

April 2011



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

Продовольствен
ная и
сельскохозяйств
енная
организация
Объединенных
Наций

Organización
de las
Naciones Unidas
para la
Agricultura y la
Alimentación

CONFERENCE

Thirty-seventh Session

Rome, 25 June - 2 July 2011

**Report of the 30th Session of the Regional Conference
for Asia and the Pacific
(Gyeongju, Republic of Korea, 27 September – 1 October 2010)**

REPORT

Gyeongju
Republic of
Korea
27 September -
1 October 2010

Thirtieth FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific



FAO Member Nations in the Asia Region

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

FAO Member Nations in the Southwest Pacific Region

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

Date and place of FAO Regional Conferences for Asia and the Pacific

First	- Bangalore, India, 27 July – 5 August 1953
Second	- Kandy, Ceylon, 20-25 June 1955
Third	- Bandung, Indonesia, 8-18 October 1956
Fourth	- Tokyo, Japan, 6-16 October 1958
Fifth	- Saigon, Republic of Viet Nam, 21-30 November 1960
Sixth	- Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 15-29 September 1962
Seventh	- Manila, Philippines, 7-21 November 1964
Eighth	- Seoul, Republic of Korea, 15-24 September 1966
Ninth	- Bangkok, Thailand, 4-15 November 1968
Tenth	- Canberra, Australia, 27 August – 8 September 1970
Eleventh	- New Delhi, India, 17-27 October 1972
Twelfth	- Tokyo, Japan, 17-27 September 1974
Thirteenth	- Manila, Philippines, 5-13 August 1976
Fourteenth	- Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 25 July – 3 August 1978
Fifteenth	- New Delhi, India, 5-13 March 1980
Sixteenth	- Jakarta, Indonesia, 1-11 June 1982
Seventeenth	- Islamabad, Pakistan, 24 April – 3 May 1984
Eighteenth	- Rome, Italy, 8-17 July 1986
Nineteenth	- Bangkok, Thailand, 11-15 July 1988
Twentieth	- Beijing, China, 23-27 April 1990
Twenty-first	- New Delhi, India, 10-14 February 1992
Twenty-second	- Manila, Philippines, 3-7 October 1994
Twenty-third	- Apia, Western Samoa, 14-18 May 1996
Twenty-fourth	- Yangon, Myanmar, 20-24 April 1998
Twenty-fifth	- Yokohama, Japan, 28 August-1 September 2000
Twenty-sixth	- Kathmandu, Nepal, 13-15 May 2002
Twenty-seventh	- Beijing, China, 17-21 May 2004
Twenty-eighth	- Jakarta, Indonesia, 15-19 May 2006
Twenty-ninth	- Bangkok, Thailand, 26-31 March 2009
Thirtieth	- Gyeongju, Republic of Korea, 27 September-1 October 2010

REPORT

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Korea
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1 October 2010

Thirtieth FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific

**Food and Agriculture Organization of the
United Nations**

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SUMMARY OF MAIN RECOMMENDATIONS

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE WORLD SUMMIT ON FOOD SECURITY AND THE 36TH SESSION OF THE FAO CONFERENCE, NOTABLY IMPLEMENTATION OF THE IMMEDIATE PLAN OF ACTION (IPA), INCLUDING THE DECENTRALIZED OFFICES NETWORK

For the attention of the FAO Council

The Conference:

1. called upon FAO to allocate budget resources to the Asia-Pacific region, commensurate with the challenges of achieving food security in the region, which is home to two-thirds of the world's poor and hungry.

For the attention of the Conference of FAO

The Conference:

1. welcomed progress made in the implementation of the Immediate Plan of Action (IPA), particularly those having an impact on decentralization.
2. recommended additional measures to further increase efficiency and productivity: i) further strengthening of the technical capacity of the decentralized offices and, in particular, to ensure provision of adequate technical support to country offices; ii) enhancing the capacity of the decentralized offices to provide timely response to emergencies and disasters and address investment issues; iii) implementing staff mobility and rotation policies; and iv) developing a decentralized offices network with effective linkages within the Organization, as well as with the concerned governments, other UN system organizations and development partners.
3. requested FAO to take into account the above-mentioned recommendations in further elaborating the vision for the future.

ESTABLISHMENT OF ONE GLOBAL SHARED SERVICES CENTRE

For the attention of Member Countries and the FAO Council

The Conference:

1. requested that findings of the in-depth study of the functions of Bangkok and Santiago SSC hubs, and of regional office administrative services in general, being undertaken in 2010, be provided, in full, to the Finance Committee, and to all member countries.

For the attention of the FAO Council

The Conference:

1. urged that the analysis of the SSC structure and functions be carried out in a deliberate manner and include criteria related to quality and effectiveness of services delivered, striking a balance with possible long-term cost savings.

REFORM OF THE COMMITTEE ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY (CFS)

For the attention of Member Countries and the Conference of FAO

The Conference:

1. encouraged effective involvement from civil society as well as trade and industry.
2. welcomed efforts to establish closer linkages between CFS and the Regional Conference. The Conference noted existing food security fora in the region and its preference that these be used to

better connect the CFS and regional activities. Alternative options would require full resource implication analysis.

CONSIDERATION OF THE REGIONAL PRIORITY FRAMEWORK (2010-2019) AND STRUCTURAL CHANGES IN RAP

For the attention of Member Countries and the FAO Council

The Conference:

1. endorsed the Regional Priority Framework. Given that time for discussion on this agenda item was limited, the Conference encouraged member countries to provide written comments on the Regional Priority Framework to help guide its future implementation.

For the attention of the FAO Council

The Conference:

1. noted the linkages of the Regional Priority Framework with FAO's Strategic Framework, embodying the Organization's three global goals and 11 Strategic Objectives, which were translated into regional actions with focused attention on key challenges and priorities of the region. The Conference stressed the importance of maintaining effective linkages between decentralized offices and headquarters staff.
2. urged FAO to advance the decentralization process accordingly.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF WORK AND BUDGET 2010-11 AND AREAS OF PRIORITY ACTIONS FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC REGION FOR THE FOLLOWING BIENNIUM

For the attention of the FAO Council

The Conference:

1. reiterated the need for FAO to allocate additional resources to the Asia and Pacific region, in accordance to the magnitude of the challenges of achieving food security for the two-thirds of the world's hungry who live in the region. The Conference also urged FAO to give due consideration to the special needs and challenges of the countries of the Pacific.

OTHER MATTERS

For the attention of the FAO Council

The Conference:

1. urged FAO and other development partners to give due consideration and adequate resources to address the needs of member countries in the Pacific and other small island nations, particularly with respect to high vulnerability to climate change impacts.

For the attention of the Conference of FAO

The Conference:

1. encouraged the Secretariat to seek feedback from member countries on the conduct of the Regional Conference, with a view towards enhancing the organization and efficiency of future sessions, maximizing opportunities for exchange among ministers and other delegates, and striking a balance between discussion of technical issues and programme and policy matters.

For the attention of the FAO Council and the Conference of FAO

The Conference:

1. requested that additional human and financial resources should be provided and progress in this matter reported at the thirty-seventh Conference in June 2011.

INTEGRATING CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION AND MITIGATION FOR FOOD SECURITY AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE REGION**For the attention of Member Countries**

The Conference:

1. encouraged member countries to review existing policies and institutions, as required, to ensure their relevance and effectiveness in addressing emerging challenges related to adaptation and mitigation in agriculture sectors.

For the attention of Member Countries and the FAO Council

The Conference:

1. agreed that issues related to climate change adaptation, mitigation, food security and sustainable development are integrally linked and need to be addressed through integrated approaches. The Conference highlighted that climate change impacts were already being felt in the agricultural sectors, and therefore particular attention on adaptation was needed urgently.
2. agreed that various successful agricultural practices – including restoration of degraded lands, sound management of grazing lands, improved crop cultivation, improved agriculture water management, best practices in aquaculture and agroforestry and development of biogas – can contribute to both adaptation and mitigation objectives.
3. urged member countries, FAO, development partners, non-governmental organizations, civil society and the private sector to collaborate in integrating climate change adaptation and mitigation considerations into agriculture and development planning and implementation.
4. requested FAO, in collaboration with other relevant international organizations, to assist member countries in collecting and analyzing reliable data and information on climate change impacts, especially at local levels, and on emissions from different agricultural production systems, to support planning and informed decision making.
5. encouraged FAO and member countries to explore opportunities for enhancing resilience through innovative risk financing and insurance schemes to spread risk brought about by climate change and other natural disasters.
6. requested FAO to facilitate the formulation of a regional strategy for mainstreaming climate change adaptation and mitigation activities in the agricultural sectors, and the establishment of regional cooperation mechanisms and networks, taking due consideration of differing sub-regional needs and conditions.
7. encouraged FAO to continue assisting member countries to effectively engage in international climate change negotiations and dialogues.

For the attention of the FAO Council

The Conference:

1. requested FAO to continue assisting member countries in formulating and implementing sound climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies and action plans, facilitating practical actions for technology transfer and building capacities.

2. requested FAO to provide advice to member countries, sub-regional and regional organizations in adjusting and harmonizing policies, programmes and institutions dealing with climate change adaptation and mitigation.
3. urged FAO to develop and disseminate practical, user-friendly tools and methodologies for such data collection and analyses.
4. requested FAO to provide targeted technical support to member countries and build capacities for implementing practical climate change adaptation and mitigation activities in the areas of crops, livestock, forestry, fisheries, aquaculture, land and water management.
5. requested FAO to support member countries in the efforts related to restoration of degraded lands and forests, through reforestation, forest rehabilitation and agroforestry, noting the increased demand for land and water resources.
6. requested FAO to continue support for initiatives in member countries to test and demonstrate the feasibility of various climate change adaptation and mitigation activities in the agricultural sectors, such as the United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (UN-REDD).
7. recommended that FAO, in conjunction with other relevant organizations, provide guidance to member countries for establishing and implementing technologically sound, robust and consistent methodologies for monitoring, reporting and verification of greenhouse gas emissions, carbon stocks and other parameters related to climate change in the agriculture sector.

EXPERIENCES AND POLICY LESSONS FROM THE REGION IN DEALING WITH THE GLOBAL FOOD AND FINANCIAL CRISES

For the attention of Member Countries

The Conference:

1. urged member countries to strengthen social safety net programmes as a means of protecting the consumption of the poor during crises.
2. encouraged member countries to take measures to enhance the effectiveness of regional food banks or food security reserves to ensure that food will be available for governments to provide to the poor in the event of a future crisis, without distorting markets.
3. urged member countries to enhance the accuracy, timeliness and transparency of food production statistics, information on stockpiles and estimates of projected food production, in order to provide reliable food security information to policy makers and avoid speculation.

For the attention of Member Countries and the FAO Council

The Conference:

1. urged member countries to assign high priority to agricultural investment and requested FAO to support member countries in mobilizing external resources and ensuring effective use of investment funds in the agriculture sector, particularly in science and technology development, water infrastructure development, agricultural extension, food storage and marketing systems and capacity building.

For the attention of the FAO Council

The Conference:

1. urged FAO to continue close collaboration with ASEAN, SAARC, PIF and other sub-regional organizations to foster coordination at national, regional and global levels.
2. recommended that FAO conduct analytical studies and engage in policy dialogue with concerned stakeholders with a view to developing policy options for a more stable global trading

system for food, which can enhance food security while providing adequate incentives for food producers.

For the attention of the Conference of FAO

The Conference:

1. suggested that this matter be referred to the Committee on World Food Security to be convened in October 2010 for further high-level discussions.

