Conference.

9. **Six** Member Nations attending the Session (Comoros, Liberia, Nicaragua, Sao Tome and Principe, Somalia and Turkmenistan) have not requested restoration of voting rights nor advised that payment was in process. The Secretariat continues actively following-up with the delegations of these Member Nations to ensure that they are aware of their contribution positions and its consequences on their right to vote.

10. **Five** Member Nations have requested special consideration under Article III.4 of the Constitution and permission to vote:

- Dominican Republic - letter dated 16 November 2009 referring to difficult macro-economic circumstances caused by the global financial crisis (GC/2009/INF/3);
- Georgia - letter dated 23 October 2009 citing economic difficulties and requesting restoration of voting rights and proposing an instalment plan (GC/2009/INF/1).
- Guinea Bissau - letter dated 17 November 2009 citing difficult financial situation (GC/2009/INF/4)
- Iraq - letter dated 19 October 2009 citing financial difficulties and proposing an instalment plan (GC/2009/INF/2);
- Sierra Leone- letter dated 17 November 2009, citing effects of civil war and economic difficulties (GC/2009/INF/9);

11. **Two** of the Member Nations currently with voting rights problems, Georgia and Iraq, propose to repay their arrears according to instalment plans. The Committee therefore recommends that the Conference adopt draft resolutions endorsing the instalment plans submitted by those Member Nations (Appendixes B and C).

12. The General Committee considered the document “The Management of Arrears and the Right to Vote” (GC/2009/INF/5) which recapitulates previous Council recommendations and past practice of the Committee when making decisions to restore voting rights according to criteria which fall within “conditions beyond the control of Member Nations”.

13. After using these criteria for a case-by-case evaluation of the five petitions, the General Committee recommends that voting rights should be restored to **five** Member Nations (Dominican Republic, Georgia, Guinea Bissau, Iraq, Sierra Leone).

14. The General Committee recommends that voting rights be restored to Somalia in view of the prevailing circumstances faced by the country.

15. The Committee noted that the **eleven** Member Nations which had not written a letter requesting special consideration (Antigua and Barbuda, Comoros, Kyrgyzstan, Liberia, Nauru, Nicaragua, Palau, Sao Tome and Principe, Solomon Islands, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan) had effectively lost their voting rights.

C. ELECTION PROCEDURES

16. The General Committee recommends that a review of the methods of election to fill simultaneously more than one elective place should be carried out by the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters.

<u>Appendix A</u>	FAO Member Nations by Regions for FAO election purposes
<u>Appendix B</u>	Draft resolution. Payment of arrears in contributions by Georgia
<u>Appendix C</u>	Draft resolution. Payment of arrears in contributions by Iraq
<u>Appendix D:</u>	List of Member Nations with potential voting rights problems as of 21 November 2009
<u>Appendix E:</u>	Summary table of letters received from Member Nations requesting special consideration under Article III.4 of the Constitution.

APPENDIX A**FAO MEMBER NATIONS BY REGION FOR COUNCIL ELECTION PURPOSES****I. AFRICA**

(Member Nations: 48 - Council seats: 12)

Algeria	Ethiopia	Niger
Angola	Gabon	Nigeria
Benin	Gambia	Rwanda
Botswana	Ghana	Sao Tome and Principe
Burkina Faso	Guinea	Senegal
Burundi	Guinea-Bissau	Seychelles
Cameroon	Kenya	Sierra Leone
Cape Verde	Lesotho	South Africa
Central African Republic	Liberia	Swaziland
Chad	Madagascar	Togo
Comoros	Malawi	Tunisia
Congo	Mali	Uganda
Côte D'Ivoire	Mauritania	United Republic of Tanzania
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Mauritius	Zambia
Equatorial Guinea	Morocco	Zimbabwe
Eritrea	Mozambique	
	Namibia	

II. ASIA

(Member Nations: 23 - Council seats: 9)

Bangladesh	Kazakhstan	Philippines
Bhutan	Lao People's	Republic of Korea
Cambodia	Democratic Republic	Sri Lanka
China	Malaysia	Thailand
Democratic People's	Maldives	Timor-Leste
Republic of Korea	Mongolia	Uzbekistan
India	Myanmar	Viet Nam
Indonesia	Nepal	
Japan	Pakistan	

III. EUROPE

(Member Nations: 48 - Council seats: 10)

Albania	Georgia	Poland
Andorra	Germany	Portugal
Armenia	Greece	Romania
Austria	Hungary	Russian Federation
Azerbaijan	Iceland	San Marino
Belarus	Ireland	Serbia
Belgium	Israel	Slovakia
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Italy	Slovenia
Bulgaria	Latvia	Spain
Croatia	Lithuania	Sweden
Cyprus	Luxembourg	Switzerland
Czech Republic	Malta	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Denmark	Moldova	Turkey
Estonia	Monaco	Ukraine
Finland	Montenegro	United Kingdom
France	Netherlands	
	Norway	

Member Organization: European Community

IV. LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

(Member Nations: 33 - Council seats: 9)

Antigua and Barbuda	Dominican Republic	Paraguay
Argentina	Ecuador	Peru
Bahamas	El Salvador	Saint Kitts and Nevis
Barbados	Grenada	Saint Lucia
Belize	Guatemala	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Bolivia	Guyana	Suriname
Brazil	Haiti	Trinidad And Tobago
Chile	Honduras	Uruguay
Colombia	Jamaica	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
Costa Rica	Mexico	
Cuba	Nicaragua	
Dominica	Panama	

V. NEAR EAST

(Member Nations: 21 - Council seats: 6)

