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Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
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Organisation des Nations  
Unies pour l'alimentation  
et l'agriculture

Продовольственная и  
сельскохозяйственная организация  
Объединенных Наций

Organización de las  
Naciones Unidas para la  
Alimentación y la Agricultura

منظمة  
الأغذية والزراعة  
للأمم المتحدة

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# FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR EUROPE

## Thirtieth Session

**Antalya, Turkey, 4 - 6 May 2016**

## Provisional Annotated Agenda

### I. Introductory Items

1. **Election of the Chairperson, Vice-Chairpersons and Appointment of Rapporteurs** (*for decision*)
2. **Adoption of the Agenda and Timetable** (*for decision*)
3. **Statement by the Director-General**
4. **Statement by the Independent Chairperson of the FAO Council**
5. **Statement by the Chairperson of the 29<sup>th</sup> Session of the Regional Conference for Europe**

The statement of the Chairperson of the 29<sup>th</sup> Session of the ERC will provide a brief overview on the outcome of the deliberations of the 39<sup>th</sup> Session of the FAO Conference (Rome, 6-13 June 2015) on matters related to the Europe and Central Asia region.

### II. Regional and Global Policy and Regulatory Issues

6. **Outcomes of the Committee on World Food Security (in 2014-15) and update on its major work streams** (*for discussion and decision*)

The CFS Chair will provide an overview of the main outcomes of the 41<sup>st</sup> and 42<sup>nd</sup> Plenary Sessions reporting on activities undertaken in 2014-15.

The Chair will also highlight the main findings of the multi-stakeholder dialogue held on 3 May 2016 in Antalya. The session would be an opportunity to discuss how to improve the achievement of results in the context of Strategic Objective (SO) 1 results framework, by better disseminating CFS products at regional and national levels, improving collaboration with FAO decentralized offices and increasing CFS impact on the ground, as well as discussing with CFS stakeholders how to achieve these objectives within the SO1 results framework.

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## **7. Ministerial Round Table: The Sustainable Development Goals and their implications for agriculture and rural development in Europe and Central Asia region** *(for discussion and decision)*

The Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals completed its works and the final report includes 17 goals and 169 targets, and offers a comprehensive vision for poverty eradication (Goal 1), for food security, nutrition and sustainable agriculture (Goal 2), and for the sustainable use and management of natural resources (inter alia, Goals 12, 14 and 15).

While Goal 1 captures critical issues and interlinkages as reflected in SOs 3 and 5, Goal 2 covers food security, nutrition and sustainable agriculture in much the same way as do FAO's SOs 1, 2 and 4.

Furthermore, targets under SDG Goal 2 address the critical access dimension of food security, the entire spectrum of malnutrition, the productivity and incomes of small-scale farm producers, sustainable and resilient food production systems, and the maintenance of biodiversity and genetic resources. Various targets under other SDGs complement Goal 2 by addressing land tenure water resources governance, energy efficiency, food losses and waste, climate change, oceans and marine resources, ecosystems, biodiversity, forests, mountains and land/soils.

Key elements in the successful implementation of the SDGs are the country ownership and accountability for sustainable development as well as the integration of targets and indicators in the respective sectoral policies at national level. This implies the necessity for integrated, evidence-based approaches to policy formulation at national, regional and global levels, capacity development to ensure coherent, effective and inclusive governance and efficient monitoring structures.

At the same time FAO is gearing up for support to countries in the implementation of the SDGs and with the Country Programming Frameworks (CPFs) in place, FAO fully responds to country needs as also confirmed by the 39<sup>th</sup> FAO Conference in June 2015.

The background document will provide recommendations and suggestion for adaptation of agriculture and rural development policies to ensure integration of the SDGs.

The Ministerial round table may wish to review and discuss these recommendations as a contribution to the global level debate.

## **8. Pulses for improving balanced nutrition and healthy food systems in Europe and Central Asia - International Year of Pulses 2016** *(for discussion and decision)*

The 68<sup>th</sup> UN General Assembly declared 2016 as the International Year of Pulses (IYP) ([A/RES/68/231](#)) and nominated FAO to facilitate its implementation in collaboration with governments, relevant organizations, non-governmental organizations and other relevant stakeholders. The background paper will present the activities related to heightening awareness of nutritional benefits of pulses at the country level as part of sustainable food production and consumption aimed towards food security and nutrition, healthy and balanced diets. Besides nutritional benefits, pulses have extended seasonal availability and are very beneficial for soils for nitrogen enrichment, which makes pulses an attractive crop and good contributor to food and nutrition security and environment protection. Promotion of pulses production and consumption can play a significant role in linking policies and investments that integrate agriculture with improved health and nutrition. The sustainable and diversified production and consumption of pulses in the region of Europe and Central Asia may be increased through a set of nutrition-sensitive policies, programmes and actions, addressing raising awareness and knowledge on nutritional virtues and environmental benefits of pulses, as well as increasing quality, availability and access to improved seeds of a broad range of varieties and cultivars of pulses. Pulses have a high potential to contribute to sustainable development through contributions to inclusive economic growth, improved nutritional status and food security of vulnerable people, and environment protection.

Members may, under this item, present their views for a common position for the region to facilitate FAO's further work in this context, in the frame of the Strategic Framework implementation and taking into consideration Goal 2 of the Sustainable Development Goals: "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture".

### III. Programme and Budget Matters

#### 9. Decentralized Offices Network *(for discussion)*

The Regional Conference will consider ongoing efforts to improve and strengthen the work of FAO's country offices network in the region to enhance the Organization's effectiveness and efficiency at country level.