INCREASING CROP PRODUCTIVITY FOR SUSTAINABLE FOOD SECURITY IN THE REGION

For the attention of Member Countries and the FAO Council

The Conference:

1. agreed on five key strategic challenges: i) developing sustainable technologies; ii) improving technology transfer mechanisms; iii) developing market chains; iv) targeting the excluded, including ethnic minorities and women farmers; and v) developing institutions.
2. recommended that FAO work with member countries to increase productivity of crops that are of particular relevance to the diets of food- and nutritionally-insecure people, including starchy staples, pulses, coarse grains, vegetables, horticultural crops and oil crops.
3. urged member countries and international donors and organizations to increase investment in crop research and development, based on rigorous priority-setting involving all stakeholders to ensure focused and relevant research.
4. urged FAO, in conjunction with CGIAR institutes and other organizations, to assist member countries with rapid diffusion and adoption of appropriate technologies for crop intensification, by facilitating inter-country collaboration, including at sub-regional and regional levels and through South-South cooperation.
5. recommended that FAO work with member countries to speed up technology transfer in support of crop intensification through the following measures: i) re-examination of policies on release of new varieties to speed up variety release processes; ii) participatory varietal selection to encourage the speedy development and adoption of appropriate varieties by the end users; iii) empowerment of farmers' organizations to conduct quality control testing on agrichemicals; and iv) revision of extension services to be more demand-driven instead of supply-led.
6. recommended that FAO assist member countries in the following areas: i) facilitating public-private partnerships in research, extension and marketing; ii) better connecting of producers, particularly smallholders, to markets; and iii) building capacity in food safety and phytosanitary matters.

For the attention of the FAO Council

The Conference:

1. requested FAO to strengthen efforts further on this approach. The Conference requested FAO to support member countries' efforts to make increased use of local diversity, conservation agriculture, integrated pest management, integrated plant nutrient management and integrated water management.
2. endorsed FAO's efforts to promote and enhance nutritional security.

STATE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC REGION

For the attention of Member Countries and the FAO Council

The Conference:

1. recognized opportunities for revitalizing the agriculture sector by increasing investment in research and technology transfer, expanding rural education and health services, and improving market access for small farmers.

STRENGTHENING THE LINKAGES BETWEEN TECHNICAL COMMISSIONS AND THE APRC

For the attention of Member Countries

The Conference:

1. recommended that all member countries consider membership and active participation in the work of the RTCs, in accordance with country priorities.

For the attention of the FAO Council

The Conference:

1. suggested that the Animal Production and Health Commission for Asia and the Pacific (APHCA) and the Asia-Pacific Plant Protection Commission (APPPC) consider how their work could better contribute to work in these areas.

For the attention of Member Countries and the Conference of FAO

The Conference:

1. agreed that the recommendations of the RTCs can be considered the regional priorities for the sub-sectors in which they are competent.
2. recommended that summary reports of the outcomes and recommendations of the sessions of the RTCs should be made available to member countries prior to the FAO Regional Conference. The Conference also recommended that the schedules of RTC sessions should be adjusted to precede the FAO Regional Conference.

FAO'S STRATEGY FOR AND APPROACHES TO DISASTER PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE AND MITIGATION IN THE REGION

For the attention of Member Countries and the FAO Council

The Conference:

1. welcomed plans for establishing regional hubs for emergency operations and resource mobilization in the FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific.

IMPLEMENTATION OF REDD AND WHAT IT MEANS FOR FORESTRY AND AGRICULTURE IN THE REGION

For the attention of the FAO Council

The Conference:

1. urged FAO to work with UNDP and UNEP to harmonize, simplify and speed up programme delivery, and to prepare for the second phase of the programme.

INTERNATIONAL TREATY ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

For the attention of Member Countries

The Conference:

1. recognized the need for governments in the region to strengthen national programmes and policies for the conservation and sustainable use of genetic resources for food and agriculture, and for the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from their use, including through adequate and predictable funding.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF WORK AND BUDGET 2010-11 AND AREAS OF PRIORITY ACTIONS FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC REGION FOR THE FOLLOWING BIENNIUM

For the attention of Member Countries and the FAO Council

The Conference:

1. endorsed the five areas of regional priority action for FAO work in the Asia-Pacific region for 2010-11 and 2012-13: i) strengthening food and nutritional security; ii) fostering agricultural production and rural development; iii) enhancing equitable productive and sustainable natural resource management and utilization; iv) improving capacity to prepare and respond to food and agricultural threats and emergencies; and v) coping with the impacts of climate change on agriculture and food and nutritional security.
2. encouraged additional support to priority programmes through extra-budgetary contributions.

For the attention of the FAO Council

The Conference:

1. urged the Secretariat to give more focus to the planned actions, giving full consideration to FAO's comparative advantages, and suggested that special emphasis be placed on the following areas of work: i) sustainable crop intensification and diversification to improve productivity; ii) transboundary animal/plant diseases and emergency response to natural disasters; iii) genetic resources; ; iv) climate change adaptation and mitigation; v) food safety and nutrition; and vi) agriculture diversification with emphasis on livestock productivity, aquaculture, and sustainable forest management.
2. requested that the reports include indications of budget allocation and expenditure by regional result, and progress on the utilization of Country Programming Frameworks (formerly National Medium Term Priority Frameworks) in guiding FAO's work at country level.
3. emphasized that the Asia-Pacific region contained the majority of hungry people in the world and that governments faced special challenges in addressing this issue. Delegates highlighted that the FAO budget allocated to Asia and the Pacific was not proportional to the magnitude of undernourished in the region. The Conference agreed that the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals that related to contributions from the agriculture sector could not be met without due attention to Asia and the Pacific.

For the attention of the Conference of FAO

The Conference:

1. recommended a review of scheduling for future Regional Conference sessions, to ensure that adequate discussions and considerations could be made prior to the final deliberations and approval of the programme of work and budget by the FAO Conference.

CONCLUDING ITEMS

For the attention of Member Countries and the Conference of FAO

1. The Government of the Viet Nam graciously offered to host the Thirty-first Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific in 2012, in Viet Nam.

I. INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

ORGANIZATION OF THE CONFERENCE

1. The thirtieth FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific was held in Gyeongju, Republic of Korea, from 27 September to 1 October 2010. The Conference was organized in two parts: a Senior Officers Meeting from 27 to 29 September, and a Ministerial-level Meeting from 30 September to 1 October.
2. Representatives from 28 member countries participated in the Meeting. Observers from Canada and the Holy See, 12 international non-governmental organizations and 4 intergovernmental organizations were in attendance. A representative of one other United Nations organization also participated. A complete list of Conference participants is given in *Appendix B*.

INAUGURAL CEREMONIES

3. Mr Purushottam Mudbhary, Secretary of the thirtieth FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific, greeted delegates on behalf of the Conference Secretariat.
4. The Senior Officers Meeting was opened with addresses by Mr Hiroyuki Konuma, Assistant Director-General and Regional Representative of FAO, Mr Kim Kwan-Yong, Governor of the Province of Gyeongsangbuk-do, and His Excellency, Yoo Jeong-Bok, Minister for Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Government of the Republic of Korea.
5. Mr Konuma expressed appreciation to the Government of the Republic of Korea and the Province of Gyeongsangbuk-do for excellent support in hosting the meeting. Mr Konuma highlighted the overriding challenge of ensuring food security for the region's growing population, which is becoming increasingly prosperous and more demanding of nutritious, safe and diversified foods. Mr Konuma stressed that while the region was on track to meet the Millennium Development Goal of reducing poverty, this progress had not been translated into a commensurate decrease in the proportion of undernourished. He emphasized that the present situation of high food prices and continuing high number of chronic hungry was largely a result of the low priority given to agriculture in the last three decades, and therefore stressed the importance of increasing official development assistance and the proportions of national budgets allocated to agriculture.
6. Mr Kim Kwan-Yong welcomed delegates to the Province of Gyeongsangbuk-do, highlighting the rich cultural history of the province and its remarkable progress in agricultural productivity and economic growth.
7. His Excellency, Yoo Jeong-Bok, welcomed delegates and participants to Gyeongju on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Korea and formally opened the Senior Officers Meeting. His Excellency outlined the evolution of the Republic of Korea from one of the poorest countries of the world just four decades ago to the current rank of thirteenth largest economy, as a result of the tenets of Saemaeul Undong, namely Koreans' spirit of diligence, self-help and cooperation. Agricultural productivity had benefited from enhanced competitiveness, spurred by investment in technology and infrastructure, more durable and improved crop varieties, scaling up of the size of farmland, farm mechanization and better farm organization. His Excellency outlined the Republic of Korea's willingness to share its experiences and know-how in these areas with developing countries in the region. He further urged increased cooperation and support among countries in the region to address urgent challenges and achieve common goals in agricultural development.
8. The Inaugural Ceremony of the Ministerial Meeting was held on 30 September. Mr Jacques Diouf, Director-General of FAO, warmly welcomed the President of the Republic of Korea and all participants to the Conference. He appreciated the importance accorded to the meeting, exemplified by the large number of participating ministers and secretaries of agriculture.
9. His Excellency Lee Myung-bak, President of the Republic of Korea, delivered the inaugural address, outlining the progress of the Republic of Korea in eradicating hunger and achieving impressive economic development since the country last hosted the FAO Regional Conference in 1966. His Excellency noted the many challenges that countries confront in their efforts to overcome

food insecurity, including difficulties in increasing agricultural productivity, competition for land for urban and industrial expansion and biofuel crop production, climate change and frequent natural disasters. The President praised the progress of many countries of the region in reducing hunger and suggested these experiences provided optimism for others. He welcomed the L'Aquila Initiative on Food Security and urged greater cooperation among countries to free the world from hunger and poverty.

10. His Excellency highlighted the Republic of Korea's low-carbon, green growth initiative that emphasizes clean energy, green industry and sustainable development. The President informed the Conference of the Republic of Korea's establishment of the Global Green Growth Institute to share experience and expertise in this area with other countries.

11. The text of the inaugural address of President Lee Myung-bak is given in *Appendix D*.

ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON, VICE-CHAIRPERSONS AND RAPPORTEUR

12. Delegates unanimously elected Mr Kim Jong Jin, Director-General of the International Cooperation Bureau, Ministry for Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Government of the Republic of Korea, as Chairperson of the Senior Officers Meeting. They also elected all the heads of delegations of Vice-Ministerial and Secretary of Agriculture rank as Vice-Chairpersons of the Senior Officers Meeting, and Dr Gurbachan Singh, of India, as Rapporteur.

13. His Excellency, Yoo Jeong-Bok, Minister for Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Government of the Republic of Korea, was elected Chairperson of the Ministerial Meeting. Delegates also elected all the other Ministers present as Vice-Chairpersons of the Conference, and His Excellency Joketani Cokanasiga, of Fiji, as Rapporteur of the Conference.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND TIMETABLE

14. The Meeting adopted the agenda which is given in Appendix A. Documents submitted to the Conference are listed in *Appendix C*.

STATEMENT OF THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

15. In his statement, Mr Jacques Diouf acknowledged the impressive economic growth in the Asia-Pacific region during the past two decades, which had resulted in a major reduction of poverty. He noted, however, that the reduction of hunger had been slower, with an estimated 578 million hungry people remaining in Asia and the Pacific in 2010. Mr Diouf outlined the main challenges and priorities for the future, highlighting the urgency of devising effective mechanisms for dealing with increased volatility of agricultural prices. He stressed that strong political will and adequate financial resources will be needed if hunger is to be eradicated from the world.

16. The Director-General described the ongoing processes of reform within FAO, focused on results-based management, decentralization, organizational streamlining, improvement of human resource management and more effective governance. He concluded with a call for increased regional and sub-regional cooperation to achieve shared objectives in the battle against hunger.