Afghanistan	Kuwait	Somalia
Bahrain	Kyrgyzstan	Sudan
Djibouti	Lebanon	Syrian Arab Republic
Egypt	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	Tajikistan
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Oman	Turkmenistan
Iraq	Qatar	United Arab Emirates
Jordan	Saudi Arabia	Yemen

VI. NORTH AMERICA

(Member Nations: 2 - Council seats: 2)

Canada
United States of America

VII. SOUTHWEST PACIFIC

(Member Nations: 16 - Council seats: 1)

Australia
Cook Islands
Fiji
Kiribati
Marshall Islands
Micronesia (Federated States of)
Nauru
New Zealand
Niue
Palau
Papua New Guinea
Samoa
Solomon Islands
Tonga
Tuvalu
Vanuatu

APPENDIX B**Resolution /09****Payment of Contributions - Georgia****THE CONFERENCE,**

Noting that the Government of Georgia had made a proposal that it liquidate part of its arrears of contributions over a period of six years commencing in 2010 in addition to paying each current contribution in the calendar year of assessment,

Decides that:

1. Notwithstanding Financial Regulation 5.5 the arrears of contributions of Georgia totalling US\$ 1,217,323.08 shall be settled through the payment of six annual instalments of US\$ 121,732.31 each from 2010 to 2015 with the remaining balance of the arrears being subject to reconsideration and rescheduling in 2015.
2. The first instalment shall be payable on 1 January 2010.
3. The annual payment of the instalments referred to above, together with the payment of each current contribution in the calendar year of assessment and any advances to the Working Capital Fund, shall be considered as fulfilment of the financial obligations of Georgia to the Organization.
4. Instalments shall be payable in accordance with Financial Regulation 5.5.
5. Default in payment of two instalments shall render this instalment plan null and void.

(Adopted November 2009)

APPENDIX C

Resolution /09**Payment of Contributions - Iraq****THE CONFERENCE,**

Noting that the Government of Iraq had made a proposal that it liquidate its arrears of contributions over a period of ten years commencing in 2009 in addition to paying each current contribution in the calendar year of assessment,

Further noting that, since 1 January 2009, Iraq has effected payments of arrears in accordance with the instalment plan,

Further noting that Iraq has paid its assessed contributions for the year 2009,

Decides that:

6. Notwithstanding Financial Regulation 5.5 the arrears of contributions of Iraq totalling USD 4,928,518.30 and EUR 454,206.07 shall be settled through the payment of nine annual instalments of USD 547,613.03 and EUR 50,467.34 each from 2010 to 2018.
7. The first instalment shall be payable on 1 January 2010.
8. The annual payment of the instalments referred to above, together with the payment of each current contribution in the calendar year of assessment and any advances to the Working Capital Fund, shall be considered as fulfilment of the financial obligations of the Republic of Iraq to the Organization.
9. Instalments shall be payable in accordance with Financial Regulation 5.5.
10. Default in payment of two instalments shall render this instalment plan null and void.

(Adopted November 2009)

APPENDIX D

Member Nations with Potential Voting Rights Problems at 21 November 2009

Member Nation		Amount in Arrears US\$	Amount in Arrears Euro	Minimum Payment required to Ensure Vote in US\$
1	Antigua and Barbuda	\$ 322,763.77	€ 21,333.49	\$ 327,786.52
2	Comoros	\$ 277,031.63	€ 8,881.51	\$ 279,353.58
3	Dominican Republic	\$ 96,825.06	€ 208,683.86	\$ 100,778.67
4	Georgia	\$ 1,217,323.08	€ -	\$ 1,191,632.97
5	Guinea-Bissau	\$ 104,742.25	€ 8,881.51	\$ 107,064.20
6	Iraq	\$ 4,928,517.30	€ 454,206.07	\$ 5,341,433.77
7	Kyrgyzstan	\$ 870,801.26	€ 8,881.51	\$ 873,123.21
8	Liberia	\$ 291,628.76	€ 8,881.51	\$ 293,950.71
9	Nauru	\$ 16,342.63	€ 8,881.51	\$ 18,664.58
10	Nicaragua	\$ 6,104.29	€ 9,573.48	\$ 4,870.63
11	Palau	\$ 8,488.13	€ 8,881.51	\$ 10,810.08
12	Sao Tome and Principe	\$ 274,252.25	€ 8,881.51	\$ 276,574.20
13	Sierra Leone	\$ 11,157.16	€ 8,881.51	\$ 13,479.11
14	Solomon Islands	\$ 51,376.14	€ 3,489.12	\$ 46,965.50
15	Somalia	\$ 350,156.25	€ 8,881.51	\$ 352,478.20
16	Tajikistan	\$ 134,821.56	€ 4,459.38	\$ 131,881.18
17	Turkmenistan	\$ 457,430.84	€ 39,320.93	\$ 458,604.44
Total		\$ 9,419,762.36	€ 820,999.92	\$ 9,829,451.57

APPENDIX E

Summary Table of Letters from Member Nations with Potential Voting Rights Problems							
	Member Nation	Criteria of "Conditions beyond the control of a Member Nation"				Instalment Plan	
		Adverse Climatic Conditions	Natural Disasters	Wars, Conflicts or International Sanctions	Financial Crisis of Limited Foreign Exchange	Members Proposing an Installment Plan	No Formal Request Received
1	Antigua and Barbuda						x
2	Comoros						x
3	Dominican Republic				x		
4	Georgia					x	
5	Guinea-Bissau				x		
6	Iraq			x	x	x	
7	Kyrgyzstan						x
8	Liberia						x
9	Nauru						x
10	Nicaragua						x
11	Palau						x
12	Sao Tome and Principe						x
13	Sierra Leone				x		
14	Solomon Islands						x
15	Somalia						x
16	Tajikistan						x
17	Turkmenistan						x