



CONFERENCE

Forty-third Session

Rome, 1-7 July 2023

**Report of the 28th Session of the Committee on Agriculture
(Rome, 18-22 July 2022)**

Executive Summary

The 28th Session of the Committee on Agriculture brings to the attention of the Council and the Conference its findings and recommendations.

Matters requiring the attention of the Council

The Council is invited to endorse the findings and recommendations of the Committee on Agriculture, and attention is drawn in particular to:

- *Report of the First Session of the COAG Sub-Committee on Livestock*, paragraphs 10 and 11.
- *FAO Strategic Priorities for Food Safety within the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31* paragraph 12.
- *One Health and related policy and technical guidance*, paragraph 13.
- *Progress report on the FAO Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) 2021-2025*, paragraph 14.
- *The future of food and agriculture – Drivers and triggers for transformation*, paragraph 15.
- *Promoting more coherent and integrated Agricultural Innovation Systems (AIS) by strengthening national agricultural research and extension systems*, paragraph 16.
- *The catalyser role of the UN Decade of Family Farming 2019-2028 (UNDFE) and progress towards its implementation*, paragraph 17.
- *Agriculture and forestry linkages*, paragraph 18.
- *Progress report on the implementation of the FAO Strategy on Mainstreaming Biodiversity across Agricultural Sectors and its 2021-23 Action Plan*, paragraph 19.
- *State of the World's Land and Water Resources for Food and Agriculture (SOLAW21)*, paragraph 20.
- *Governance of tenure of water resources for food and agriculture*, paragraph 21.
- *Guidance on use of agricultural plastics*, paragraph 22.
- *Progress towards the implementation of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030*, paragraph 23.
- *Report of the Global Soil Partnership (GSP)*, paragraph 24.
- *Action Plan for the implementation of the FAO Strategy on Climate Change 2022-2031*, paragraph 25.

- *Development of regional action plans for the FAO Science and Innovation Strategy (2022-25), paragraph 26.*
- *FAO's Programme of Work in the Agrifood Sectors under the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31, paragraph 27.*
- *Implementation of the recommendations of the 27th Session of the Committee, paragraph 28.*
- *Multi-Year Programme of Work of the Committee, paragraph 29.*
- *Proposal for an International Day of Potato, paragraph 30.*

Matters requiring the attention of the Conference

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- *FAO Strategic Priorities for Food Safety within the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31, paragraph 12.*
- *Agriculture and forestry linkages, paragraph 18.*
- *Progress report on the implementation of the FAO Strategy on Mainstreaming Biodiversity across Agricultural Sectors and its 2021-23 Action Plan, paragraph 19.*
- *Governance of tenure of water resources for food and agriculture, paragraph 21.*
- *Guidance on use of agricultural plastics, paragraph 22.*
- *Report of the Global Soil Partnership (GSP), paragraph 24.*
- *Action Plan for the implementation of the FAO Strategy on Climate Change 2022-2031, paragraph 25.*
- *Development of regional action plans for the FAO Science and Innovation Strategy (2022-25), paragraph 26.*
- *Proposal for an International Day of Potato, paragraph 30.*

Suggested action by Council and Conference

The Council and Conference are invited to endorse the Report of the 28th Session of the Committee on Agriculture.

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

Ariella Glinni
Secretary of the Committee on Agriculture (COAG)
Tel: +39 06 570 51199

I. Introduction/Background

1. The Committee on Agriculture (COAG) held its 28th Session from 18 to 22 July 2022. The Session was convened in a hybrid modality on an exceptional basis and without setting a precedent, in light of the ongoing global COVID-19 pandemic and associated public health concerns, following consultations with the COAG Bureau.
2. The Committee agreed, on an exceptional basis, to hold the 28th Session in a hybrid modality. The Committee further agreed:
 - a. that the hybrid meeting should constitute a formal regular Session of the Committee, convened in accordance with Rule XXXII, paragraph 3 of the General Rules of the Organization and Rule II of COAG's Rules of Procedure;
 - b. that the normal Rules of Procedure and practices of COAG should apply, save to the extent that any rule or practice were incompatible with the hybrid modality and/or could not be complied with due to the unique circumstances, in which case those rules or practices would be suspended on an exceptional basis in accordance with the Rules of Procedure;
 - c. that the Session would be webcast and the recordings would be made available in the Webcast archive on the FAO Internet site;
 - d. that special procedures or amended working modalities, as might be required for the efficient conduct of the Session, would apply.
3. Of the 136 Members of the Committee, 118 registered their delegations for the Session, including nine Ministers. Nine Members of the Organization, the Holy See, four United Nations (UN) agencies, five intergovernmental organizations and 12 non-governmental organizations participated as Observers. The list of participants and the list of documents are available at www.fao.org/coag/en.
4. Dr Bommakanti Rajender (India), Chairperson of the 28th Session of COAG, opened the Session.
5. Dr QU Dongyu, the Director-General of FAO, addressed the Committee.
6. The Committee was informed that the European Union was participating in accordance with paragraphs 8 and 9 of Article II of the FAO Constitution.
7. The Committee adopted the Agenda and Timetable of the Session. The Committee approved the special procedures outlined in the Annex to the Provisional Timetable.
8. The Agenda is reproduced in Appendix B.¹
9. The Committee was assisted by a Drafting Committee composed of Argentina (Chair), Australia, Brazil, Cabo Verde, the People's Republic of China, the Czech Republic,² Japan,² Mauritania, the Netherlands,² Peru, the Russian Federation,³ Switzerland,² the United States of America² and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

¹ COAG/2022/1 Rev.2

² The Russian Federation disassociated itself from the support for the election of the Czech Republic, Japan, the Netherlands, Switzerland and the United States of America as members of the Drafting Committee.