17. The complete text of the Director-General's statement is given in *Appendix E*.

STATEMENT OF THE INDEPENDENT CHAIRPERSON OF THE FAO COUNCIL

18. His Excellency, Luc Guyau, Independent Chairperson of the FAO Council, addressed the Conference. He reflected on the FAO reform process, emphasizing the new status and responsibilities of the Regional Conferences as governing bodies of FAO. H.E. Luc Guyau expressed optimism over reform of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS), various ongoing decentralization processes, enhanced collaboration with partner organizations, and increased participation in FAO-related decision making.

II. MINISTERIAL-LEVEL SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE

19. The Ministerial-level Session of the Conference involved the full delegations of all participating countries and organizations, including 11 Ministers and 6 Vice-Ministers responsible for agriculture.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE WORLD SUMMIT ON FOOD SECURITY AND THE 36TH SESSION OF THE FAO CONFERENCE, NOTABLY IMPLEMENTATION OF THE IMMEDIATE PLAN OF ACTION (IPA), INCLUDING THE DECENTRALIZED OFFICES NETWORK

20. The Conference considered matters arising from the World Summit on Food Security, held in Rome from 16 to 18 November 2009, and the thirty-sixth session of the FAO Conference, held in Rome from 18 to 23 November 2009.¹

21. The Conference welcomed progress made in the implementation of the Immediate Plan of Action (IPA), particularly those having an impact on decentralization. It expressed its interest with various decentralization initiatives, including decentralization of the Technical Cooperation Programme, greater authority delegated to decentralized offices on procurement, transfer of management and reporting lines of Regional Technical Officers to regional offices, and transfer of administrative and financial responsibility of FAO Representatives to the Regional Offices.

22. The Conference considered the ongoing decentralization and recommended additional measures to further increase efficiency and productivity: i) further strengthening of the technical capacity of the decentralized offices and, in particular, to ensure provision of adequate technical support to country offices; ii) enhancing the capacity of the decentralized offices to provide timely response to emergencies and disasters and address investment issues; iii) implementing staff mobility and rotation policies; and iv) developing a decentralized offices network with effective linkages within the Organization, as well as with the concerned governments, other UN system organizations and development partners.

23. The Conference noted the broad outline of the future vision on decentralization, as presented in the Secretariat document, and requested FAO to take into account the above-mentioned recommendations in further elaborating the vision for the future.

24. The Conference emphasized the need for adequate financial resources to be provided to the Asia-Pacific region, commensurate with the challenges of achieving food security in the region, which is home to two-thirds of the world's poor and hungry, and called upon FAO to allocate budget resources accordingly.

25. The delegation from Timor-Leste requested the establishment of a full-fledged FAO country office in its capital, Dili, in view of the serious challenges faced by the country in the area of food security and agricultural development.

ESTABLISHMENT OF ONE GLOBAL SHARED SERVICES CENTRE

26. The Conference considered the experience to date with the Shared Services Centre (SSC) in providing efficient and effective administrative services from hubs at Bangkok, Budapest and Santiago.²

27. The Conference took note of the external reviews of the SSC carried out in 2008-09, which had recommended consideration of a single hub structure in Budapest. It further noted that the FAO Council had stressed that any decision on closing the SSC hubs in Bangkok and Santiago must be preceded by in-depth study and analysis taking into account both efficiency and effectiveness concerns, and include consultations with the Regional Conferences as well as the Finance Committee.

28. The Conference was informed of the ongoing in-depth study of the functions of Bangkok and Santiago SSC hubs, and of regional office administrative services in general, being undertaken in

¹ APRC/10/5, APRC/10/5 Add.1

² APRC/10/9 and APRC/10/INF/11

2010 in order to ensure quality and effective services at the lowest cost, which would be considered by the Finance Committee at its 135th session in October. The Conference was concerned that findings of the in-depth study were not yet available and requested that they be provided, in full, to the Finance Committee, and to all member countries.

29. Delegates appreciated the quality of services provided by the SSC hub in Bangkok and expressed concern about the ability of a centralized SSC in Budapest to provide adequate services to the field programme activities in the region. Delegates expressed a preference to maintain the SSC hub in Bangkok. The Conference urged that the analysis of the SSC structure and functions be carried out in a deliberate manner and include criteria related to quality and effectiveness of services delivered, striking a balance with possible long-term cost savings.

REFORM OF THE COMMITTEE ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY (CFS)

30. Mr Noel de Luna, Chairperson of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) informed the Conference of measures to reform the Committee on World Food Security (CFS),³ which had also been the focus of a Conference side event entitled, “Enhancing National and Regional Governance of Food Security and Nutrition: Capitalizing on CFS Reform” organized on 29 September.

31. The Conference considered CFS reform as a critical part of the process to bring about coherence and consistency at all levels to ensure food security and nutrition for all. The Conference appreciated the increased inclusiveness of stakeholders in the CFS and encouraged effective involvement from civil society as well as trade and industry.

32. Delegates welcomed efforts to establish closer linkages between CFS and the Regional Conference. The Conference noted existing food security fora in the region and its preference that these be used to better connect the CFS and regional activities. Alternative options would require full resource implication analysis.

REPORT ON FAO ACTIVITIES IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC REGION IN THE BIENNIUM 2008-09 AND ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE MAIN RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 29TH REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

33. Mr Hiroyuki Konuma, Assistant Director-General and Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific, reported on the major FAO activities in the region in the past biennium.⁴ Mr Konuma highlighted FAO’s efforts to assist member countries under the following key thematic areas: food security and agricultural policy; food safety and value chain development; climate change adaptation and mitigation; sustainable natural resources management; rapid response to transboundary infectious diseases; and rapid response to natural disasters.

CONSIDERATION OF THE REGIONAL PRIORITY FRAMEWORK (2010-2019) AND STRUCTURAL CHANGES IN RAP

34. The Conference considered the Regional Priority Framework (2010-2019) and structural changes in the Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific.⁵

35. The Conference was informed of the elaboration of the Regional Priority Framework (2010-2019), developed through a consultative process with member countries and partner organizations.

36. The Conference endorsed the Regional Priority Framework. Given that time for discussion on this agenda item was limited, the Conference encouraged member countries to provide written comments on the Regional Priority Framework to help guide its future implementation.

37. Delegates noted the linkages of the Regional Priority Framework with FAO’s Strategic Framework, embodying the Organization’s three global goals and 11 Strategic Objectives, which were translated into regional actions with focused attention on key challenges and priorities of the

³ APRC/10/6

⁴ APRC/10/7

⁵ APRC/10/10

region. The Conference stressed the importance of maintaining effective linkages between decentralized offices and headquarters staff.

38. While welcoming the initial steps agreed to under the decentralization process in FAO, the Conference recognized that more remains to be done with respect to the commensurate delegation of authority and allocation of resources and urged FAO to advance the process accordingly.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF WORK AND BUDGET 2010-11 AND AREAS OF PRIORITY ACTIONS FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC REGION FOR THE FOLLOWING BIENNIUM

39. The Ministerial session considered progress in implementing the Programme of Work and Budget 2010-11 and priority actions for the region,⁶ expanding on the deliberations initiated during the Senior Officers Meeting on 29 September.

40. The Conference reiterated the need for FAO to allocate additional resources to the Asia and Pacific region, in accordance to the magnitude of the challenges of achieving food security for the two-thirds of the world's hungry who live in the region. The Conference also urged FAO to give due consideration to the special needs and challenges of the countries of the Pacific.

REPORT OF THE SENIOR OFFICERS MEETING

41. Dr Gurbachan Singh, Rapporteur of the Senior Officers Meeting, introduced the report of the Senior Officers Meeting to the Ministerial-level Session and summarized the key findings and recommendations resulting from the deliberations during that portion of the Conference. The Ministers and other delegates approved the findings and recommendations of the Senior Officers Meeting, which comprise an integral part of this Conference report.

ROUND TABLE – FROM DECLARATIONS TO ACTIONS: FOLLOW UP TO L'AQUILA INITIATIVE ON FOOD SECURITY AND WSFS IN THE REGION

42. An informal Ministerial round table discussion on follow up to the L'Aquila Initiative on Food Security and the World Summit on Food Security was convened on 1 October.⁷ A note on the round table is given in *Appendix F*.

OTHER MATTERS

43. The Conference acknowledged the specific challenges and needs of member countries in the Pacific and other small island nations, particularly with respect to high vulnerability to climate change impacts, and urged FAO and other development partners to give due consideration and adequate resources to address these needs.

44. The Conference encouraged the Secretariat to seek feedback from member countries on the conduct of the Regional Conference, with a view towards enhancing the organization and efficiency of future sessions, maximizing opportunities for exchange among ministers and other delegates, and striking a balance between discussion of technical issues and programme and policy matters.

45. Delegates noted that the twenty-ninth Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific had unanimously supported the view that the Regional Office should be strengthened in such a manner as to ensure that the financial and human resources provided for the office would be comparable to those committed for other regions that have newly established sub-regional offices. The Conference requested that such additional human and financial resources should be provided and progress in this matter reported at the thirty-seventh Conference in June 2011.

Parallel and side events

46. A side event on enhancing national and regional governance on food security in conjunction with CFS reform was held on 29 September. A summary of the side event is given in *Appendix G*.

⁶ APRC/10/8

⁷ APRC/10/11

47. A side event on responsible agricultural investment was held on 1 October. A note on the the event is given in *Appendix H*.

48. A representative of the NGO/CSO consultation held in parallel with the Conference provided a statement to the Conference, summarizing the results of the consultation. The statement is given in *Appendix I*.

III. INTEGRATING CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION AND MITIGATION FOR FOOD SECURITY AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE REGION

49. The Conference deliberated on the implications of climate change for regional food security, rural livelihoods, and sustainable development in the region, and the contributions of the agricultural sectors, including crops, livestock, forestry, fisheries and aquaculture, to global greenhouse gas emissions.⁸

50. Delegates agreed that issues related to climate change adaptation, mitigation, food security and sustainable development are integrally linked and need to be addressed through integrated approaches. The Conference highlighted that climate change impacts were already being felt in the agricultural sectors, and therefore particular attention on adaptation was needed urgently.

51. Delegates agreed that various successful agricultural practices – including restoration of degraded lands, sound management of grazing lands, improved crop cultivation, improved agriculture water management, best practices in aquaculture and agroforestry and development of biogas – can contribute to both adaptation and mitigation objectives.

52. The Conference urged member countries, FAO, development partners, non-governmental organizations, civil society and the private sector to collaborate in integrating climate change adaptation and mitigation considerations into agriculture and development planning and implementation. The Conference requested FAO to continue assisting member countries in formulating and implementing sound climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies and action plans, facilitating practical actions for technology transfer and building capacities.

53. The Conference encouraged member countries to review existing policies and institutions, as required, to ensure their relevance and effectiveness in addressing emerging challenges related to adaptation and mitigation in agriculture sectors. The Conference requested FAO to provide advice to member countries, sub-regional and regional organizations in adjusting and harmonizing policies, programmes and institutions dealing with climate change adaptation and mitigation.

54. The Conference requested FAO, in collaboration with other relevant international organizations, to assist member countries in collecting and analyzing reliable data and information on climate change impacts, especially at local levels, and on emissions from different agricultural production systems, to support planning and informed decision making. The Conference urged FAO to develop and disseminate practical, user-friendly tools and methodologies for such data collection and analyses.

55. Delegates stressed that the geographical size and diversity of the region required specific and differentiated responses and actions, and that adaptation and mitigation options needed to be carefully prioritized. The Conference requested FAO to provide targeted technical support to member countries and build capacities for implementing practical climate change adaptation and mitigation activities in the areas of crops, livestock, forestry, fisheries, aquaculture, land and water management.

56. The Conference highlighted synergistic opportunities related to restoration of degraded lands and forests, through reforestation, forest rehabilitation and agroforestry, and requested FAO to support member countries in these efforts, noting the increased demand for land and water resources.

