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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
Объединенных Наций

Organización de las
Naciones Unidas para la
Alimentación y la Agricultura

منظمة
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للأغذية والزراعة

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COUNCIL

Hundred and Seventieth Session

13-17 June 2022

Status of implementation of decisions taken at the 168th Session of the Council (29 November-4 December 2021)

Executive Summary

The following table lists decisions taken by Council at its 168th Session (29 November-4 December 2021) and includes a reference to: (i) the relevant paragraph(s) of the Council Report; and (ii) the status of implementation of each decision.

Suggested action by the Council

The Council is invited to take note of the information presented in this document.

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

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**STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF DECISIONS TAKEN AT THE 168TH SESSION OF THE COUNCIL
(29 November-4 December 2021)**

| | Status of Implementation | | COMMENTS |
|--|--------------------------|---------|--|
| | Completed | Ongoing | |
| Adjustments to the Programme of Work and Budget 2022-23 | | | |
| 1. <u>recognized</u> that the blue terminology used in FAO's Strategic Framework 2022-31, PWB 2022-23 and its results framework refer to all sustainable and inclusive aquatic systems, including aquaculture systems, and <u>requested</u> these to be reflected in the Adjusted PWB 2022-23 and its results framework (<i>Annex 1</i> , CL 168/3); (para. 11 (f)) | | X | Will be reflected in the Preparation for the Medium Term Plan (Reviewed) 2022-25 document. |
| 2. noted that there are many approaches to sustainable agriculture production, <u>emphasised</u> the need to consider all such approaches and <u>requested</u> Management to reflect these considerations in the results framework; (para. 11 (j)) | X | | The results framework refers to integrated and innovative approaches throughout and Management will continue to ensure appropriate language in future iterations of the results framework. |

| | Status of Implementation | | COMMENTS |
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| | Completed | Ongoing | |
| The Hand-in-Hand Initiative | | | |
| 3. <u>requested</u> regular updates on the Initiative and the Geospatial Platform, including on the use of budgetary and extrabudgetary resources, results, lessons learned and good practices at country level, and the engagement of public, private and civil society stakeholders in all those countries where the Initiative is being implemented; (para. 15 (i)) | | X | <p>The platform usage increased by 24 percent with 10 thousand sessions per month from 178 countries. Key data sets were added included global daily weather for agriculture, armed conflict location and events and global crop monitoring system. Several new capabilities and services were made available including automated ad-hoc zonal statistics and deeper integration with Google Earth Engine.</p> <p>The geospatial analysis and economists continue to provide the hand-in-hand countries (now numbering 53) agricultural typographies, value chain multi-criteria decision analysis to improve targeting and tailoring of policy interventions, drive innovation, encourage finance and investment flow, and institutional reforms in line with country-led prioritize. In 2021, Agriculture and AgriFood Canada contributed CAD 160,000 (about USD 130,000) to the platfor, CSI and relevant divisions provided in-kind HR contribution closely relevant to this core functions.</p> |

| | Status of Implementation | | COMMENTS |
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| Outcomes of the United Nations Food Systems Summit | | | |
| 4. <u>requested</u> further information on the Coordination Hub and the other components of the follow-up system, suggested by the UN Secretary-General, in a timely manner. (para. 16 (m)) | | X | <p>The UN Food Systems Coordination Hub has become operational as of January 2022. In the period January-March 2022 the Hub was in coordination with the UN FSS Secretariat in order to ensure a smooth transition of the FSS follow-up.</p> <p>The first activity of the Hub was to conduct a Needs Assessment Survey inviting all Members to participate and identify the needs and priorities of Members in order to support them in developing and/or strengthening the implementation of their National Pathways, as appropriate. The results of this survey were presented in two webinars organized by the Hub on 24 March 2022. More than 500 participants attended the webinars comprising Members, UN Resident Coordinators (UNRCs) and staff from Rome-based Agencies (RBA) headquarters and country offices.</p> <p>As a follow up to this work, the Hub is now planning the organization of 11 peer-exchange, peer-learning and capacity development sessions on specific thematic topics as identified by the survey (e.g. financing food systems transformations, monitoring and evaluation of FSS follow up etc.) including through collaboration with the coalitions of action.</p> <p>The Hub Director participated in the ICC Informal Meeting with Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons of the Regional Groups and provided updates on the follow-up of the UN Food Systems Summit.</p> <p>As of March 2022, seven UN Agencies Funds and Programmes (AFPs) have committed to second/assign dedicated professional personnel to the Hub. These include FAO, DCO, IFAD, UNEP, WFP, WHO, and UNICEF. The AFPs have indicated that this is a first round of secondments with additional ones to be considered in the future.</p> |

