



联合国  
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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  
الأغذية والزراعة  
للأمم المتحدة

# FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR AFRICA

## Thirty-first Session<sup>1</sup>

26-28 October 2020

## Provisional Timetable

### Executive Summary

1. Due to the postponement, and subsequent changes to the format and timing, of the Regional Conference for Africa (ARC), the meeting will be held in virtual modality and conducted through the Zoom videoconferencing platform.
2. The Organization has posted all documents online for Members to access at their convenience.
3. Conference documents may be accessed at <http://www.fao.org/about/meetings/regional-conferences/arc31/documents/en/>.
4. In order to enhance the efficiency of the virtual meeting, advance written correspondence will be used for the following agenda items:
  - a) Multi-year Programme of Work 2020-2023 for the Regional Conference for Africa;
  - b) Decentralized Offices Network.
5. Comments, questions and discussion on the documentation should be sent by email to [ARC-Secretariat@fao.org](mailto:ARC-Secretariat@fao.org) by 18:00 hours on 16 October 2020.
6. The Senior Officers Meeting (SOM) convenes on 26 October 2020, with discussions on technical papers as well as programme and budget matters taking place from 9:00 hours (UTC/GMT) to 15:30 hours (UTC/GMT).
7. The Adoption of the Report and Closure of the Senior Officers Meeting will take place on 26 October from 14:00 hours (UTC/GMT) to 15:30 hours (UTC/GMT).
8. The Ministerial Session will be held from 27 to 28 October 2020. On 27 October from 9:00 hours (UTC/GMT) to 15:30 hours (UTC/GMT), the Session will feature the Inaugural Ceremony, Adoption of the Agenda and Timetable, Opening Statements, a discussion on COVID-19 impacts and response, and the Hand-in-Hand Initiative.
9. The Ministerial Session will recommence on 28 October 2020 at 9:00 hours (UTC/GMT) to discuss Food Systems Transformation through Leveraging Innovation and Digitalization:

<sup>1</sup> Rescheduled from 23-27 March 2020, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

Toward the UN Food Systems Summit 2021, and will conclude at 14:00 hours (UTC/GMT) by adopting the Report of the Conference.

### Senior Officers Meeting

26 October 2020

**Monday, 26 October 2020**

#### I. Introductory Items

	<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Item N°</b>	<b>Document N°</b>
09.00 hours GMT	Opening of the Senior Officers Meeting		
	Election of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons, and Appointment of the Rapporteur	1	
	Adoption of Agenda and Timetable	2	ARC/20/1 Rev 1 ARC/20/INF/2 Rev.1

#### II. Regional and Global Policy Matters

09.30-11.30 hours	Building Resilient Food and Agriculture Systems in the Context of Overlapping Multiple Crises ( <b>COVID-19, Climate Change, Transboundary Pests and Diseases, Conflicts and Economic Downturns</b> ): Addressing the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus in Africa	18	ARC/20/4 Rev.1
	Progress on FAO's Regional Programme in the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and Towards Development of an Action Programme to Address Food Security and Nutrition Challenges in Landlocked Countries (LLCs) in Africa	19	ARC/20/5 ARC/20/INF/23

#### III. Discussion of Programme and Budget Matters

11.30-14.00 hours GMT	Results and Priorities for FAO in the Africa Region, including feedback on Subregional Priorities and Africa Region Synthesis Report 2014-2019	20	ARC/20/8 and Web Annexes 1-5 ARC/20/11
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#### IV. Other Items

14.00-15.30 hours	Date of the 32nd Session of the Regional Conference for Africa	23	
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Adoption of the Report of the Senior Officers Meeting

*Closure of the Senior Officers Meeting*

**Tuesday, 27 October 2020**

**Ministerial Session**

**27-28 October 2020**

**I. Opening Ceremony**

	<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Item N°</b>	<b>Document N°</b>
09.00 hours GMT	Inaugural Ceremony		
	Election of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson, and Appointment of the Rapporteur	1	
	Adoption of Agenda and Timetable	2	ARC/20/1 Rev. 1 ARC/20/INF/2 Rev. 1
	Statement by the Director-General	3	ARC/20/INF/4
	Statement by the Independent Chairperson of the FAO Council	4	ARC/20/INF/5
	Statement by the Chairperson of the 30th Session of the Regional Conference for Africa	5	ARC/20/INF/6
	Statement by the United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator	6	
	Statement by the Chairperson of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS)	7	ARC/20/INF/7
	Statement by the African Union Commission	8	
	Statement by the Spokesperson of the Civil Society Organizations	9	
	Statement by the Spokesperson of the Private Sector	10	
	Video: Africa Solidarity Trust Fund (ASTF)	11	
11:30-13.30 hours	COVID-19 and Its Impact on Agri-food Systems, Food Security and Nutrition: Implications and Priorities for the Africa Region	12	ARC/20/3 (New document) ARC/20/INF/10 (New document)
13.30-15.30 hours	FAO's Hand-in-Hand Initiative: A New Approach to Combat Poverty and Hunger	13	ARC/20/2 Rev.1 ARC/20/INF/12 Rev.1
15.30-16.30 hours	<i>Meeting of the Drafting Committee of the Report of the Plenary Session</i>		

**Wednesday, 28 October 2020**

**Ministerial Session (continued)**

	<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Item N°</b>	<b>Document N°</b>
09.00-12.00 hours GMT	Actualizing Inclusive Food Systems Transformation in Africa through Leveraging Innovation and Digitalization: Toward UN Food Systems Summit 2021	14	ARC/20/6 ARC/20/7 ARC/20/INF/13 Rev. 2 ARC/20/INF/14 Rev. 1
	The Role of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) on Food Systems and Nutrition: How Can We Promote Cross-Sector Policy Convergence?	15	ARC/20/9 ARC/20/INF/11 Rev. 1
12.00-12.30 hours	Launch of the Report on Africa Regional Outlook on Gender and Agrifood Systems	16	
12.30-14.00 hours	Adoption of the Report of the Conference	17	
	Closure of the Regional Conference		