

27th Session of the Committee on Agriculture

Item: 4.3 Multi-Year Programme of Work of the Committee

Introduction notes

The progress report of the COAG Multi-year Programme of Work (MYPOW) 2018-2021 and the draft COAG MYPOW 2020-2023 are submitted to the 27th Session of COAG for review and endorsement. The current COAG MYPOW has been developed on the basis of guidance received from the Committee and intends to provide a solid basis for guiding its work in the 2020-23 period. The document is presented as a rolling plan, presenting the method of work of the Committee and follows the format as approved by the Committee at its 23rd Session in May 2012.

Since 2012, the first four MYPOWs of the Committee have provided an important step towards the improvement of COAG's efficiency and transparency by guiding its work and that of the Secretariat over the last eight years. In this regard, the Secretariat provided regular progress reports to the Bureau, the Committee, the Council and Conference.

During the intersessional period, the Bureau held 17 meetings, supported by the Secretariat, to monitor and provide guidance on the COAG 26 recommendations and actions, and to prepare the agenda for the 27th Session of COAG, including informal consultations with relevant FAO Technical Divisions and with Members. Further consultations have been conducted in view of strengthening the collaboration and coordination between the FAO Technical Committees.

The draft MYPOW for the 2020-2023 period was developed based on the guidance received from relevant Governing Bodies and the Bureau. Outstanding and strategic issues to be tracked overtime by COAG future sessions, include the need to accelerate progress and scale up efforts in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular SDG 1 and 2. In this context, it will need to consider the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on food security and nutrition, and food systems, and related responses, and of other major challenges faced by countries and development actors in food and agriculture.

Due to the rolling nature of the MYPOW, it should be considered a “living document” and, as such, can be subject to constant improvement and refinement, also as a result of consultations among Bureau members during the inter-sessional period.

The Committee is invited to:

- Review the progress report of the implementation of the approved MYPOW 2018-21 in accordance with its overall objectives and mandate.
- Approve the proposed MYPOW 2020-2023 as set out in the Annex.

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