³ Canada, the European Union and Member States of the European Union which are Members of the Committee, Japan, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States of America disassociated themselves from consensus on the election of the Russian Federation as a member of the Drafting Committee.

II. Sustainable Food and Agriculture

2.1 *Report of the First Session of the Sub-Committee on Livestock*⁴

10. The Committee commended the work of the Sub-Committee on Livestock and its successful inaugural session and endorsed the Report of the First Session of the Sub-Committee on Livestock and the recommendations therein.

11. The Committee approved the revised draft Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPOW) 2022-25 of the Sub-Committee on Livestock.

2.2 *FAO Strategic Priorities for Food Safety within the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31*⁵

12. The Committee:

- a) noted that food safety provides key contributions to One Health, the development of sustainable agrifood systems, food security and nutrition, and constitutes an essential prerequisite to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- b) recognized that FAO's Food Safety Priorities are aligned with its Strategic Framework 2022-31 and the four betters (*better production, better nutrition, a better environment and a better life*) and the relevant Programme Priority Areas (PPAs).
- c) took note that FAO's Food Safety Priorities suitably integrate the global context, ensuring synergies with the Codex Alimentarius, as well as work being conducted across the UN system in agrifood systems and food safety, and set out the relevant strategic focus for FAO's work on food safety.
- d) recommended that FAO refer to the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security instead of referring to Right to Food in the document on FAO's strategic food safety priorities.
- e) endorsed the proposed *Strategic Priorities for Food Safety within the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31* considering comments made during the Session, and recommended that it be submitted for consideration by the 171st Session of the FAO Council through the Programme Committee.
- f) expressed its interest in the development of the Joint FAO/World Health Organization (WHO) Implementation Plan and stressed the importance of the development of clear targets and indicators associated with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), that are inclusive of the activities within other UN agencies and suitable for the assessment of progress made.
- g) invited FAO to continue providing demand-driven policy and technical support to Members, in line with the United Nations Development System (UNDS) reform process, in their efforts to improve food safety in formal and informal settings, and to ensure the availability of resources for such support to be delivered.
- h) encouraged Members to continuously improve their national food control systems, data collection and analysis, and actively participate in international food safety governance.

⁴ COAG/2022/5, COAG/2022/21

⁵ COAG/2022/6

2.3 One Health and related policy and technical guidance⁶

13. The Committee:

- a) highlighted the role of One Health in achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and implementing the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31, and noted with appreciation the focus of the One Health Priority Programme in applying a holistic, coordinated, science and evidence-based One Health approach for sustainable agrifood systems, and the progressive management pathway for biosecurity as a framework to reduce the risks of animal and plant diseases, emerging zoonoses, and antimicrobial resistance;
- b) welcomed the strengthening of the coordination of One Health activities, including environmental technical capacity, through the revised Memorandum of Understanding between FAO, the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Health Organization (WHO), by which UNEP joined the former Tripartite to form a new Quadripartite for One Health;
- c) noted the development of the One Health Joint Plan of Action under FAO's leadership, underlined the importance of the subsequent consultation with Members by the Quadripartite (FAO/WHO/UNEP/WOAH), and encouraged the incorporation of their comments into the One Health Joint Plan of Action;
- d) recommended FAO to strengthen cooperation between the Quadripartite and the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) to consider plant health;
- e) recommended FAO to enhance data integration and sharing across sectors, while fully ensuring its protection and the integrity of sensitive information, to strengthen global One Health knowledge and scientific information systems, and early warning for resilience to emerging cross-sectoral threats;
- f) recommended FAO to support Members, as appropriate, upon their request, to develop or enhance national One Health early warning frameworks to support national, regional and international needs for rapid risk assessments of animal and zoonotic disease threats;
- g) recommended FAO to collaborate with WOAH, UNEP and WHO to finalize the One Health Joint Plan of Action, consult with Members on its Implementation Plan and provide regular updates on progress, with consideration of the principle of multilingualism;
- h) encouraged FAO to enhance One Health knowledge and evidence exchange and dissemination, from communities to policy makers, to scale up One Health actions for agrifood systems transformation in a coherent manner, as appropriate and in accordance with and dependent on national contexts and capacities;
- i) underlined the need for continued long-term and sustained efforts for a strong One Health approach, including voluntary financing.