57. The Conference requested FAO to continue support for initiatives in member countries to test and demonstrate the feasibility of various climate change adaptation and mitigation activities in the

⁸ APRC/10/2

agricultural sectors, such as the United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (UN-REDD).

58. The Conference recommended that FAO, in conjunction with other relevant organizations, provide guidance to member countries for establishing and implementing technologically sound, robust and consistent methodologies for monitoring, reporting and verification of greenhouse gas emissions, carbon stocks and other parameters related to climate change in the agriculture sector.

59. The Conference encouraged FAO and member countries to explore opportunities for enhancing resilience through innovative risk financing and insurance schemes to spread risk brought about by climate change and other natural disasters.

60. The Conference recognized the importance of providing financial support to developing countries for climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts in line with commitments made under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and other relevant international agreements.

61. Recognizing the importance of regional collaboration and sharing of knowledge and experiences, the Conference requested FAO to facilitate the formulation of a regional strategy for mainstreaming climate change adaptation and mitigation activities in the agricultural sectors, and the establishment of regional cooperation mechanisms and networks, taking due consideration of differing sub-regional needs and conditions.

62. The Conference encouraged FAO to continue assisting member countries to effectively engage in international climate change negotiations and dialogues.

IV. EXPERIENCES AND POLICY LESSONS FROM THE REGION IN DEALING WITH THE GLOBAL FOOD AND FINANCIAL CRISES

63. The Conference reviewed experiences and policy lessons emerging from the recent global food and financial crises, based in part on the findings of a study of nine Asian countries conducted by FAO.⁹

64. Delegates noted that the region had, on the whole, coped with the impact of the twin crises without suffering the serious consequences caused by the Asian economic crisis of the late 1990s. Countries had responded to the sharp increases in food prices in 2007-2008 with a range of interventions, including bans on the export of food commodities, price stabilization, and strengthening of social safety nets.

65. Delegates recognized that greater investment was required in the entire food chain. The Conference urged member countries to assign high priority to agricultural investment and requested FAO to support member countries in mobilizing external resources and ensuring effective use of investment funds in the agriculture sector, particularly in science and technology development, water infrastructure development, agricultural extension, food storage and marketing systems and capacity building.

66. Delegates expressed appreciation for FAO's efforts to increase investment in agriculture and for its collaboration with ASEAN, SAARC and PIF in formulating regional frameworks, strategies and programmes for food security. The Conference urged FAO to continue close collaboration with ASEAN, SAARC, PIF and other sub-regional organizations to foster coordination at national, regional and global levels.

67. Recognizing that social safety nets allow governments to let producer prices to rise and bring about supply responses while protecting the food security of the poor in crises, the Conference urged member countries to strengthen social safety net programmes as a means of protecting the consumption of the poor during crises.

68. The Conference recommended that FAO conduct analytical studies and engage in policy dialogue with concerned stakeholders with a view to developing policy options for a more stable

⁹ APRC/10/3

global trading system for food, which can enhance food security while providing adequate incentives for food producers. The Conference also suggested that this matter be referred to the Committee on World Food Security to be convened in October 2010 for further high-level discussions.

69. The Conference encouraged member countries to take measures to enhance the effectiveness of regional food banks or food security reserves to ensure that food will be available for governments to provide to the poor in the event of a future crisis, without distorting markets.

70. The Conference urged member countries to enhance the accuracy, timeliness and transparency of food production statistics, information on stockpiles and estimates of projected food production, in order to provide reliable food security information to policy makers and avoid speculation.

V. INCREASING CROP PRODUCTIVITY FOR SUSTAINABLE FOOD SECURITY IN THE REGION

71. The Conference considered the sluggish growth of crop productivity and technological advances which have obvious implications for food security in the region.¹⁰ With limited scope for irrigation expansion, increasing competition for water, and limited opportunity to increase arable lands, the urgency to improve crop productivity is clear.

72. Delegates agreed on five key strategic challenges: i) developing sustainable technologies; ii) improving technology transfer mechanisms; iii) developing market chains; iv) targeting the excluded, including ethnic minorities and women farmers; and v) developing institutions.

73. Delegates emphasized the importance of sustainable intensification of crop production through an ecosystem approach and requested FAO to strengthen efforts further on this approach. The Conference requested FAO to support member countries' efforts to make increased use of local diversity, conservation agriculture, integrated pest management, integrated plant nutrient management and integrated water management.

74. The Conference recommended that FAO work with member countries to increase productivity of crops that are of particular relevance to the diets of food- and nutritionally-insecure people, including starchy staples, pulses, coarse grains, vegetables, horticultural crops and oil crops.

75. The Conference urged member countries and international donors and organizations to increase investment in crop research and development, based on rigorous priority-setting involving all stakeholders to ensure focused and relevant research.

76. The Conference acknowledged that nutritional security was an indispensable element of food security and endorsed FAO's efforts to promote and enhance nutritional security.

77. Delegates urged FAO, in conjunction with CGIAR institutes and other organizations, to assist member countries with rapid diffusion and adoption of appropriate technologies for crop intensification, by facilitating inter-country collaboration, including at sub-regional and regional levels and through South-South cooperation.

78. The Conference recommended that FAO work with member countries to speed up technology transfer in support of crop intensification through the following measures: i) re-examination of policies on release of new varieties to speed up variety release processes; ii) participatory varietal selection to encourage the speedy development and adoption of appropriate varieties by the end users; iii) empowerment of farmers' organizations to conduct quality control testing on agrichemicals; and iv) revision of extension services to be more demand-driven instead of supply-led.

79. Delegates recognized the need to develop viable and sustainable market chains to better convey price signals and increase profits for farmers. The Conference recommended that FAO assist member countries in the following areas: i) facilitating public-private partnerships in research, extension and marketing; ii) better connecting of producers, particularly smallholders, to markets; and iii) building capacity in food safety and phytosanitary matters.

¹⁰ APRC/10/4

80. The Conference encouraged member countries to implement appropriate measures to bring excluded and marginalized farmers into the mainstream, including provision of affordable credit, crop insurance, adult education, more linkages with farmer institutions, and programmes to improve hygiene, sanitation and food utilization. FAO was requested to assist these initiatives.

VI. STATE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC REGION

81. The Conference was briefed on the regional state of food and agriculture in Asia and the Pacific.¹¹ Delegates recognized that the Asia-Pacific region continues to have the largest number of undernourished people in the world – about 62 percent of the world's total. Although the number of undernourished people in the region declined in 2010, the figure was still higher than levels prior to the 2008 food crisis.

82. Delegates noted that international food commodity prices remained high by historical standards, with recent weather-related natural disasters pushing up international wheat and rice prices. Despite these setbacks, wheat stocks remain higher than before the 2008 food crisis and rice production was expected to reach record levels in 2010.

83. Delegates were concerned that agricultural productivity growth continued to decline as a result of inequitable access to productive assets, slow innovation and adaptation of advanced farming technologies, inadequate marketing infrastructure, and declining development assistance and public spending for agriculture. The Conference also noted the impacts that climate change were having on the agricultural sector in the region, and recognized that those already vulnerable to food insecurity were most at risk.

84. The Conference recognized opportunities for revitalizing the agriculture sector by increasing investment in research and technology transfer, expanding rural education and health services, and improving market access for small farmers.

VII. STRENGTHENING THE LINKAGES BETWEEN TECHNICAL COMMISSIONS AND THE APRC

85. The Conference was briefed on the work of the five Asia-Pacific Regional Technical Commissions (RTCs) that have Secretariats based at the FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, covering the sub-sectoral areas of animal production and health, agricultural statistics, fisheries, forestry and plant protection.¹²

86. The Conference was advised that the RTCs provide a unique opportunity to set priorities for sectoral work and guide decisions on new programme initiatives – both for collaborative country actions and for FAO work in the region. The specific regional focus of the RTCs gives greater legitimacy and “ownership” to regional policy studies, outlook studies and the development of codes of practice. Strong linkages to key sectoral policy makers in the region ensures that the RTCs are an integral part of FAO's knowledge network.

87. FAO reform measures have given the FAO Regional Conference an enhanced decision-making role and mandate for guiding the FAO programme of work and budget in the region, however, the FAO Regional Conference does not report to FAO global technical committees covering agriculture (COAG), fisheries (COFI) or forestry (COFO). Moreover, the FAO Regional Conference currently has a relatively restricted agenda and sub-sectoral areas of forestry, fisheries and statistics, in particular, are typically under-represented in Conference deliberations.

88. Delegates recognized that these constraints limited the advice provided to FAO on regional priorities for these sub-sectors and that the RTCs offer effective mechanisms for addressing specific

¹¹ APRC/10/INF/5

¹² APRC/10/INF/6

sub-sectoral technical matters. The Conference agreed that the recommendations of the RTCs can be considered the regional priorities for the sub-sectors in which they are competent.

89. Noting that the areas of food security and nutrition are not directly covered by an RTC, delegates suggested that the Animal Production and Health Commission for Asia and the Pacific (APHCA) and the Asia-Pacific Plant Protection Commission (APPPC) consider how their work could better contribute to work in these areas.

90. Appreciating the competence of the RTCs in their specific sub-sectors and the participation of high-level policy makers in RTC sessions, the Conference recognized the opportunity for strengthening the functions of the RTCs by reporting to the APRC on sub-sectoral issues. The Conference recommended that summary reports of the outcomes and recommendations of the sessions of the RTCs should be made available to member countries prior to the FAO Regional Conference. The Conference also recommended that the schedules of RTC sessions should be adjusted to precede the FAO Regional Conference.

91. To ensure that the RTCs effectively represent regional priorities, the Conference recommended that all member countries consider membership and active participation in the work of the RTCs, in accordance with country priorities.

VIII. FAO'S STRATEGY FOR AND APPROACHES TO DISASTER PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE AND MITIGATION IN THE REGION

92. The Conference was informed of FAO's strategy and approaches to disaster preparedness, response and mitigation in the region.¹³

93. Delegates recognized that natural disasters often severely affect people in rural areas and those who depend on agriculture-based livelihoods. The Conference noted that FAO's new corporate strategy is therefore focused on improved preparedness and effective response to food and agricultural threats and emergencies.

94. Delegates recognized that disaster risk reduction and disaster risk management should be considered integral components of hunger and poverty alleviation efforts in the region.

95. The Conference recognized the benefits of strengthening capacities to prepare for and respond to natural disasters, particularly at the local and community levels, and with a special focus on community-based disaster risk management. The Conference further appreciated opportunities for expanded sub-regional collaboration to build capacities for disaster and risk reduction, preparedness and effective emergency response, and welcomed plans for establishing regional hubs for emergency operations and resource mobilization in the FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific.

IX. IMPLEMENTATION OF REDD AND WHAT IT MEANS FOR FORESTRY AND AGRICULTURE IN THE REGION

96. The Conference was briefed on the establishment and early implementation activities of the United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (UN-REDD) and related implications for forestry and agriculture in the region.¹⁴

97. Delegates appreciated that Indonesia, Papua New Guinea and Viet Nam, from the Asia-Pacific region, were included among initial pilot UN-REDD countries programme. Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Nepal, Philippines, Solomon Islands and Sri Lanka have been accepted as UN-REDD observer countries.

¹³ APRC/10/INF/7

¹⁴ APRC/10/INF/8

98. While appreciating FAO's contributions to the UN-REDD programme, delegates urged FAO to work with UNDP and UNEP to harmonize, simplify and speed up programme delivery, and to prepare for the second phase of the programme.

X. INTERNATIONAL TREATY ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

99. The Conference was briefed on recent developments related to the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, including the Treaty's Multilateral System and the Funding Strategy – Benefit Sharing Fund.¹⁵

100. Delegates recognized the need for governments in the region to strengthen national programmes and policies for the conservation and sustainable use of genetic resources for food and agriculture, and for the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from their use, including through adequate and predictable funding.

