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Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

Organisation des Nations
Unies pour l'alimentation
et l'agriculture

Продовольственная и
сельскохозяйственная организация
Объединённых Наций

Organización de las
Naciones Unidas para la
Alimentación y la Agricultura

منظمة
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COUNCIL

Hundred and Sixty-first Session

Rome, 8-12 April 2019

Arrangements for the 41st Session of the Conference (22-29 June 2019)

Executive Summary

This document contains a tentative Timetable for the 41st Session of the Conference, proposals regarding elections and lists the Officers of the Conference for which candidates need to be nominated.

Suggested action by the Council

- a) Endorse the tentative timetable for the 41st Session of the Conference set out in *Appendix A*;
- b) Propose candidates for the following Officers of the Conference:
 - Chairperson of the Conference
 - Chairperson of Commission I;
 - Chairperson of Commission II;
 - Three Vice-Chairpersons of the Conference;
 - Seven elected Members of the General Committee; and
 - Nine Members of the Credentials Committee.

Queries on the substantive content of this document may be addressed to:

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A. Introduction

1. As decided by the 40th Session of the Conference (3-8 July 2017), the 41st Session of the Conference will be held in Rome from Saturday 22 to Saturday 29 June 2019.¹ The Provisional Agenda for the Session was approved by the 160th Session of Council (3-7 December 2018).
2. This document complements the arrangements for the 41st Session of the FAO Conference approved by the Council at its 160th Session, which are contained in C 2019/12, including the proposal that the topic for the General Debate of the Conference under item 10 "Review of the State of Food and Agriculture" be "Migration, Agriculture and Rural Development".

B. Tentative Timetable

3. A tentative timetable for the Conference (*Appendix A*) is now submitted for consideration by the Council, and subsequent submission to the Conference for approval.
4. The General Committee of the Conference shall review the Tentative Timetable at its first meeting to be held on the first day of Conference, and make a recommendation to Conference for its approval (Rule X.2(a-b) of the General Rules of the Organization), it being understood that the appointment of the Director-General shall begin and be effected within three working days following the opening date of the session (Rule XXXVII.1(d) of the General Rules of the Organization).
5. As set out in document CL 161/7 Rev.1 *Address by Candidates for the post of Director-General*, the appointment of the Director-General is tentatively scheduled to take place on Sunday 23 June 2019. This is consistent with past practice. The appointment of the Director-General at the 39th Session of the Conference in June 2015 was scheduled on Saturday 6 June 2015 and Sunday was not a working day of the Conference. However, the appointment of the Director-General at the 37th Session (June-July 2011) and 33rd Session (November 2005) had been scheduled on the Sunday, which was the second working day of the Conference.
6. At a meeting convened by the Independent Chairperson of the Council (ICC) on 4 March 2019 with the Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons of the seven FAO Regional Groups, some Members raised concerns regarding the scheduling of the election on the Sunday. In addition, estimated incremental costs which may be incurred by holding the election on a non-working day for FAO would be approximately USD 0.25 million.
7. In accordance with the aforementioned provisions of the General Rules of the Organization, and further to the concerns raised by Members, as well as the estimated incremental costs which may be incurred, Council may wish to consider scheduling the date of the election on Monday 24 June 2019.
8. The address by candidates for the post of Director-General at the Conference has been tentatively scheduled on Saturday 22 June 2019 in the afternoon, subject to approval by the Conference. At a meeting convened by the ICC on 1 April 2019 with representatives of the candidates, the order of speakers was determined by draw of lots, as follows:

Catherine Geslain-Lanéelle (France)
Davit Kirvalidze (Georgia)
Qu Dongyu (China)
Ramesh Chand (India)

C. Officers of the Conference

9. In keeping with regional rotation, the FAO Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Group is expected to submit to the 161st Session of the Council the name of a representative of the Latin America and the Caribbean Region as Chairperson of the Conference. Furthermore, the Council at its 160th Session recommended that the Chairperson of Commission I be from a country that is not a

¹ C 2017/REP para. 93

member of the G77 and China Group; and that the Chairperson of Commission II be from a country belonging to the G77 and China Group².