2.4 Progress report on the FAO Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) 2021-2025⁷

14. The Committee:

- a) acknowledged the progress made by FAO in implementing the Action Plan on AMR 2021-2025 and the support it has provided to countries in minimizing and containing AMR for more resilient and sustainable agrifood systems;
- b) requested FAO to continue the implementation of the Action Plan through a One Health approach in close collaboration with the Quadripartite;

⁶ COAG/2022/7

⁷ COAG/2022/8

- c) recommended FAO to support Members in their implementation of AMR actions based on the revised Code of Practice to Minimize and Contain Foodborne Antimicrobial Resistance, which was adopted at the Codex Alimentarius Commission in November 2021;
- d) encouraged FAO to conclude the development of the FAO Antimicrobial Resistance Monitoring (InFARM) data platform to support strengthened generation and usage of AMR data in food and agriculture sectors, and to keep Members informed of progress, including with regard to pilot testing activities, and encouraged capacity building on antimicrobial use (AMU) in plant protection;
- e) acknowledged the importance of the One Health approach in addressing AMR, the role of Codex Alimentarius, WOH and the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) in developing coherent texts to support efforts to address AMR, in line with the conclusions of the 81st Session of the Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CCEXEC81) and the 44th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC44), and encouraged FAO to work with the IPPC Secretariat, as appropriate, to prioritize the development of guidance on the use of antimicrobial agents for phytosanitary purposes;
- f) called for the implementation of the Codex Guidelines/Standards on AMR and supported the development of guidelines, in line with the Action Plan, on monitoring the use of antimicrobials with WOH;
- g) recommended FAO to support Members in the implementation of good production practices, as well as AMR management throughout the food supply chain to reduce the need for and to promote the responsible and prudent use of antimicrobials in agrifood systems;
- h) took note of the progress made in establishing the AMR Multi-stakeholders Partnership Platform, highlighted the importance of supporting these activities, including through the Multi-Partner Trust Fund, and encouraged relevant actors from the agriculture sector to engage actively in it.

2.5 The future of food and agriculture – Drivers and triggers for transformation ⁸

15. The Committee:

- a) acknowledged FAO's efforts to strategically advance corporate forward-looking exercises of a global nature, such as the Corporate Strategic Foresight Exercise (CSFE) 2020-22 and the anticipated report *The Future of Food and Agriculture – Drivers and triggers for transformation* (FOFA-DTT);
- b) acknowledged the multidisciplinary nature of corporate foresight exercises, such as the CSFE 2020-22 and the reports in the FOFA series;
- c) encouraged the finalization of the FOFA-DTT report by taking into account the comments provided by Members, and looked forward to its publication and launch;
- d) recommended FAO to reinforce its strategic foresight, with contributions from all technical divisions, technical partners, relevant stakeholders, and in collaboration with the United Nations High-Level Committee on Programmes Strategic Foresight Network and other UN agencies and international bodies;
- e) recommended Members to use FAO's foresight products to inform national development strategies for sustainable and resilient agrifood systems;
- f) recommended Members to further support FAO in the dissemination of foresight products and in the generation of substantive policy dialogues on critical issues emerging from these products;

⁸ COAG/2022/9

- g) underlined that geopolitical instability and increasing conflicts undermine food security and nutrition and have negative impact on agrifood systems, and emphasized the role of the COAG within the areas of its competence in monitoring and analysing the impacts of crises and conflicts, with a special emphasis on the impact of the war in Ukraine on global food security and agrifood systems under the mandate of FAO, economic downturns, climate change, the COVID-19 pandemic, and other shocks and crises.

2.6 *Promoting more coherent and integrated Agricultural Innovation Systems (AIS) by strengthening national agricultural research and extension systems*⁹

16. The Committee:

- a) emphasized that well-functioning agricultural innovation systems, knowledge and best practices are fundamental for promoting efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable, agrifood systems;
- b) recognized the central role of national agricultural research systems (NARS) and extension and advisory services (EAS) to advance agricultural innovation, through co-development of technologies and good practices and making them available to micro-, small- and medium-scale producers;
- c) recommended FAO to strengthen its support to Members, including in resource mobilization, when necessary, for institutional development of NARS and EAS to broaden their services beyond agricultural production with an agrifood systems perspective;
- d) recommended FAO to align the work on NARS and EAS with the FAO Science and Innovation Strategy and the FAO Strategy on Climate Change 2022-2031 and their action plans;
- e) recommended FAO to support Members in the development of, and application or enhancement of existing multistakeholder mechanisms, to improve knowledge exchange and partnerships, including research, extension platforms and innovation hubs, subject to available resources;
- f) recommended FAO to further develop and promote participatory, coherent and integrated approaches for agricultural research for development and for pluralistic EAS, and relevant voluntary guidelines and tools for assessment, capacity development and monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) of agricultural innovation systems (AIS);
- g) welcomed the integration of the equally important role of agricultural education and training;
- h) called on Members to participate in global, regional and/or national initiatives to review and assess their NARS and EAS, update relevant policies and plans, and promote more coherent and integrated AIS with increased investment for research and extension.

2.7 *The catalyser role of the UN Decade of Family Farming 2019-2028 (UNDFE) and progress towards its implementation*¹⁰

17. The Committee:

- a) welcomed the progress on the implementation of the UN Decade of Family Farming 2019-2028 (UNDFE);
- b) recognized the potential of family farming and the role of the UNDFE to facilitate the shift towards sustainable, inclusive and resilient agrifood systems;

⁹ COAG/2022/10

¹⁰ COAG/2022/11

- c) invited FAO to ensure family farmers are prioritized within the implementation plans of the FAO Science and Innovation Strategy and the FAO Strategy on Climate Change 2022-2031;
- d) invited FAO to continue its close coordination with the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) in their leadership of the UNDDFF, to mobilize required financial resources to promote concrete actions on the ground and to strengthen the resilience of family farmers;
- e) invited Members to accelerate efforts to support the UNDDFF through the adoption of supportive policies and further investments.