101. The Conference appreciated FAO's role, as Secretariat of the Treaty, in supporting countries in the region in the development of relevant national programmes and policies for the conservation and sustainable use of genetic resources for food and agriculture, and for sharing the benefits arising from their use. Delegates noted that participation offered significant opportunities for ensuring food security, including the ability of members to adapt agriculture to climate change.

XI. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF WORK AND BUDGET 2010-11 AND AREAS OF PRIORITY ACTIONS FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC REGION FOR THE FOLLOWING BIENNIUM

102. The Conference considered ongoing progress in implementing the Programme of Work and Budget 2010-11 and discussed priority actions for the region for the coming biennium.¹⁶

103. The Conference endorsed the five areas of regional priority action for FAO work in the Asia-Pacific region for 2010-11 and 2012-13: i) strengthening food and nutritional security; ii) fostering agricultural production and rural development; iii) enhancing equitable productive and sustainable natural resource management and utilization; iv) improving capacity to prepare and respond to food and agricultural threats and emergencies; and v) coping with the impacts of climate change on agriculture and food and nutritional security.

104. Delegates noted that the planned actions for 2010-11 and 2012-13 were comprehensive and contributed to nearly all of FAO's Organizational Results, but it was difficult to identify detailed priorities. The Conference urged the Secretariat to give more focus to the planned actions, giving full consideration to FAO's comparative advantages, and suggested that special emphasis be placed on the following areas of work: i) sustainable crop intensification and diversification to improve productivity; ii) transboundary animal/plant diseases and emergency response to natural disasters; iii) genetic resources; ; iv) climate change adaptation and mitigation; v) food safety and nutrition; and vi) agriculture diversification with emphasis on livestock productivity, aquaculture, and sustainable forest management.

105. Delegates recognized that the implementation of the new results-based framework at FAO was a work in progress, having started only in 2010. The Conference appreciated that once the complete cycle of results-based planning was in place, it could expect to receive, at its next session in 2012, reports on progress against results indicators and targets in the previous biennium (2010-11), information on operational plans for the current biennium (2012-13), and proposed areas of priority action for the next biennium (2014-15). The Conference requested that these reports include indications of budget allocation and expenditure by regional result, and progress on the utilization of

¹⁵ APRC/10/INF/9

¹⁶ APRC/10/8

Country Programming Frameworks (formerly National Medium Term Priority Frameworks) in guiding FAO's work at country level.

106. The Conference recommended a review of scheduling for future Regional Conference sessions, to ensure that adequate discussions and considerations could be made prior to the final deliberations and approval of the programme of work and budget by the FAO Conference.

107. Delegates emphasized that the Asia-Pacific region contained the majority of hungry people in the world and that governments faced special challenges in addressing this issue. Delegates highlighted that the FAO budget allocated to Asia and the Pacific was not proportional to the magnitude of undernourished in the region. The Conference agreed that the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals that related to contributions from the agriculture sector could not be met without due attention to Asia and the Pacific.

108. Delegates noted that programmes based on extra-budgetary resources are now also incorporated into the FAO planning process and that there were a number of examples of ongoing programmes and priorities supported in this manner. Additional support to priority programmes through extra-budgetary contributions were encouraged.

109. The Conference encouraged the FAO Regional Office to collaborate closely with other development partners and regional organizations to identify priorities and areas of synergy to increase efficiency in delivery of programmes in the region.

XII. CONCLUDING ITEMS

DATE AND PLACE OF THE THIRTY-FIRST FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

110. The Government of the Viet Nam graciously offered to host the Thirty-first Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific in 2012, in Viet Nam.

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

111. The Conference unanimously adopted the report as presented by the Rapporteur.

CLOSURE OF THE CONFERENCE

112. On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Korea, His Excellency Yoo Jeong-Bok, thanked the participants for their constructive and positive contributions, which had contributed to the Conference's success. In closing the Conference, he called for increased efforts, investment and international cooperation to address the serious challenges that need to be addressed to eliminate hunger in the region.

113. Participants expressed their heartfelt appreciation to the people and Government of the Republic of Korea for the warm hospitality and excellent arrangements in hosting the Conference.

APPENDIX A**AGENDA****SENIOR OFFICERS MEETING**

27 – 29 September 2010

I. INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

1. Opening of the Senior Officers Meeting
2. Election of the Chairperson, Vice-Chairpersons and Appointment of Rapporteur
3. Adoption of Agenda and Timetable

II. REGIONAL AND GLOBAL POLICY ISSUES

4. Integrating climate change mitigation and adaptation for food security and sustainable development in the region
5. Experiences and policy lessons from the region in dealing with the global food and financial crises
6. Increasing crop productivity for sustainable food security in the region

III. INFORMATION ITEMS

7. State of Food and Agriculture in Asia and the Pacific Region
8. Strengthening the linkages between technical commissions and the APRC
9. FAO's strategy for and approaches to disaster preparedness, response and mitigation in the region
10. Implementation of REDD and what it means for forestry and agriculture in the region
11. International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
12. Implementation of the Programme of Work and Budget 2010-11 and Areas of Priority Actions for Asia and the Pacific Region for the following biennium

IV. OTHER MATTERS

13. Any other business

V. CONCLUDING ITEMS

14. Adoption of the Report of the Senior Officers Meeting
15. Closure of the Senior Officers Meeting

PLENARY SESSION
30 September – 1 October 2010

I. INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

1. Inaugural Ceremony
2. Election of the Chairperson, Vice-Chairpersons and Appointment of Rapporteur
3. Adoption of Agenda and Timetable
4. Statement by the Director-General
5. Statement by the Independent Chairperson of the FAO Council
6. Matters arising from the World Summit on Food Security and the 36th Session of FAO Conference, notably implementation of the Immediate Plan of Action (IPA), including the Decentralized Offices Network
7. Reform of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS)

II. DISCUSSION ITEMS

8. Report on FAO activities in Asia and the Pacific region in the biennium 2008-09 and actions taken on the main recommendations of the 29th Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific
9. Implementation of the Programme of Work and Budget 2010-11 and Areas of Priority Actions for Asia and the Pacific Region for the following biennium
10. Establishment of One Global Shared Services Centre
11. Consideration of the regional priority framework (2010-2019) and structural changes in RAP
12. Report of the Senior Officers Meeting

III. ROUND TABLE

13. Round table – from declarations to actions: follow up to L'Aquila Initiative on Food Security and WSFS in the region

IV. OTHER MATTERS

14. Any other matter

V. CONCLUDING ITEMS

15. Date and Place of the 31st FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific
16. Adoption of the Report (including the Report of the Senior Officers Meeting)
17. Closure of the Conference

APPENDIX C**LIST OF DOCUMENTS**

APRC/10/1	Provisional annotated agenda
APRC/10/2	Integrating climate change mitigation and adaptation for food security and sustainable development in the region
APRC/10/3	Experiences and policy lessons from the region in dealing with the global food and financial crises
APRC/10/4	Increasing crop productivity for sustainable food security in the region
APRC/10/5	Matters arising from the World Summit on Food Security and the 36th Session of the FAO Conference, notably Implementation of the Immediate Plan of Action (IPA), including the Decentralized Offices Network
APRC/10/5 Addendum	Towards a New Vision for the Decentralized Offices Network
APRC/10/6	Reform of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS)
APRC/10/7	Report on FAO activities in Asia and the Pacific region in the biennium 2008-09 and actions taken on the main recommendations of the 29th Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific
APRC/10/8	Implementation of the Programme of Work and Budget 2010-11 and Areas of Priority Actions for Asia and the Pacific Region for the following biennium
APRC/10/9	Establishment of One Global Shared Services Centre
APRC/10/10	FAO Regional Priority Framework for Asia and the Pacific (2010-2019): Towards food security in the region
APRC/10/11	Round table – from declarations to actions: follow up to L’Aquila Initiative on Food Security and WSFS in the region

INF SERIES

APRC/10/INF/1	Provisional timetable
APRC/10/INF/2	Provisional list of documents
APRC/10/INF/3	Information note
APRC/10/INF/4	Statement by the Director-General
APRC/10/INF/5	State of Food and Agriculture in Asia and the Pacific Region
APRC/10/INF/6	Strengthening the linkages between technical commissions and the APRC
APRC/10/INF/7	FAO’s strategy for and approaches to disaster preparedness, response and mitigation in the region
APRC/10/INF/8	Implementation of REDD and what it means for forestry and agriculture in the region
APRC/10/INF/9	International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
APRC/10/INF/10	Evaluation of FAO's Role and Work related to Water
APRC/10/INF/11	Paper Presented to the CoC-IEE Meeting of 23 June 2010 Reporting Discussions at LARC, ARC and ERC on Decentralization and the Shared Services Centre (SSC)

OD SERIES

APRC/10/OD/1	Order of the Day
APRC/10/OD/2	Order of the Day
APRC/10/OD/3	Order of the Day
APRC/10/OD/4	Order of the Day
APRC/10/OD/5	Order of the Day

APPENDIX D

INAUGURAL STATEMENT

H.E. LEE MYUNG-BAK
THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

AT THE OPENING SESSION OF
THE THIRTIETH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

GYEONGJU, 30 SEPTEMBER 2010

*Your Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates of the FAO members countries of the Asia-Pacific region,
Dr. Jacques Diouf, Director General of the FAO,
Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,*

First of all, I wish to extend to you my warmest welcome on the opening of the 30th FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific. I also welcome all of you to our ancient capital of Gyeongju, a city whose history goes back more than two thousand years.

I applaud the excellent work done by the organizing committee and the FAO Secretariat. I wish to thank all those who worked so hard to prepare for this important meeting.

The Republic of Korea hosted the 8th Regional Conference back in 1966 in Seoul. At that time, Korea was one of the poorest countries in the world. It suffered from the chronic lack of food; Korea had to rely on the FAO and our friends around the world for food assistance and agricultural training.

Forty years have gone by and today, I am proud to say that through hard work and the launching of the green revolution, we have eradicated hunger and have attained food security.

Furthermore, we have transformed our country to become an industrialized nation from an agricultural one; and now, the 21st century will be one that is driven by information technology and the knowledge based economy. The new era will also be a green growth era.

We have certainly come a long way in forty years.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Eradicating hunger and attaining food and energy security is a global challenge. It is a moral challenge.

I know you discussed food security during yesterday's high-level session. Food security is a basic human right that is directly related to our very survival. 16% of humankind suffers from chronic hunger; a child is dying of hunger every six seconds. This is unacceptable.

Since its founding in 1945, the FAO has been striving to guarantee this basic human right for all humankind. It has pledged to work "for a world without hunger." And it has certainly done a remarkable and admirable job.

In 1996 during the World Summit on Food Security, the world adopted the Rome Declaration, promising to reduce the number of undernourished people to half their present level no later than 2015. This year, the food situation has improved slightly but unfortunately, the number of people who suffer from hunger as of last year has now reached nearly one billion.

Despite the increase in agricultural output and productivity, climate change and increase in natural disasters have worsened instability in food production and distribution. Urbanization has led to the decrease of land for agriculture. The rapid increase in global population and the increasing use of crops for biofuel are all placing burdens on the food situation. Furthermore, the international movement of food stuffs and products are being restricted which leads to higher prices. The global financial crisis has also threatened global food security.

As such, hunger has many reasons, including structural ones. It is a multifaceted issue requiring multiple approaches. However, we find hope in Asian countries that have been successful in overcoming these challenges. This is a source of hope.

In order for us to eradicate hunger and attain food security, we must first of all achieve higher productivity in food production. We must seek production models that are best suited to individual countries' needs. This in turn will also help many resolve the issue of violence and internal strife; it will help in peacefully resolving conflicts.