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| | | | <p>The Oversight Steering Committee of the Hub has met twice and approved the positions of the Hub’s leadership as well as the Hub’s work plan and stakeholder engagement plan.</p> <p>A “Frequently Asked Questions” document for the Hub was developed, distributed to National Convenors, UNRCs and RBAs and other UN agencies and published in the FAO Members Gateway. Furthermore, an information note was submitted to the 133rd Session of the Programme Committee, updating the Committee on the main developments on the follow-up of the Summit since the establishment of the Hub.</p> |
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| | Status of Implementation | | COMMENTS |
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| | Completed | Ongoing | |
| Update on the development of the new FAO Strategy on Climate Change | | | |
| 5. <u>requested</u> the use of multilaterally agreed language in the Strategy; (para. 23 (i)) | X | | When developing the final draft of the new FAO Strategy on Climate Change, the language of the main related international agreements was used as a reference. This includes in particular the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Paris Agreement. |
| 6. <u>requested</u> that the Strategy address disaster risk reduction, early warning systems, strengthen resilience, adaptation and mitigation and reduce vulnerability to climate change in line with the best available science, taking into account the priorities and needs of developing countries; (para. 23 (n)) | X | | The Strategy on Climate Change recognises the importance of reducing short- and longer-term vulnerabilities to climate change through disaster risk reduction, adaptation and mitigation actions and it highlights early warning systems as a tool for risk reduction. As building on science and evidence is one of the principles of the new Strategy, it is mainstreamed throughout the document. Close partnerships with research institutions in the implementation of the Strategy is also highlighted. The Strategy recognises the specific vulnerabilities of Small Island Developing States and Least Developed Countries as well as people in vulnerable situations. Furthermore, the Strategy emphasises country-driven climate action and ownership, taking into account countries' climate priorities and commitments. |

| | Status of Implementation | | COMMENTS |
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| | Completed | Ongoing | |
| Process for reinstating voting rights for Member Nations in arrears | | | |
| <p>7. <u>recalled</u> the request of the 42nd Session of the Conference for the conduct of a comprehensive review of the process for reinstating voting rights for Member Nations in arrears for consideration by the relevant Governing Bodies, <u>asked</u> Management to study options, including through leveraging local currencies and repayment plans to address this issue, and <u>looked forward</u> to its consideration by the Finance Committee at its next Session concerning FAO matters, in line with its mandate; (para. 27 (b))</p> <p><u>recalled</u> the request by the 42nd Session of the Conference for the conduct of a comprehensive review on the process for reinstating voting rights for Member Nations in arrears for consideration by the relevant Governing Bodies, including the CCLM, supported by a process of informal consultation led by the Independent Chairperson of the Council (ICC) with the Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons of the Regional Groups, noted that the practice developed by the Organization over past years on the restoration of voting rights is consistent with the approach of most other UN System organizations, <u>encouraged</u> the ICC to hold transparent and inclusive informal consultations open to all Members on the subject-matter, taking into account the existing rules and procedures, the CCLM's findings and recommendations and relevant United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) resolutions, as appropriate, and <u>invited</u> the ICC to report the progress to the Council at its next Session; (para 30 (c))</p> | | X | <p>The Council at its 170th Session will receive an update from the Independent Chairperson of the Council (ICC), following his informal consultations with Members, under dedicated agenda item 17.</p> <p>This will build <i>inter alia</i> on the review of the matter by the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters (CCLM) at its 115th Session in March 2022, as well as that of the Finance Committee at its 191st Session in May 2022, where a dedicated document outlined a summary overview of prior actions taken regarding restoration of voting rights, as well as the practice adopted by FAO and other United Nations entities.</p> <p>The ICC will continue his informal consultations with Members until that time that a draft Conference Resolution may be matured for review and support by the Council, with a view for its eventual submission to the 43rd Session of the Conference in July 2023.</p> |

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| FAO framework on the protection of data and intellectual property rights | | | |
| 8. <u>stressed</u> the need for alignment of all FAO work and activities involving data or statistics with the FAO framework on the protection of data and intellectual property rights that is being developed and <u>requested</u> the CCLM be regularly updated in this regard; (para. 30 (e)) | X | | <p>At its 115th Session of the CCLM in March 2022, the Committee considered the Council document 170/18 entitled “<i>Governance of FAO’s statistical and other data activities and their alignment with the cross-cutting FAO policies on Protection of Data and Intellectual Property Rights- Proposal for an improved internal coordination and its alignment with corporate policies on Data Protection and Intellectual Property Rights</i>”. The document explicitly confirms that once the Data Protection Policy has been promulgated, relevant statistics, policies and procedures will be reviewed by FAO’s statistics internal coordination structure to ensure that they are fully aligned with the Policy (paragraphs 27 and 29).</p> <p>Considering this, the CCLM in its report, welcomed the confirmation provided that statistical activities would be reviewed once the Data Protection Policy was promulgated and concluded its consideration on the matter (paragraphs 29 and 30 of its report).</p> |