2.8 Agriculture and forestry linkages¹¹

18. The Committee:

- a) acknowledged the multiple linkages between the agriculture and forestry sectors, and underscored the need to achieve better synergies between them through inter-sectorial approaches, for more sustainable agrifood systems;
- b) recommended FAO to continue collecting and analysing necessary science and evidence-based data on agriculture and forestry interdependencies, including on the direct and underlying drivers of deforestation and land degradation, by further enhancing consistency between agricultural and forest data sets and compiling case studies and good practices which should be reported at COAG 29, and requested the COAG Secretariat to share this information with the COFO Secretariat, if relevant;
- c) invited FAO to support Members, upon request, to further identify opportunities and implement actions to improve complementarity between the agriculture and forestry sectors and strengthen coordinated policy responses towards the realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, recommending that these initiatives do not create unnecessary barriers to trade and do not worsen the situation for small-scale producers' well-being;
- d) invited FAO to conduct, subject to available extra-budgetary resources, a global assessment of the status and scaling-up potential of agroforestry, and to report on progress to COAG 29, and requested the COAG Secretariat to share this information with the COFO Secretariat, if relevant;
- e) encouraged FAO to continue playing an active role in relevant international fora by promoting open dialogue on enhancing and promoting sustainable agrifood systems and further working with other international partners, including all relevant stakeholders and particularly members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF), to upscale synergies between agriculture and forestry;
- f) invited Members to promote greater and inclusive policy coherence between the agriculture and forestry sectors, including through integrated land use planning, landscape approaches and secured access to land, as well as support to small-scale producers, family farmers, women, youth, local communities and Indigenous Peoples;
- g) on drivers of deforestation and land degradation, requested FAO and Members to put greater emphasis on ways to decouple growth in agricultural production from forest and other biodiversity loss, keeping in mind the necessity of poverty eradication and fighting hunger, and the needs of developing countries in terms of financial assistance and capacity building;
- h) invited FAO to report regularly on the mainstreaming of biodiversity in the agriculture and forestry sectors.

¹¹ COAG/2022/12

III. Climate and Natural Resources (biodiversity, land and water)

3.1 *Progress report on the implementation of the FAO Strategy on Mainstreaming Biodiversity across Agricultural Sectors and its 2021-23 Action Plan*¹²

19. The Committee:

- a) welcomed progress made in the implementation of the FAO Strategy on Mainstreaming Biodiversity across Agricultural Sectors and its 2021-23 Action Plan, and encouraged FAO to continue to provide support to its Members in their efforts to mainstream biodiversity;
- b) reviewed and welcomed the development of the draft 2024-27 Action Plan for the implementation of the FAO Strategy on Mainstreaming Biodiversity across Agricultural Sectors, and requested to continue open, inclusive and transparent consultations with Members for the finalization of the Action Plan;
- c) recommended FAO to finalize the Action Plan taking into account other FAO Strategies, guidance provided by the Committee, and further developments under the Convention on Biological Diversity, the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.

3.2 *State of the World's Land and Water Resources for Food and Agriculture (SOLAW21)*¹³

20. The Committee:

- a) welcomed the report on the State of the World's Land and Water Resources for Food and Agriculture (SOLAW21);
- b) commended FAO's efforts to provide updates on the state of land and water resources, in particular, through the SOLAW21;
- c) recognized the importance of a much-needed paradigm shift towards sustainable agrifood systems to meet the growing demand for food, while conserving biodiversity and safeguarding land, soil and water for food security and the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
- d) taking into consideration resource implications and availability of new data, recommended that FAO consider reporting these issues through a regular flagship publication to address the need for sufficient, reliable information, knowledge and analyses for informed policy decisions and programmes on food and agriculture at national, regional and global levels;
- e) encouraged Members to disseminate SOLAW21 widely and to strengthen cooperation and use its assessments in order to enhance the sustainable management of land and water resources, to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, within FAO's mandate for promoting the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31 and its four betters (*better production, better nutrition, a better environment and a better life*).

3.3 *Governance of tenure of water resources for food and agriculture*¹⁴

21. The Committee:

- a) recognized the importance of addressing water scarcity in the context of achieving food security and nutrition and recommended FAO to step up the work of the Global Framework on Water Scarcity in Agriculture (WASAG) of water tenure for the sustainable management of natural resources;

¹² COAG/2022/13

¹³ COAG/2022/14

¹⁴ COAG/2022/15

- b) acknowledged the challenge of access to water resources for food security under conditions of water scarcity and climate change;
- c) acknowledged the importance of FAO's initiatives within its mandate to understand the complexity of water rights, sustainable water management and allocation systems and to identify actionable and context-specific avenues to improve the governance of water tenure;
- d) recommended FAO to undertake an assessment of existing water tenure arrangements and their components, building on FAO's work to date;
- e) recommended FAO, in close collaboration with relevant UN agencies, to support Members, upon request, in building and developing capacities to produce data on available and actual use of water resources for agriculture;
- f) recommended FAO, in close collaboration with relevant UN agencies, to initiate a Global Dialogue on Water Tenure on matters that include water rights' administration, tenure arrangements within water user organizations, and to provide regular updates to the Committee on Agriculture;
- g) encouraged Members to participate in a series of exchanges among countries at regional and global levels, including through the Global Dialogue on Water Tenure, in identifying principles for the responsible governance of water tenure.