Advanced states must also be willing to provide and further expand humanitarian and development assistance.

Last July the international community adopted the "L'Aquila Food Security Initiative" and we must continue to do our best to implement this very important agreement. In this light, we must do our part to contribute to the Global Agriculture and Food Security Programme.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As a country that knows what it is like to suffer from hunger and as a country that has been fortunate to overcome it, we wish to share our experiences with our friends around the world. We hope we can do a small part in eradicating hunger from our planet.

Korea will continue to provide food assistance and we will also expand our assistance in the field of infrastructure that will lead to increased productivity and output. Our efforts will also be focused on developing models that are suitable to each country.

And when Korea hosts the G20 this coming November, we will do our best to seek common prosperity for all, both the advanced and the developing countries. The world must work together, seek common goals and strive for common prosperity. We must work towards a Fair World that promotes cooperation and harmony.

In order for all of our efforts to succeed, ensuring sound global governance of recipient countries is also a challenge that must be addressed. Aid must be used wisely and effectively. When these two are combined, we will come closer to achieving our collective goal.

Distinguished Guests,

Global climate change poses grave risks to our effort to attain food security. Arable land is shrinking and water is scarce. Increasing frequency of natural disasters is reducing productivity. Now, we must come up with viable ways to ensure the protection of our environment while at the same time attain sustainable development.

Our answer to this question is our Low Carbon Green Growth vision. This is our Green New Deal. It is our way to overcome the divide between humans and nature. This will allow us to overcome both anthropocentrism and eco fascism.

Green industries and green technologies can and will help us deal with the effects of climate change while reducing our dependence on fossil fuels. This year, Korea was the first country in the

world to adopt a Basic Law on Green Growth. We aim to invest 2% of our GDP every year from 2009 until 2013 in areas of green growth.

And for our green growth vision to be sustainable, global partnership is vital. This becomes evident because when it comes to climate change and the environment, no country is left unaffected. Therefore, global cooperation is a must.

For this, Korea launched the Global Green Growth Institute known as GGGI last June. This institution will come up with innovative policies and creative technological solutions and we will share these with the world.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Many agree that the importance and influence of the Asia-Pacific region is growing by the day. Korea will always remain a close partner and a true friend. We will continue to work together towards promoting regional cooperation, common prosperity and friendship.

I hope that this year's regional conference of the FAO will facilitate such friendship and partnership. There are lots we must do.

You have come to Korea at its best. Do enjoy the wonderful nature and the warm hospitality of the Korean people. Once again, congratulations and I wish you the best of luck.

Thank you.

APPENDIX E**STATEMENT BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL**

*Your Excellency, Mr Lee Myung-bak, President of the Republic of Korea,
Your Excellency, Mr Yoo Jeong-Bok, Minister of Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries,
Mr Independent Chairperson of the FAO Council,
Honourable Ministers,
Distinguished Delegates,
Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,*

Introduction

It is an honour and a great pleasure for me to be with you for this Thirtieth FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific, which is taking place in this historic city of Gyeongju, formerly the capital of the ancient Kingdom of Silla. Allow me to begin by expressing on behalf of the Organization, its personnel and all of you, our profound gratitude to the President of the Republic, His Excellency Mr Lee Myung-bak, to his Government and to the Korean people for their hospitality and their warm welcome.

This Regional Conference is the second to be held in this country, which is noted for its spectacular success in economic, social and human development. Since the last Regional Conference held in the Republic of Korea in 1966, *per capita* income has steadily risen to the point where the country now has one of the highest standards of human development in the Asia-Pacific region. It is one of the four members of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) from this region. The people and leaders of this country must be congratulated on such achievements.

State of food insecurity in the world and the region

*Mr Chairperson,
Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,*

At the World Food Summit of 1996, the Heads of State and Government pledged to halve the number of people suffering from hunger by 2015. This commitment was later reaffirmed at other international conferences, notably the Millennium Summit in 2000 and the World Food Summit: *five years later* in 2002. More recently, the World Summit of Heads of State and Government on Food Security, held last November in Rome, decided to completely eradicate hunger in the world.

FAO's most recent data on hunger portray a situation of continuing grave concern. Despite an expected decline, the number of hungry people in the world – estimated at 925 million in 2010 – remains unacceptably high. The decline in number is largely due to a more favourable economic context, notably in the developing countries, and to an easing of food prices since mid-2008. But the number remains higher than before the food and economic crises of 2008 and higher than the base period for the World Food Summit.

With regard to the Asia-Pacific region, one of its greatest successes for the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) has been in the reduction of poverty. Between 1990 and 2005, the number of persons living on less than 1.25 US dollars per day fell from 1.5 billion to 954 million, a drop of 36.4 percent. The reduction of hunger has been slower. The number of undernourished people in the region fell from 588 million in 1990-92 to 555 million in 2005-07, a reduction of 5.6 percent. FAO's latest estimates are that the region has 578 million hungry people in 2010. This is nevertheless down 12 percent from 2009.

If we look more closely at the figures, we find that the disparities between sub-regions have become more acute. The impressive progress of certain countries is eroded by the stagnation of others.

South Asia, in particular, needs greater attention, as success in reducing hunger in that area would significantly enhance the regional indicator.

Agricultural production in the region

FAO's latest figures for 2010/11 estimate cereal production in Asia at 999 million tonnes, which is 13 million tonnes or 1.2 percent higher than the previous year, against requirements of 1 074 million tonnes. Cereal imports for 2010/11 are estimated at 127 million tonnes, against exports of 42 million tonnes. That should produce a cereal trade deficit of 85 million tonnes.

Asia's output of meat and meat products in 2010 is estimated at 120 million tonnes, which is 2.5 percent up from 2009, against requirements evaluated at 128 million tonnes. Milk production in the region should grow at 4.4 percent in 2010 to reach some 263 million tonnes.

The Asia-Pacific region continues to be the world's largest producer of fish, with an output of 95 million tonnes in 2008, representing 67 percent of the global total. While the region accounts for 66 percent of global capture fisheries production, it dominates the aquaculture industry with a 90 percent share of global production. Eight countries of the region feature among the world's top ten aquaculture producers. This sector is focusing increasingly on quality and, given existing food safety standards and growing concern for quality and the environment, the public and private sectors are making great efforts to improve the safety and quality of aquaculture products, while at the same time reducing their environmental impact.

The Asia-Pacific region has a forest cover of 740 million hectares, which is 18 percent of the global forest cover. Ambitious afforestation programmes in some countries have increased the region's net forest cover by 14 million hectares in the past decade, thus reversing a long-running trend of diminishing forest cover. However, in many countries the rate of deforestation and forest degradation remains deeply disturbing.

Main challenges and priorities for the future

Today, 925 million people continue to suffer from hunger in the world. To compound matters, 29 countries have serious food shortages requiring emergency assistance. Strong political will and adequate financial resources will be needed if we are to rise to the challenge of banishing hunger from the world.

The world's population will top nine billion in 2050. Such population growth will mainly occur in the developing countries, which is where virtually all the world's hungry live. Food production will need to increase by 70 percent in the world and to double in the developing countries.

There is also competition from biofuels whose production more than tripled between 2000 and 2008. More than 110 million tonnes of cereals are diverted from food consumption each year. Nor must we forget the impact of climate change on production.

We will need to increase agricultural production and productivity in the developing countries and to strengthen the resilience of their production systems by investing in rural infrastructure, water control, rural roads, storage facilities, slaughterhouses and so forth, but also by using modern factors of production.

Official development assistance directed towards agriculture needs to reach 44 billion US dollars per year for investment in modern infrastructure, technologies and inputs. The developing countries must themselves allocate a greater share of their domestic budget to agriculture. The agricultural sector must receive at least 10 percent of public expenditure in the low-income food-deficit countries.

The increased volatility of agricultural prices in the past five years calls for special attention. This volatility threatens not only food security but also political and social stability. Market uncertainties impact directly on investment decisions and flows. It is extremely important to devise effective mechanisms to deal with sudden price hikes and dysfunctions of the agricultural markets.

FAO is examining how the international community should address the increased volatility of agricultural prices. Four avenues are being explored: the strengthening of market regulation; the implementation of stockpiling policies; international trade rules that are better adapted to this new situation; and the availability of exceptional financing for the imports of the more vulnerable countries. On Friday 24 September in Rome, FAO convened an extraordinary joint intersessional meeting of the Intergovernmental Group on Grains and the Intergovernmental Group on Rice to discuss important issues related to the recent surge in cereal prices in general and the price of wheat in particular.

The issue of price volatility and instability of agricultural markets will also be discussed at the upcoming session of the Committee on World Food Security to be held at FAO headquarters from 11 to 16 October. I should like to seize this opportunity to stress how important it is for your countries to be represented at the highest possible level. That would not only enrich the debate but would also confer added legitimacy to the decisions taken.

FAO hopes that the international community, possibly under the leadership of the Group of 20 (G20), will soon be in a position to adopt appropriate policies and concrete measures to deal with this increased volatility.

Agenda of the Regional Conference

*Mr Chairperson,
Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,*

At this Thirtieth Regional Conference, you will be informed of FAO's activities in the region and you will have an opportunity to discuss priorities and implementation of the Immediate Plan of Action (IPA) for FAO renewal, establishment of the network of decentralized offices and reform of the Committee on World Food Security.

A ministerial round table will be held on the follow-up given in the region to the L'Aquila Initiative on Food Security and the World Summit on Food Security, to ensure that the corresponding declarations translate into actions.

FAO reform

FAO is currently undergoing the most profound process of reform to take place within the United Nations system. It is reshaping its work procedures and the way it performs its mandate and delivers its services to member countries.

Implementation of the Immediate Plan of Action (IPA) has been a primary objective of Member Nations and the Secretariat since it was adopted by the FAO Conference at its Special Session in November 2008. The main elements of the IPA are:

- the adoption of a planning framework and a new results-based culture;
- decentralization and a greater delegation of authority;
- organizational streamlining;
- the improvement of human resource management;
- more effective governance.

Since January, the regional offices have been responsible for overseeing the programme and budget of technical officers in the region. They will gradually take over management of the technical

work of the country offices. In addition, staff in the regional offices have been trained to take over responsibility for activities conducted under the Technical Cooperation Programme.

A comprehensive restructuring of FAO headquarters was initiated in 2009 in order to facilitate the alignment of our administrative structure with the results-based objectives framework. This exercise is due for completion in 2012. One of its key elements has been the elimination of 40 Director-level positions in a bid to lighten the structure and hierarchy of the Organization.

The Independent Chairperson of the Council will explain related ongoing activities in greater detail, especially those associated with the Representatives of the Member Nations.

Reform of the Committee on World Food Security

Last November, the Thirty-sixth Session of the FAO Conference approved another major reform, that of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS). The purpose of CFS reform is to improve the governance of world food security, using existing structures and programmes and creating effective partnerships. These are the main features of the renewed CFS:

- it is a global forum of discussion to foster a convergence of views on the causes and consequences of food insecurity and on the modalities of action required in this area;
- it is a mechanism for the global coordination of efforts to eliminate hunger in order to ensure the long-term coherence and effectiveness of actions;
- it operates on a solid scientific basis: the new CFS comprises a High-Level Panel of Experts that will help to take appropriate decisions by providing objective and impartial research and analysis;
- it is open to all stakeholders: governments, regional and international institutions, economic and financial partners, farmer organizations, the private sector, non-governmental organizations, foundations and civil society will all be well represented.

But, where possible, governments need to be represented at high ministerial level at meetings, if the CFS is to be a high-level intergovernmental decision-making process and thus acquire political legitimacy. In this regard, it is important to stress that, while the relevant technical ministries and departments must participate in the discussion of key economic and financial issues, the presence of ministries responsible for cooperation and development is also required.