10. In accordance with Rule XXIV-5(b) of the General Rules of the Organization, the Council is requested to nominate candidates for the following positions:

- i. Chairperson of the Conference
- ii. Chairperson of Commission I;
- iii. Chairperson of Commission II;
- iv. Three Vice-Chairpersons of the Conference;
- v. Seven elected Members of the General Committee; and
- vi. Nine members of the Credentials Committee.

D. Biennial Theme

11. In line with the recommendation of the 39th Session of the Conference (June 2015), the Conference will be required to endorse a “biennial theme” for consideration by Governing Bodies at sessions taking place during the 2020-21 biennium. The aim of the “biennial theme” is to increase the focus of the Governing Bodies on the priorities and strategic global issues contained in the Strategic Framework.

12. In selecting the “biennial theme” for the 2020-21 biennium, the 161st Session of the Council may wish to take into consideration the trends and challenges for food and agriculture identified in the Medium Term Plan 2018-21 (Reviewed) and in this regard may consider endorsing the following proposed theme:

“Promoting healthy diets and the prevention of obesity”

² CL 160/PV, pages 224-5

Appendix A**Provisional Timetable of the 41st Session of the Conference****Saturday 22 June 2019****Morning (9.30-12.30) – Plenary (Plenary Hall)**

- Item 1** Election of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons
- Item 2** Appointment of the General Committee and Credentials Committee
- Item 30** Any Other Matters
 - 30.1** McDougall Memorial Lecture

(First Meeting of the General Committee)**Afternoon (14.30) – Plenary (Plenary Hall)**

- Item 3** Adoption of the Agenda and Arrangements for the Session
- Item 4** Admission of Observers
- Item 5** Applications for Membership in the Organization (Vote)
- Item 6** Appointment of the Director-General (Address by candidates for the post of Director-General)
 - Catherine Geslain-Lanéelle (France)
 - Davit Kirvalidze (Georgia)
 - Qu Dongyu (China)
 - Ramesh Chand (India)

- Item 5** Applications for Membership in the Organization (Admission Ceremony)

Sunday 23 June 2019**Morning (10.30) – Plenary (Plenary Hall)**

- Item 6** Appointment of the Director-General (cont'd) (Vote)

Monday 24 June 2019

	Plenary (Plenary Hall)	Commission I (Green Room)	Commission II (Red Room)
9.30-12.30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director-General's Statement • Independent Chairperson of the Council's Statement <p>Item 10: Review of the State of Food and Agriculture</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>10.30-12.30</u></p> <p>Item 11: Regional and Global Policy and Regulatory matters arising from:</p> <p>11.1: Report of the 30th Session of the Regional Conference for Africa (Khartoum, the Sudan, 19-23 February 2018)</p> <p>11.2: Report of the 34th Session of the Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific (Nadi, Fiji, 9-13 April 2018)</p> <p>11.3: Report of the 31st Session of the Regional Conference for Europe (Voronezh, Russian Federation, 16-18 May 2018)</p> <p>11.4: Report of the 35th Session of the Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean (Montego Bay, Jamaica, 5-8 March 2018)</p> <p>11.5: Report of the 34th Session of the Regional Conference for the Near East (Rome, Italy, 7-11 May 2018)</p> <p>11.6: Input from the Fifth Informal Regional Conference for North America (Washington, D.C., United States of America, 18-19 April 2018)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>10.30-12.30</u></p> <p>Item 22: Programme Implementation Report 2016-2017</p> <p>Item 23: Programme Evaluation Report 2019</p> <p>Item 24: Medium Term Plan 2018-21 (Reviewed) and Programme of Work and Budget 2020-21 (Draft Resolution on budget level)</p>
14.30-17.30 (or later if required)	<p>Item 10 (cont'd): Review of the State of Food and Agriculture</p>	<p>Item 12: Global Policy and Regulatory matters arising from:</p> <p>12.1: Report of the 26th Session of the Committee on Agriculture (1-5 October 2018)</p> <p>12.2: Report of the 72nd Session of the Committee on Commodity Problems (26-28 September 2018)</p> <p>12.3: Report of the 33rd Session of the Committee on Fisheries (9-13 July 2018)</p> <p>12.4: Report of the 24th Session of the Committee on Forestry (16-20 July 2018)</p> <p>Item 13: Reports of the 44th (9-13 October 2017) and 45th (15-19 October 2018) Sessions of the Committee on World Food Security</p>	<p>Item 24 (cont'd): Medium Term Plan 2018-21 (Reviewed) and Programme of Work and Budget 2020-21 (Draft Resolution on budget level)</p>