3.4 ***Guidance on use of agricultural plastics***¹⁵

22. The Committee:

- a) welcomed FAO's report *Assessment of agricultural plastics and their sustainability: A call for action (2021)*;
- b) acknowledged the need for improved intersectoral collaboration and governance to address plastic use throughout agrifood systems including through a holistic manner, using life-cycle approaches and the development of new solutions;
- c) encouraged FAO to undertake further scientific and evidence-based assessments related to the distribution, benefits, trade-offs and risks of plastics for agricultural use and their alternatives, to address knowledge gaps on plastics in agriculture, and requests for the development of policy instruments, taking into account Members' past and ongoing efforts, as well as developing countries' needs and challenges;
- d) recommended FAO, subject to the assessments in paragraph c. and to the availability of resources, to address existing knowledge gaps through inclusive and transparent consultations with Members and relevant stakeholders, in close coordination with other relevant UN initiatives to avoid duplication of work, to develop, within its mandate, a Voluntary Code of Conduct on the sustainable use of plastics in agriculture, taking into account the United Nations Environment Assembly resolution *End plastic pollution: towards an international legally binding instrument* (UNEP/EA.5/Res.14), to be presented for consideration at the 29th Session of COAG based on the three dimensions of sustainable development, shared goals, and cooperation towards the 2030 Agenda taking into account the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31, the FAO Science and Innovation Strategy and the FAO Strategy on Climate Change 2022-2031;
- e) encouraged FAO to support deliberations of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution established by the United Nations Environment Assembly Resolution *End plastic pollution: Towards an international legally binding instrument* (UNEP/EA.5/Res.14) with guidance on the issues of plastics used in agriculture.

¹⁵ COAG/2022/16

3.5 Progress towards the implementation of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030¹⁶

23. The Committee:

- a) welcomed FAO and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) co-leadership to promote the implementation of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030;
- b) recommended FAO to address the restoration of agricultural production ecosystems within FAO policies and programmes;
- c) encouraged Members to support the activities of the Decade and enhance their ecosystem restoration efforts.

3.6 Report of the Global Soil Partnership (GSP)¹⁷

24. The Committee:

- a) reviewed and welcomed the report of the Global Soil Partnership (GSP) and the reports of the Sessions of the 9th and 10th GSP Plenary Assemblies, and commended members of the GSP and its Secretariat for the progress made during the past ten years in combating soil degradation and promoting sustainable soil management at all levels;
- b) endorsed the new GSP Action Framework 2022-2030 *Healthy Soils for a healthy life and environment: from promotion to consolidation of Sustainable Soil Management* and encouraged FAO and all GSP members to implement the activities outlined therein, as well as tools and initiatives of the GSP including the Voluntary Guidelines for Sustainable Soil Management, the International Code of Conduct for the Sustainable Use and Management of Fertilizers, among others, as appropriate;
- c) welcomed and supported the Global Black Soil Distribution Map and, recognizing the crucial importance of these soils for food security, climate change adaptation, and mitigation, stressed the need for promoting the conservation and sustainable management of black soils including the monitoring component;
- d) taking into account the recommendations made by the 10th GSP Plenary Assembly and its Extraordinary Session regarding the institutionalization of the GSP, recommended FAO to prepare an in-depth analysis of option 5 (establishing a Sub-Committee on Soils and maintaining the GSP in its current structure), working transparently and collaboratively, with the analysis to be submitted to the 11th GSP Plenary Assembly for discussion, and with its recommendations to be provided to the 29th Session of COAG;
- e) called on Members to contribute actively to the implementation of the GSP activities and development of products;
- f) subject to the above comments being taken into consideration, endorsed the reports.

3.7 Action Plan for the implementation of the FAO Strategy on Climate Change 2022-2031¹⁸

25. The Committee:

- a) commended the development of the FAO Strategy on Climate Change 2022-2031 (Strategy) through a highly inclusive process and its endorsement by the 170th Session of the Council, welcomed the proposal of an Action Plan and took note of its proposed outputs for the effective implementation of the Strategy;
- b) acknowledged that the Action Plan will be a living document to be complemented by a results framework, aligned with the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31 and the

¹⁶ COAG/2022/17

¹⁷ COAG/2022/18, COAG/2022/23

¹⁸ COAG/2022/20 Rev.1; COAG/2022/INF/8 Rev.1

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and stressed the importance of monitoring and verifying the results of the Strategy and its Action Plan;

- c) recommended that the Action Plan for the implementation of the Strategy clearly sets out FAO's priorities for climate action in the agrifood systems at sectoral level, including for the crops, forests, fisheries and aquaculture, and livestock sectors, and at local, national, regional and global levels, taking into account synergies with work by other relevant UN agencies and international organizations;
- d) recognized the importance of mobilizing additional resources to support the implementation of the Action Plan of the Strategy, as well as promoting inclusive collaboration to adopt low-emission, good practices and innovative solutions, leaving no one behind;
- e) requested FAO to continue to organize open, inclusive, transparent and timely consultation processes, and to take into account the guidance provided by Members in refining and further developing the Action Plan;
- f) requested FAO to provide regular updates to the Governing Bodies on progress made with the Action Plan, as appropriate.