At country level and under the authority of governments, it is essential to put partnerships in place, building upon thematic groups and national alliances for food security, or to strengthen such partnerships where these already exist. These two mechanisms should provide support to the national authorities responsible for ensuring a rational allocation and utilization of budgetary resources, official development assistance and direct domestic and foreign private investment.

Thus, the new Committee on World Food Security, its High-Level Panel of Experts and the national mechanisms will be the cornerstone of the Global Partnership for Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition.

Conclusion

*Mr Chairperson,
Honourable Ministers,
Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,*

Only five years separate us from 2015, the date by which the world's leaders have pledged to halve hunger and extreme poverty. However, if past trends continue, that target may not be reached because the actions taken and the resources committed have not been equal to the objectives set. I am nevertheless convinced that together we can eliminate hunger from our planet. But for that to happen, we must move from words to deeds, and we must do so very quickly.

During the last 15 years, several countries of Africa, Asia and Latin America have managed to significantly reduce the size of their undernourished populations. We therefore know what it takes to defeat hunger. If we are to achieve our objectives, we will need to embark on policy and institutional reform, to bolster existing capacities and to redirect investment.

In an increasingly interdependent world, the promotion of regional cooperation becomes crucial if we are to address the cross-border issues that impact on food security, to enhance intraregional trade and investment, and to reach consensus on the policies needed to ensure sustainable agricultural development. I am encouraged by the fact that, in addition to regional cooperation organizations such as ASEAN, the Pacific Islands Forum and the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), numerous other subregional initiatives have also emerged in this region. FAO wishes to further strengthen its excellent collaboration with the regional and subregional organizations in order to achieve our shared objectives. I sincerely hope that we can continue to work along the same lines and that together we can win the battle against world hunger, for that is one battle we cannot afford to lose.

I wish you every success in your work and thank you for your kind attention.

APPENDIX F

NOTE ON THE ROUND TABLE “FROM DECLARATIONS TO ACTIONS: FOLLOW UP TO L’AQUILA INITIATIVE ON FOOD SECURITY AND WSFS IN THE REGION”

The salient conclusions and several actionable recommendations of this Roundtable include:

- a) **We must reverse the decline in domestic and international funding** for agriculture, food security and rural development in developing countries, building on the momentum created by the L’Aquila initiative with a view to achieving the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security;
- b) **More needs to be done to meet the Millennium Development Goals.** While increased development assistance is essential, democracy, economic growth, social progress, and care for the environment are also critical drivers of development. Redressing inequalities of income and opportunity within and between countries is crucial to global progress, as is gender equality, respect for human rights and environmental sustainability. It is essential that our policies address these issues in a more systematic and coherent way;
- c) **Country ownership is key.** Development planning must draw as much as possible on existing national and regional plans, strategies, projects and lessons learned that meet the tests of comprehensiveness in response and putting smallholder farmers at the centre;
- d) **Urgent action is needed to ensure greater coherence and coordination** among all stakeholders in the global food system, in line with the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness and Accra Agenda for Action. The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and its partners have an important role in this regard through support of strengthened country-led planning, improved technical programming of resources and aid alignment and harmonization;
- e) **More effective and inclusive partnerships are needed** between donors, the private sector and civil society organizations, for all our efforts to have greater impact on reducing poverty
- f) **Smallholder farmers** are the growth engine in developing countries where poor farmers produced most of the food for consumption. They must be effectively engaged in the development dialogue and efficiently linked to sources of finance and technology and to markets, while mitigating any risks incurred by increased productivity and diversified production;
- g) **Climate change** poses additional severe risks to food security and the agriculture sector. Its expected impact is particularly fraught with danger for smallholder farmers in developing countries and for already vulnerable populations;

APPENDIX G**NOTE ON THE MULTISTAKEHOLDER SIDE EVENT “ENHANCING NATIONAL AND REGIONAL GOVERNANCE OF FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION: CAPITALIZING ON CFS REFORM”**

1. Over the last few years renewed political attention to world food security and its governance has given rise to pledges to increase resources devoted to agriculture and food security, both in times of crises, but more importantly, to address the long-term, structural factors that contribute to hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition.
2. At the G8 Summit in Japan in 2008 and again in L'Aquila in 2009, there were calls for a greater coordination and for a new design of the governance of world food security building on and reforming existing institutions. The World Summit on Food Security in Rome in November 2009 also supported the need for a revised system.
3. During 2009 the Committee on World Food Security underwent reform to make it more effective by including a wider group of stakeholders and increasing its ability to promote policies that reduce food insecurity. The vision of the reformed CFS is to be the most inclusive international and intergovernmental platform for all stakeholders to work together to ensure food security and nutrition for all.
4. Mirroring the reformed CFS structure and vision, the side event brought together representatives of national governments, regional bodies, private sector institutions, research and academia as well as civil society organizations in the Asia and Pacific region. The panel presentation, followed by contributions from the floor, provided an opportunity for all stakeholders to share their best practices and lessons learned in promoting multi-stakeholder participation in institutions and mechanisms for food security and nutrition at the national and regional level.
5. The primary consideration was the recognition of the multisectoral and multistakeholder nature of food security and nutrition issues. The side event discussion identified the need to share a common framework at national, regional and global level to ensure that planning, budgeting and implementing are coordinated and harmonized. The importance of promoting capacity building, monitoring and evaluation to assess progress made in achieving food security and nutrition was also emphasised.
6. In addition to national best practices, the side event focused on the relevance of existing regional bodies and initiatives in the area of food security and nutrition such as the Asia and the Pacific Regional Food Security Framework among the FAO, ADB and IFAD; the Regional Thematic Working Group on Poverty and Hunger; the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN); South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC); and the Pacific Islands Forum.
7. Some of the lessons learned in tackling food insecurity and malnutrition at the regional level presented at the side event include: i) the commitment by national governments as a pre-condition to successful regional efforts; ii) the need for a clear demarcation of responsibilities among all stakeholders under the slogan “many partners, one team”; iii) the need to mainstream the nutritional component of food security.
8. The side event discussion on the way forward strongly identified the need for greater efforts to be made in improving regional coordination based on the principles of inclusiveness and transparency. As such, existing regional bodies and initiatives were encouraged to involve other intergovernmental organizations, NGOs and CSOs, private sector, research institutions to foster stronger partnerships.

APPENDIX H

SUMMARY ON SIDE EVENT “RESPONSIBLE AGRICULTURE INVESTMENT”

The side event was chaired by Mr Segfredo Serrano, Undersecretary for Policy and Planning, Department of Agriculture, Republic of the Philippines.

The meeting was opened by Mr Hiroyuki Konuma, FAO Assistant Director-General and Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific. He welcomed the participants and introduced the objectives of the side-event. He said that investments originating from the public and private sectors to raise productivity of smallholder agriculture has a large impact on growth and poverty reduction. He however drew attention to potential risks associated with international investment. It is for this reason that FAO and its partners took the initiative to elaborate the basic principles that can guide Member States in policy development, standard setting and regulations promoting investment in their agricultural sector. He invited participants to share their views and to the development of recommendations for future action.

Presentation on direct investment in agriculture and related activities, and the *Principles for responsible agricultural investment that respects rights, livelihoods and resources*

by Mr Masahiro Miyazako, Project Coordinator, FAO, and Mr Pascal Liu, Trade Economist, FAO

Mr Miyazako presented the project “support to study on appropriate policy measures to increase investments in agriculture and to stimulate food production”, which is funded by the extra-budgetary contribution from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan. Since its inception in October 2009, the project has been conducting case studies of 18 countries, analytical work on relevant issues such as capital formation, property rights and financial sources, and data collection for developing databases. The project is expected to produce mainly two outputs: a policy guidance document including policy options and best practices; and databases of capital item data and investment climate information of potential receiving countries of foreign investment.

Mr Liu explained that in order to help governments maximize the benefits of international investment while minimizing the risks, FAO, UNCTAD, IFAD and the World Bank have proposed *principles for responsible agricultural investment that respects rights, livelihoods and resources*. The 7 principles are based on, transparency, good governance and accountability; social, environmental and economic sustainability; stakeholder involvement; recognition of domestic food security and rural development concerns. The contents are based on research and best practices in law and policy. Mr Liu presented the 7 principles and explained that they are completely voluntary and could provide a framework of reference for national regulations, international investment agreements, global Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives and individual investment contracts. FAO and its partner organizations would continue to conduct comprehensive consultations with all stakeholders so as to build consensus in order to translate the said principles into actions for investors, governments, donors and international agencies for implementation at different levels. Based on the results of the consultations, the principles may be used to produce a voluntary international instrument such as guidelines or a code of conduct if there is consensus.

Following the presentations, a **plenary discussion** was held with the participants and experts. The Chairman asked participants for their views on the principles for responsible agricultural investment in agriculture. In order to start the discussion he mentioned the following questions: are the principles adequate for the Asia-Pacific region? How to operationalize them? What kind of international voluntary instruments may be needed? The discussion is summarized below.

Summary of the Chairman

Agricultural investment is a very important factor for increasing agricultural productivity and raising food supply, thus contributing to food security. Investment projects may contribute to poverty reduction and income generation in rural areas.

However, FDI is not a “magic bullet” and these benefits do not arise automatically. Negative impacts of investment have been observed in some cases, in particular when large-scale acquisition of land is involved and there is no adequate institutional framework. Adequate national policies, regulations and institutions must be in place and good governance is essential to maximize the benefits of agricultural investment and minimize the risks. Therefore, efforts should be made to strengthen the capacity of host countries at national and local level.

There is general support for the principles for responsible agricultural investment. The type and scope of investments covered by the principles should be specified. The principles should be further elaborated into more detailed guidance before they can be considered for adoption. In particular, the responsibilities of stakeholders other than the government and investors should be spelled out. The principles should aim to contribute to creating a win-win-win situation where the host government, the local community and the investor all benefit. They should benefit small farmers.

Regarding the consultation process, FAO is requested to continue an open and inclusive dialogue on the principles with all member governments, civil society organizations and relevant stakeholders.

The Chairman thanked the participants for their inputs to the discussion; their views will be taken into account for the further elaboration of the principles. Further inputs after the meeting are welcome and can be sent to FAO. The consultation process will continue. In particular, there will be a special roundtable on Investment in Agriculture during the forthcoming session of the Committee on Food Security in Rome on 13 October 2010, where the draft principles and the *Voluntary Guidelines on responsible governance of tenure of land and other natural resources* will be presented to government representatives.

APPENDIX I

**CHAIRPERSON'S CLOSING STATEMENT: ADDRESSING HUNGER, ENSURING FOOD
SECURITY, AND LEADING A NEW GREEN REVOLUTION
IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION¹⁷**

H.E. YOO JEONG-BOK
MINISTER FOR FOOD, AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, AND FISHERIES

AT THE PLENARY SESSION OF
THE THIRTIETH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

GYEONGJU, 1 OCTOBER 2010

*Honorable Ministers,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,*

As a Chairperson, I believe the 30th FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific was very meaningful. We had the valuable opportunity to engage in deep discussions and share diverse knowledge and know-how. Our discussions covered key issues such as food security, climate change, sustainable agriculture, and FAO reform. I am deeply grateful to all the participants for their contributions.

As you may be well aware, this is the second time Korea has hosted the FAO Regional Conference. The first took place in Seoul in 1966. That was 44 years ago, and those years have been tremendously significant for Korea.

In those 44 years, Korea went from a poverty-stricken country that relied on foreign aid for daily subsistence to a nation that provides aid to other nations. Korea also resolved food shortages by successfully implementing a green revolution that included varietal improvement and remarkable developments in agriculture technology.

In a short period of less than half a century, Korea has successfully achieved both food security and hunger elimination. Holding the 30th FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific in a place like Korea bears particular significance, especially in light of the fact that hunger and food insecurity are becoming sources of growing concern.