Tuesday 25 June 2019

	Plenary (Plenary Hall)	Commission I (Green Room)	Commission II (Red Room)
09.30-12.30	Item 10 (cont'd): Review of the State of Food and Agriculture	<p>Item 20: United Nations/FAO World Food Programme</p> <p>Item 14: Evaluation of FAO's Work on Gender</p> <p>Item 15: Progress on the Sustainable Development Goals/2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development</p> <p>Item 16: Progress Report on the Implementation of the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition and Follow-up to the Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2)</p> <p>Item 17: Progress report on the Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review of Operational Activities for Development of the United Nations System</p> <p>Item 18: Report of the 17th Regular Session of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (18-22 February 2019)</p>	Item 24 (cont'd): Medium Term Plan 2018-21 (Reviewed) and Programme of Work and Budget 2020-21 (Draft Resolution on budget level)
14.30-17.30 (or later if required)	Item 10 (cont'd): Review of the State of Food and Agriculture	<p>Item 19: International Years and Days:</p> <p>19.1: Proposal for an International Year of Fruits and Vegetables</p> <p>19.2: Proposal for an International Year of Rye</p> <p>19.3: Proposal for an International Year of Millets</p> <p>19.4: Proposal for an International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste</p> <p>19.5: Proposal for an International Tea Day</p> <p>Item 21: Biennial Theme 2020-21 <i>(Drafting Committee Commission I)</i></p>	Item 24 (cont'd): Medium Term Plan 2018-21 (Reviewed) and Programme of Work and Budget 2020-21 (Draft Resolution on budget level) <i>(Drafting Committee Commission II)</i>

Wednesday 26 June 2019

	Plenary (Plenary Hall)	Commission I (Green Room)	Commission II (Red Room)
09.30-12.30	Item 10 (cont'd): Review of the State of Food and Agriculture	<i>(Drafting Committee Commission I)</i>	Item 24 (cont'd): Medium Term Plan 2018-21 (Reviewed) and Programme of Work and Budget 2020-21 (Draft Resolution on budget level)
14.30-17.30 (or later if required)	Item 10 (cont'd): Review of the State of Food and Agriculture		Item 24 (cont'd): Medium Term Plan 2018-21 (Reviewed) and Programme of Work and Budget 2020-21 (Draft Resolution on budget level) <i>(Drafting Committee Commission II)</i>

Thursday 27 June 2019

	Plenary (Plenary Hall)	Commission I (Green Room)	Commission II (Red Room)
09.30-12.30	<i>[Papal Audience]</i>		
14.30-17.30 (or later if required)	<p>Item 25: Audited Accounts 2016 and 2017 (Draft Resolutions)</p> <p>Item 26: Scale of Contributions 2020-21 (Draft Resolution)</p> <p>Item 27: Payment by the European Union to Cover Administrative and other Expenses Arising out of its Membership in the Organization</p> <p>Item 28: Other Administrative and Financial Matters</p> <p>Item 9: Appointment of Representatives of the FAO Conference to the Staff Pension Committee</p> <p>Item 30: Any Other Matters 30.2: In Memoriam</p> <p>Item 29: Date and Place of the 42nd Session of the Conference</p>	<p>Adoption of the Report of Commission I (time to be announced)</p>	<p>Adoption of the Report of Commission II (time to be announced)</p>

Friday 28 June 2019**Morning (09:30 - 12:30) – Plenary (Plenary Hall)**

Item 24 Adoption of the Draft Resolution on Budgetary Appropriations 2020-21 (Vote)
(part of)

Item 8 Election of Council Members

Item 7 Appointment of the Independent Chairperson of the Council

Afternoon

(Processing of Report for submission to Plenary)

Saturday 29 June 2019**Time to be announced (Plenary Hall)**

Adoption of the Report of:

- Commission I
- Commission II
- Plenary