3.8 *Development of regional action plans for the FAO Science and Innovation Strategy (2022-25)*¹⁹

26. The Committee:

- a) commended the development of the FAO Science and Innovation Strategy (2022-25) (Strategy) through an inclusive process and its endorsement by the 170th Session of the Council;
- b) reviewed and welcomed the high-level framework that will be used for the development of regional action plans for the effective implementation of the Strategy, taking into account the outcomes and recommendations of the regional consultations and the FAO Regional Conferences 2022;
- c) encouraged FAO to ensure that the regional action plans align with and contribute to the implementation of the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31, the FAO Strategy on Climate Change 2022-2031, the FAO Strategy on Mainstreaming Biodiversity across Agricultural Sectors, and the FAO Strategy for Private Sector Engagement 2021-25, and are aligned and consistent with agreed texts in international fora;
- d) requested FAO to continue to organize open, inclusive, transparent and timely consultation processes, to take into account the guidance provided by Members in refining and further developing the regional action plans, and to ensure the action plans capture actions in the Strategy at all levels – global, regional and country;
- e) requested FAO to provide Members, as appropriate, with information on the human resources capacity and the financial implications that will be needed for the implementation of the Strategy and the FAO Strategy on Climate Change 2022-2031 and, in addition, to provide Members with regular updates on progress with the action plans to the Governing Bodies as appropriate.

¹⁹ COAG/2022/22; COAG/2022/INF/9 Rev.1

IV. Other Matters

4.1 *FAO's Programme of Work in the Agrifood Sectors under the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31*²⁰

27. The Committee:

- a) noted with appreciation the achievements made by FAO to support and advance the food and agriculture sector during the 2020-2021 biennium, invited FAO to address the gaps and incorporate lessons learned during the past biennium, and acknowledged the identified developments and trends that are likely to influence FAO's future work with respect to the food and agriculture sector;
- b) took note of the priority areas of FAO's work in food and agriculture in 2022-23 and acknowledged that these fully contribute to the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31 and are derived from the global trends and developments identified by FAO;
- c) expressed concern over global food security, as the unfolding war in Ukraine is likely to exacerbate the already severe 2022 acute food insecurity forecasts, given that the repercussions of the war on global food, energy and fertilizer prices and supplies have not yet been factored into most country-level projection analyses;
- d) recalled the decision and recommendations of the 169th²¹ Session of the Council about the impact of the war in Ukraine on global food security and agrifood systems, and stressed the important technical role of FAO in addressing the impacts of the war on global food security and agrifood systems;
- e) encouraged FAO to maintain its efforts towards a reinvigorated business model to maximize impact at country level, and called on FAO to continue to strengthen its normative and standard setting work.

4.2 *Implementation of the recommendations of the 27th Session of the Committee*²²

28. The Committee:

- a) commended FAO on the implementation of the recommendations of the 27th Session of the Committee on Agriculture;
- b) encouraged FAO to staff its country and regional offices, according to specific needs, to be able to support Members towards achieving the objectives of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
- c) commended the work of the Global Framework on Water Scarcity in Agriculture (WASAG) in dealing with water scarcity in agriculture, and encouraged FAO to step up its work in the interactive platform and toolbox to support Members while also making use of South-South and Triangular Cooperation in FAO;
- d) recognizing the importance of reporting on COAG recommendations, invited FAO to continue to take actions in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to report regularly to the Committee and to Members.

²⁰ COAG/2022/2

²¹ Roll call (decision-CL169 REP, para. 10-11) vote with total votes cast: 27; votes in favour: 23; votes against: 4; abstentions: 16.

²² COAG/2022/3

4.3 *Multi-Year Programme of Work of the Committee (MYPOW)*²³

29. The Committee:

- a) took note of the 2020-2023 Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPOW) report and the proposed programme for 2022-2025, and welcomed the efforts of the Committee and Secretariat towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
- b) emphasized the role of the COAG within the areas of its competence in monitoring and analysing the impacts of crises and conflicts, recalled the decisions and recommendations of the 169th²⁴ and 170th Sessions of the Council about impacts of the war in Ukraine on global food security and agrifood systems and stressed the important role of FAO in addressing impacts of the war on global food security and agrifood systems, and recommended FAO to continue paying full attention to the ongoing global impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on agrifood systems and multidimensional food security and nutritional challenges posed by climate change, biodiversity loss and conflicts and other causes;
- c) welcomed the continued involvement of Members in the intersessional period and supported the closer collaboration and coordination with other FAO Technical Committees and Governing Bodies;
- d) suggested that the Committee consider inputs from the Regional Conferences, aligned to the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31, during its 29th Session;
- e) approved the MYPOW 2022-2025.