| | Status of Implementation | | COMMENTS |
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| Committee on World Food Security (CFS) | | | |
| 9. <u>welcomed</u> the policy recommendations on “ <i>Agroecological and other innovative approaches for sustainable agriculture and food systems that enhance food security and nutrition</i> ” and <u>requested</u> FAO to support their dissemination; (para. 32 (a)) | X | | <p>CFS has been included as an agenda item of each of the FAO Regional Conferences in 2022, in which the Chair has stressed the importance of the policy recommendations (PRs) on Agroecological and Other Innovative Approaches, endorsed in June 2021, to improve the sustainability of agriculture and food systems, and encouraged their use as a policy tool to guide FAO RAP countries in their food systems transformation, and targeted specific countries.</p> <p>FAO has been a key and pro-active actor of the Technical Focal Points group, that since 2019 has supported the CFS policy convergence process on Agroecological and Other Innovative Approaches. This group, since their adoption, is being joined by other core stakeholders to strengthen the promotion and uptake of the CFS policy recommendations on Agroecological and Other Innovative Approaches.</p> <p>FAO continues to act as Secretariat of the Scaling up Agroecology Initiative (SUAI), under which agroecology is promoted widely. The CFS PRs on Agroecological and Other Innovative Approaches are fostered as an important tool to scale up agroecology in different mechanisms of the SUAI, including through advocacy activities, production of videos, 20 learning events, the Agroecology Knowledge Hub and Newsletter. The CFS PRs are also promoted in several evidence generation activities within the implementation of the Tool for Agroecology Performance Evaluation (TAPE), currently undergoing in over 30 countries. FAO published an article that summarizes key outcomes of the UN Food Systems Summit held in September 2021, which disseminated the CFS PRs. FAO advocated to incorporate the CFS PRs as one of the key areas of</p> |

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| | | | <p>collaboration of the Coalition for the Transformation of Food Systems Through Agroecology.</p> <p>The policy recommendations related to Agroecology and other innovations adopted in 2021, were promoted via Twitter (https://twitter.com/FAOLivestock/status/1442466220700315648; https://twitter.com/FAOLivestock/status/1440291759192350729?s=19).</p> |
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| | Completed | Ongoing | |
| Rome-based Agencies Collaboration | | | |
| 10. <u>reiterated</u> its request for a joint RBA assessment regarding the feasibility of integrating administrative functions and greater collaboration in some oversight areas, to be presented to the next Session of the Council; (para. 33(c)) | | X | <p>The RBAs initiated the procurement actions necessary to hire the service provider that will carry out the independent feasibility study. The competitive selection process will end in the Spring 2022. The work will take place over the course of six months, during which the service provider will carry out a desk review, engage in interviews with key business and policy owners in the three Agencies, collect data, and produce a final report by the end of 2022.</p> <p>Further details concerning the actions taken by the RBAs to address this request will be presented to the 170th Session of the Council under item 10 – <i>Report of the Joint Meeting of the 133rd session of the Programme Committee and the 191st session of the Finance Committee (May 2022)</i>.</p> |
| 11. <u>requested</u> an update on RBA collaboration in the administrative and financial areas at headquarters; (para. 33 (d)) | | X | <p>A mapping of RBA collaboration in joint corporate services was included in the 2020 Progress Report on RBA collaboration (https://www.fao.org/3/ne051en/ne051en.pdf Annex B – <i>headquarters details</i>), discussed with Members at the 165th Session of the FAO Council, held in December 2020. An update on RBA collaboration in administrative and financial areas at headquarters will be provided in the 2022 Progress Report on RBA collaboration, to be presented at the 171st Session of the Council in December 2022.</p> |

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| | Completed | Ongoing | |
| Code of Conduct for Voting | | | |
| 12. The Council <u>commended</u> the Independent Chairperson of the Council (ICC) on his efforts in leading an open, inclusive and transparent consultation process towards the development of a voluntary draft Code of Conduct for Voting, and <u>requested</u> the ICC to continue such consultations. (para. 34) | | X | Informal consultations led by the Independent Chairperson of the Council (ICC) are ongoing and the <i>Draft Chair's Proposal on the Voluntary Code of Conduct for Voting</i> was shared with Members on 22 April 2022 |