Among the matters discussed in the very meaningful Regional Conference during the past five days, I would like to express my view on what is regarded as important for strengthening food security and solving the world hunger problem.

Hunger is one of the most urgent issues that mankind is facing. It needs to be addressed with top priority. According to FAO, the number of people suffering chronic hunger has surpassed 1 billion as of 2009. That means one-sixth of the world's population is suffering from hunger. At the same time, 15 million children die of starvation every year, and over 3 billion are living on less than 2 dollars per day. In particular, current rates suggest that the Millennium Development Goal of halving the proportion of hungry people by 2015 seems rather difficult to attain.

¹⁷ This statement was made at the end of the closing session after adoption of the formal APRC report by H.E. Yoo Jeong-Bok, Minister of Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Republic of Korea, who was the chair of the 30th APRC.

In June 2010, OECD and FAO warned that over the next 10 years, the rise in international food prices would increase pressure on the food security of countries that depend heavily on food imports. Even now, food security is threatened. Floods, droughts, heat waves, and unusual weather patterns reduce food output, raise energy prices, and destabilize the supply and demand of the world's food. Therefore, the international community needs to step up its efforts to address the factors that undermine food security.

Since its founding in 1945, FAO has been doing many things as a backbone to create a world without hunger. However, the fight is far from over. With all due respect, I ask the FAO to intensify its efforts to eradicate hunger around the world. The Organization should closely examine the solutions discussed at the World Summit on Food Security and other conferences, and check each country's implementation of commitments. Moreover, the effects of those measures should be evaluated to supplement shortcomings and inadequacies.

As stressed at the L'Aquila Joint Statement on Global Food Security and the Declaration of the World Summit on Food Security last year, the countries that are afflicted with hunger and food shortages need to be at the forefront of the fight. These countries need to place priorities on seeking development models tailored to their unique cultures and agricultural conditions. They need to steer efforts to establish a foundation for self-reliance.

When Korea was in need of international aid, the country created its own development model called Saemaul-Undong. It was developed as a strategy for modernizing the rural areas and soon became a highly successful development model that propelled the rural development of Korea. Diligence, self-help and cooperation, the three tenets of the new community movement, however, spread beyond the rural areas like a prairie fire. It caught on throughout the nation, and became a vehicle for social reform and public awakening. Until today, the movement is functioning as a driving force for national development.

In recent years, investments in agricultural R&D and international aid for agricultural sectors have been dwindling. As a consequence, productivity gains of major crops, such as rice and wheat, are unable to keep up with population growth. This poses a big threat to food security. Each country needs to recognize the importance of agriculture and bolster efforts in R&D, build infrastructure, and improve varieties. The international community could also help by expanding the share of aid for food and agriculture in their ODA.

In this day and age, agriculture is more than simple production of food. Agriculture is crossing over to life-industry that produces high added value with life resources, such as plants, animals, insects, and microorganisms. Today, agriculture is shedding its traditional image of a simple, labor-intensive, and environment-dependant primary industry. Now, it is expected to develop into a high value-added and specialized industry. It is foreseen as another Blue Ocean. The Asia-Pacific region is particularly rich in life resources, such as plant and animal genetic resources. By carefully preserving and developing these resources, this region could become the birthplace of a "New Green Revolution" that drives the prosperity of mankind.

*Excellencies,
Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and gentlemen,*

Looking back at the last discussions, I realize that many important conclusions were drawn at this conference:

First, it is taking a long time to attain the goals set out at the World Summit on Food Security, and the situation has gotten worse as a result of the recent food and financial crises. This means that it is time for us to push harder to gain pace in achieving our goals.

Second, member states need to drastically increase investment in the agricultural sector as well as introduce appropriate policy adjustments with structural changes in order to cope with the various threats to food security.

Third, international support and regional cooperation are urgently required to cope with the unstable food supply and to adjust to, and alleviate the effects of climate change on agriculture.

Fourth, FAO should continue its reform to respond more effectively and efficiently to requests from member states.

The conclusions and recommendations from this regional conference will present a proper guideline for achieving the target defined at MDG1 and the World Food Summit. That alone proves the success of this regional conference.

This conference also helped us to advance towards the mission and vision for sustainable agriculture and rural development. We also reinforced our spirit of regional cooperation and exchanged many ideas on how to reform FAO and strengthen its capability in Asia and the Pacific.

I am certain that the recommendations presented at this Regional Conference will be reported to the Council and the Conference and implemented in the form of diverse projects at national and regional levels.

*Honorable Ministers,
Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,*

I am grateful to you for making this Regional Conference a success. I wish to express my appreciation to the delegates for your inputs to the findings of the Regional Conference as well as for your flexibility in arriving at agreement.

I would also like to recognize the head of delegations for kindly serving as vice chairpersons. I am particularly indebted to H.E. Ibrahim Didi, Minister of Fisheries and Agriculture, Maldives, for stepping in on behalf of me as a chairperson when I had to step out.

I am also sincerely grateful to the Rapporteur, H.E. Joketani Cokanasiga, Minister of Industry, Fiji, and the Drafting Committee. Thank you very much for drafting such an outstanding report.

And now, I wish to express my appreciation to FAO. Thank you very much for your preparation and support that has made this conference successful beyond expectation. I wish to extend a special recognition to Dr Jacques Diouf, the Director General, for his valuable advice and the FAO staff for their contribution and dedication.

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Korea, I extend my deep gratitude to you for coming all the way to Gyeongju for the Conference. Please enjoy the rest of your stay and have a safe trip back home.

I now declare the 30th FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific closed.

APPENDIX J**STATEMENT OF CSO DELEGATES OF THE CSO PARALLEL MEETING TO THE 30TH FAO ASIA PACIFIC REGIONAL CONSULTATION 27-28 SEPTEMBER 2010 – PRESENT TO THE PLENARY ON 1 OCTOBER 2010**

We, seventy (70) representatives of organizations of small farmers, fisherfolk, indigenous peoples, rural women, pastoralists, youth, cooperatives, and NGOs from Asian Civil Society strongly express our stand and calls to FAO and its member states as follows:

OUR STAND

In the last five years, manifold crises (financial crisis, food crisis and climate crisis) have afflicted the world. These crises are fundamentally linked to neo-liberal globalization. This is an intensification of cyclical forms of recession due to unsustainable development, chemical intensive agriculture, overproduction, and global speculative markets.

- The issue of climate change is a matter of ecological justice. Its worst impacts are felt by the most marginalized communities (esp. women and children) who are the least responsible for it. Developed countries share a disproportionate responsibility for historic greenhouse gas emissions due to unsustainable industrial model and chemical-intensive agriculture. We reject techno-fixes like genetically engineered food and geo-engineering, intensive industrial agriculture and market-based mechanisms like the Clean Development Mechanisms (CDMs) and carbon credits that allow the developed countries to continue business as usual at the expense of the poor.

- The 2007-08 food and financial crises spawned a new wave of foreign land acquisitions. Financial investors are also taking advantage of food insecurity to speculate on the price of landholdings. Governments that host these land deals are often poor and in desperate need of investment, have weak capabilities or lack commitment to protect its people from related economic, social, and environmental risks. Thus, small farmers, peasants, pastoralists, indigenous peoples, fishers and other marginalized communities that depend on common property resources are displaced, creating resource conflicts and greater threat to food sovereignty. The Voluntary Guidelines or Codes of Conduct proposed by the FAO, the World Bank and other inter-governmental agencies to regulate these land-based investments have no teeth, and do not offer even minimal protection or any real means of redressing grave human rights violations that often arise from these deals.

- The collusion between agro-transnational corporations, governments, and international agencies have resulted in driving small food producers into greater poverty and robbing them of their inherent right to seeds, breeds and other productive resources. The WTO, for instance, persists to advance corporate control in food and agriculture through agreements like Agreement on Agriculture and TRIPS. The FTAs and UPOV further complicate the problem. The intellectual property rights (IPRs) regime has even put small food producers at risk of being sued and harassed while seed companies have been making excessive profits from the crises. IPRs have encroached into the socio-cultural and ecological domains which threaten the multifunctionality and biodiversity of food production. Food sovereignty has been recognized in the constitutions of countries like Nepal, Venezuela, Bolivia and Ecuador as a policy framework to govern food and agriculture.

- In addition to already existing institutions there are new mechanisms in the global governance of food and agriculture. There is a dire need for policy coherence among all these players. The World Summit on Food Security in Rome, November 2009 endorsed the reforms for the Committee on Food Security. These reforms have enhanced its role for greater coherence in the global food policies. Besides, the CFS has a mandate to formulate a Global Strategic Framework to improve coordination

among a wide range of stakeholders. Additionally the representatives of small-scale food producers and other CSOs will be full participants and not just observers of the CFS processes.

We call on FAO member states to:

1. Implement a genuine, people-led land and agrarian, pasture land, and fisheries reforms.
2. Restrict foreign land acquisitions. Investigate and arrest cases of land grabbing and related human rights.
3. Restrict foreign land acquisitions. Investigate and arrest cases of land grabbing and related human rights violations; and release peasant leaders who were arrested for defending their land from land grabbers. Agricultural, pastoral, and forest lands as well as common property resources should be protected. Conversions and takeovers should not be permitted without full, free, prior and informed consent of the community. Customary rights of indigenous and ethnic minority communities should remain inalienable and not be overridden by other national laws.
4. Enable, support and sustain family farms practising community- and biodiversity-based, sustainable, organic and ecological agriculture, fisheries, forestries and pastoralism to ensure food sovereignty, as per recommendations of the International Assessment on Agricultural Science Technology and Development (IAASTD).
5. Promote community-centered seed conservation and development with an emphasis on women regaining their role as seed conservers as well as community-based marketing systems. Prohibit intellectual property rights on plant, animal and other living organisms. Do not allow genetically engineered seeds, breeds food, and fish stocks. Partnerships with private corporations that give them access, ownership and/or control over common goods/resources should be avoided by public and international R&D institutions as they pose a threat to public welfare.
6. All measures to address climate change must ensure climate, social, environmental, and gender justice, common and differentiated responsibility, and food sovereignty. Industrialized countries should substantially cut down their greenhouse gas emissions according to the commitments of the Kyoto Protocol, under a legally binding agreement.
7. Promote and effectively support household food security initiatives. Develop national food security programs that prioritize food self-sufficiency and promote rural employment.
8. Invest in developing culturally-appropriate local, national and regional food banks in consultation and collaboration with community food producers to ensure food sovereignty and price stability.
9. Respect and adhere to food and national sovereignty principles when negotiating and signing international, regional and bilateral trade agreements. Ensure participatory consultation processes and transparency with relevant stakeholders. Put in place safety nets, safeguards and anti-dumping mechanisms.

We call on FAO to:

1. Implement the FAO Guidelines on the Right to Food and Farmers Rights as stipulated in the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture. The FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries should be improved to make it more regionally-relevant and commodity-specific. Pursue the implementation of the agreements in the International Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ICARRD).
2. Hold CGIAR systems, including the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), accountable for the harm they have done to the small food producers. Food and agriculture research and development initiatives must be farmer-driven, community-led and primarily for the benefit of small food producers.

3. Initiate processes to reconcile various international treaties and conventions that pertain to natural resource management and agriculture in view of protecting small-scale food producers and their community rights.
4. Establish guidelines to regulate food commodity speculation.
5. Regulations that seek to protect the food sovereignty of the people should be legally-binding rather than voluntary.
6. Facilitate and ensure greater and more meaningful participation of civil society groups in CFS and other FAO processes, and allocate resources for these processes and greater inclusion in future dialogues and processes as full participants and not merely observers.
7. Develop a global strategic framework as one of the outcomes of the CFS processes.