4.4 *Proposal for an International Day of Potato*²⁵

30. The Committee:

- a) welcomed with appreciation the proposal by the Government of Peru to establish the observance by the United Nations of an International Day of Potato (IDP);
- b) recognized the global importance of potato for food security and nutrition and its role to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
- c) acknowledged that the IDP can increase awareness of critically important issues related to the crop's sustainable production and stable value chains, including water and fertilizer availability;
- d) endorsed the draft Conference Resolution for the observance of the IDP, as contained in Appendix D;
- e) invited the Council at its 171st Session and Conference at its 43rd Session to approve the draft Conference Resolution.

4.5 *Date and place of the next Session*

31. The Committee informed that the Twenty-ninth Session of the Committee on Agriculture will take place in Rome. The date would be communicated by the Director-General of FAO at a later stage.

4.6 *Election of the Bureau Members of the 29th Session of the Committee*

32. The Committee elected by acclamation:

- a) Ms Julie Emond, Alternate Permanent Representative of Canada to FAO, as Chairperson of the Committee;

²³ COAG/2022/4

²⁴ Roll call (decision-CL169 REP, para. 10-11) vote with total votes cast: 27; votes in favour: 23; votes against: 4; abstentions: 16.

²⁵ COAG/2022/19

- b) the following six members of the incoming bureau of the Committee: Australia (Southwest Pacific); Brazil (GRULAC); Cabo Verde (Africa); Philippines (Asia); Portugal (Europe); and Sudan (Near East).

4.7 *Any other matters*

- 33. The Committee addressed the activities of the Global Bioenergy Partnership (GBEP).

APPENDIX A – Members of the Committee on Agriculture

Afghanistan	Finland	Norway
Algeria	France	Oman
Angola	Gabon	Pakistan
Argentina	Germany	Panama
Armenia	Ghana	Paraguay
Australia	Greece	Peru
Austria	Guatemala	Philippines
Azerbaijan	Guinea	Poland
Bangladesh	Haiti	Portugal
Belarus	Honduras	Qatar
Belgium	Hungary	Republic of Korea
Benin	India	Romania
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Indonesia	Russian Federation
Botswana	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Brazil	Iraq	Samoa
Bulgaria	Ireland	San Marino
Burkina Faso	Israel	Saudi Arabia
Burundi	Italy	Senegal
Cabo Verde	Japan	Serbia
Cameroon	Jordan	Sierra Leone
Canada	Kenya	Slovakia
Chad	Kuwait	Slovenia
Chile	Latvia	Solomon Islands
China	Lebanon	South Africa
Colombia	Lesotho	Spain
Congo	Liberia	Sri Lanka
Costa Rica	Libya	Sudan
Côte d'Ivoire	Lithuania	Sweden
Croatia	Madagascar	Switzerland
Cuba	Malaysia	Syrian Arab Republic
Cyprus	Maldives	Thailand
Czechia	Mali	Togo
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Mauritania	Tunisia
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Mexico	Türkiye
Denmark	Mongolia	Uganda
Djibouti	Montenegro	Ukraine
Dominican Republic	Morocco	United Arab Emirates
Ecuador	Mozambique	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Egypt	Myanmar	United Republic of Tanzania
El Salvador	Netherlands	United States of America
Equatorial Guinea	New Zealand	Uruguay
Eritrea	Nicaragua	Uzbekistan
Estonia	Niger	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
Ethiopia	Nigeria	Yemen
European Union (Member Organization)	North Macedonia	Zambia

APPENDIX B - Agenda

1. Procedural Matters

- 1.1. Opening of the Session
- 1.2. Adoption of the Agenda and Timetable
- 1.3. Nomination of the Drafting Committee

2. Sustainable Food and Agriculture

- 2.1. Report of the First Session of the COAG Sub-Committee on Livestock
- 2.2. FAO Strategic Priorities for Food Safety within the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31
- 2.3. One Health and related policy and technical guidance
- 2.4. Progress report on the FAO Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) 2021-2025
- 2.5. The future of food and agriculture – Drivers and triggers for transformation
- 2.6. Promoting more coherent and integrated Agricultural Innovation Systems (AIS) by strengthening national agricultural research and extension systems
- 2.7. The catalyser role of the UN Decade of Family Farming 2019-2028 (UNDF) and progress towards its implementation
- 2.8. Agriculture and forestry linkages

3. Climate and Natural Resources (biodiversity, land and water)

- 3.1. Progress report on the implementation of the FAO Strategy on Mainstreaming Biodiversity across Agricultural Sectors and its 2021-23 Action Plan
- 3.2. State of the World's Land and Water Resources for Food and Agriculture (SOLAW21)
- 3.3. Governance of tenure of water resources for food and agriculture
- 3.4. Guidance on use of agricultural plastics
- 3.5. Progress towards the implementation of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030
- 3.6. Report of the Global Soil Partnership (GSP)
- 3.7. Action Plan for the implementation of the FAO Strategy on Climate Change 2022-2031
- 3.8. Development of regional action plans for the FAO Science and Innovation Strategy (2022-25)