#### 10. Results from the implementation of the Programme of Work and Budget 2014-15 and update on the implementation of the PWB 2016-17 and Regional Initiatives *(for discussion and decision)*

The Secretariat will provide an overview of the main results achieved in the implementation of the PWB 2014-15, including lessons learned from the implementation of the Regional Initiatives. The Secretariat will also present updated regional priorities for the 2016-17 biennium (including the Regional Initiatives) based on the lessons learned and experiences from the biennium 2014-15, considering also the approved PWB 2016-17. Members are expected to review the results presented and provide feedback on the lessons learned and on the implementation modalities of the Regional Initiatives (RIs) and to also review and endorse the revised Regional Priorities for 2016-17 and the scope of the streamlined Regional Initiatives.

#### 11. Priorities for FAO's work in the Europe and Central Asia region *(for discussion and decision)*

The Regional Conference plays a critical role in shaping the main challenges for the future work of FAO in the region and the commitments on the Members' side through the guidance provided on the regional priorities of the Organization. A Regional Strategic Thinking Process has been initiated in 2015 to incorporate regional specificities to the review of the Strategic Framework and the preparation of the FAO Medium-Term Plan (MTP) 2018-21. The results will be presented to the Regional Conference as it will help to bridge country demands and global issues under a regional umbrella, ensuring that regional specificities are clearly reflected in FAO's work on priority issues, bringing also more focus and substance to the Regional Initiatives.

The Secretariat will present the trends, development objectives and challenges of the region, highlighting points of importance for priority setting in the next programming cycle as preparation for the MTP 2018-21.

Members are expected to review the emerging issues for consideration in review of the Strategic Framework and development of the MTP 2018-21.

### IV. Other Matters

#### 12. Standing item: Report from the outcome of the debate of the 39<sup>th</sup> Session of the European Commission on Agriculture (ECA) *(for discussion and decision)*

A summary report from the deliberations of the 39<sup>th</sup> Session of the European Commission on Agriculture (ECA), which took place on 22-23 September 2015 in Budapest, Hungary, will be presented.

#### 13. Report from the outcome of the debate of the 28<sup>th</sup> Session of the European Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Advisory Commission (EIFAAC) *(for discussion and decision)*

A summary report from the deliberations of the 28<sup>th</sup> session of the European Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Advisory Commission (EIFAAC), which took place on 17-19 June 2015 in Lillehammer, Norway, will be presented.

**14. Report from the outcome of the debate of the joint session of the 38<sup>th</sup> European Forestry Commission (EFC) and the 73<sup>rd</sup> UNECE Committee on Forest and the Forest Industry** *(for discussion and decision)*

A summary of the outcomes and recommendations of the joint session of the 38<sup>th</sup> European Forestry Commission (EFC) and the 73<sup>rd</sup> UNECE Committee on Forest and the Forest Industry, which took place on 2-6 November 2015 in Engelberg, Switzerland will be presented.

**15. Multi-year Programme of Work (MYPOW) 2016-2019 of the Regional Conference for Europe (ERC)** *(for discussion and decision)*

The 29<sup>th</sup> Session of the Regional Conference noted that the MYPOW needs better, measurable indicators and targets in order to be a genuine results-based tool, and as such an efficient means of improving the functioning of the ERC. The Conference urged REU, in collaboration with the Executive Committee of the ECA and in consultation with the members of ERG, to make further improvements in the next MYPOW for the period 2016-19.

**16. Standing item: Date, Place and Main Theme(s) of the 31<sup>st</sup> Session of the FAO Regional Conference for Europe** *(for decision)*

**17. Any other business<sup>1</sup>**

**Review and endorsement of the Report of the Regional Conference**

The draft Report, introduced by the Rapporteur, will be reviewed and discussed for endorsement.

**Closure of the Conference**

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<sup>1</sup> If they wish, delegates may comment on information notes under “Any other business”.

## **Information Notes**

### **Standing item: Report from regional fisheries and aquaculture commissions**

The outcomes and recommendations of the 4<sup>th</sup> Session of the Central Asian and Caucasus Regional Fisheries and Aquaculture Commission (CACFish), which took place on 18-20 May 2015 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, as well as the outcomes and recommendations of the 39<sup>th</sup> session of the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM), which took place on 25-29 May 2015 in Milan, Italy, will be presented.

### **The World Programme for the Census of Agriculture (WCA) 2020**

FAO as the lead UN agency responsible for agricultural censuses prepares and advocates decennial programmes for the World Census of Agriculture (WCA). These programmes provide guidance to countries in conducting agricultural censuses following standard concepts, definitions and classifications, and at the same time promote the availability of internationally comparable data on the structure of agriculture. Every 10 years FAO revises the Programme based on countries' experiences, lessons learned and new data needs.

The paper will present the new World Programme for the Census of Agriculture (WCA) 2020, which was developed for the agricultural censuses to be conducted during the period 2016-2025. The new features of the Programme will be highlighted as well as those retained from the previous Programme. Special emphasis will be made on experiences of the agricultural censuses conducted in the Europe and Central Asia region under the previous WCA 2010 Programme (during the period 2006-2015) and their implications on the developing of the WCA 2020 Programme.

### **Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2) Follow-up**

The Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2), successfully held in Rome on 19-21 November 2014, adopted by acclamation the Rome Declaration on Nutrition and its companion Framework for Action.

The accountability recommendations of the Framework for Action adopted by ICN2 requested the Governing Bodies to table reports on ICN2 follow-up in the agendas of their regular sessions.

This note provides Members with information on the proceedings and outcomes of ICN2. It also outlines follow-up action taken since ICN2, both within and outside FAO, seeking guidance on further follow-up activities from a regional perspective.