4. Other Matters

- 4.1. FAO's Programme of Work in the Agrifood Sectors under the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31
- 4.2. Implementation of the recommendations of the 27th Session of the Committee
- 4.3. Multi-Year Programme of Work of the Committee (MYPOW)
- 4.4. Proposal for an International Day of Potato
- 4.5. Date and Place of the Next Session
- 4.6. Election of the Bureau Members of the 29th Session of the Committee
- 4.7. Any other matters

5. Adoption of the Report

APPENDIX C – List of Documents

COAG/2022/1 Rev.2	Provisional Agenda
COAG/2022/2	FAO's Programme of Work in the Agrifood Sectors under the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31
COAG/2022/3	Implementation of the recommendations of the 27th Session of the Committee
COAG/2022/4	Multi-Year Programme of Work of the Committee (MYPOW)
COAG/2022/5	Report of the first Session of the COAG Sub-Committee on Livestock
COAG/2022/6	FAO Strategic Priorities for Food Safety within the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31
COAG/2022/7	One Health and related policy and technical guidance
COAG/2022/8	Progress report on the FAO Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) 2021-2025
COAG/2022/9	The future of food and agriculture – Drivers and triggers for transformation
COAG/2022/10	Promoting more coherent and integrated Agricultural Innovation Systems (AIS) by strengthening national agricultural research and extension systems
COAG/2022/11	The catalyser role of the UN Decade of Family Farming 2019-2028 (UNDFE) and progress towards its implementation
COAG/2022/12	Agriculture and forestry linkages
COAG/2022/13	Progress report on the implementation of the FAO Strategy on Mainstreaming Biodiversity across Agricultural Sectors and its 2021-23 Action Plan
COAG/2022/14	State of the World's Land and Water Resources for Food and Agriculture (SOLAW21)
COAG/2022/15	Governance of tenure of water resources for food and agriculture
COAG/2022/16	Guidance on use of agricultural plastics
COAG/2022/17	Progress towards the implementation of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030
COAG/2022/18	Report of the Global Soil Partnership (GSP)
COAG/2022/19	Proposal for an International Day of Potato
COAG/2022/20 Rev.1	Action Plan for the implementation of the FAO Strategy on Climate Change 2022-2031
COAG/2022/21	Multi-Year Programme of Work of the Committee on Agriculture's Sub-Committee on Livestock (2022–25)
COAG/2022/22	Development of regional action plans for the FAO Science and Innovation Strategy (2022-25)
COAG/2022/23	Report of the Extraordinary Session of the Tenth Plenary Assembly of the Global Soil Partnership

COAG/2022/INF/1 Rev.1	Provisional timetable
COAG/2022/INF/2	Provisional list of documents
COAG/2022/INF/3	Statement of competences and voting rights submitted by the European Union and its Member States
COAG/2022/INF/4	Report on progress in the application of the Voluntary Code of Conduct for Food Loss and Waste Reduction
COAG/2022/INF/5	Update on the implementation of the Vision and Strategy for FAO's Work in Nutrition
COAG/2022/INF/6	Update on progress made under the Global-Hub on Indigenous Peoples' food systems
COAG/2022/INF/7	Outcomes of the Global Conference on Green Development of Seed Industries (4-5 November 2021)
COAG/2022/INF/8 Rev.1	Update on the FAO Strategy on Climate Change 2022-2031
COAG/2022/INF/9 Rev.1	Update on the FAO Strategy on Science and Innovation
COAG/2022/INF/10	Update on the Action Plan on Highly Hazardous Pesticides (HHP)
COAG/2022/INF/11	UN Food Systems Summit - Update on FAO's follow up, including the Coordination Hub
COAG/2022/INF/12	Update on the FAO Response to COVID-19: "Building to Transform" implementation, including an update on the FAO Food Coalition
COAG/2022/INF/13	Sustainable Bioenergy and the role of the Global Bioenergy Partnership (GBEP)

APPENDIX D - Draft FAO Conference Resolution on the Proposal for an International Day of Potato

Recalling that the International Year of the Potato in 2008 has contributed to raising awareness of the role of the potato in agriculture, the economy and world food security;

Recognizing that the potato represents one of the most important contributions of the Andean region to the entire world, as it is one of the five main food crops consumed in the world, contributing to food security;

Recognizing that small-scale production of the potato contributes greatly to conserving and use of biodiversity and supports efforts to reduce hunger, malnutrition and poverty;

Recalling the urgent need to raise awareness of the contribution of the potato as an invaluable food resource and as a generator of income for rural families and producers, with a view to achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals for 2030 Agenda;

Trusting that such an initiative would create a comprehensive platform to assess the problems and dynamics of sustainable potato production to transform agrifood systems;

Recognizing the decisive importance of this tuber crop for agricultural development, from the phase of pre-production, production, marketing, added value and promotion of consumption, highlighting the conservation of biodiversity, food security and nutrition, and standard setting;

Emphasizing that costs of activities related to the celebration of the International Day of Potato would be covered by voluntary contributions, including contributions from the private sector;

Requests the Director-General to present this Resolution to the President of the General Assembly of the United Nations and the President of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations for informational purposes;

Requests FAO Members to take the requisite steps to ensure the consideration of the Resolution to observe 30 May as International Day of Potato at forthcoming sessions of the United Nations General Assembly, as appropriate.