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Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
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Unies pour l'alimentation
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Продовольственная и
сельскохозяйственная организация
Объединенных Наций

Organización de las
Naciones Unidas para la
Alimentación y la Agricultura

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COUNCIL

Hundred and Seventy-second Session

Rome, 24-28 April 2023

**Status of implementation of decisions taken at the 171st Session of
the Council (5-9 December 2022)**

Executive summary

The following table lists decisions taken by Council at its 171st Session (5-9 December 2022) 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 171ST SESSION OF THE COUNCIL
(5-9 December 2022)

	Status of Implementation		COMMENTS
	Completed	Ongoing	
Update on FAO's work on the global food crisis			
1. The Council (...) <u>requested</u> FAO's political and technical support for sustaining the Black Sea Grain Initiative, noting its importance to ensuring food availability and access to countries in all regions, especially the most vulnerable populations; (para. 12 (e))		X	FAO recognizes the importance of the Black Sea Grain Initiative and has supported the sustaining of the initiative through the Global Crisis Response Group on Food, Energy and Finance (GCRG), established by the United Nations Secretary-General, and through statements in official documents and in speeches by the Director-General.
2. The Council (...) <u>requested</u> that FAO continue to monitor the situation closely and update Members in writing at least quarterly, including through the FAO webpage dedicated to the crisis in Ukraine, and to submit to the Council at its next sessions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. an updated comprehensive impact assessment of the conflict in Ukraine on global food security and related matters under the mandate of the FAO, including data and information specifically tailored to the impacts on each region, with particular attention to impacts on the most vulnerable countries; ii. an updated Ukraine Rapid Response Plan, including a detailed overview of financial needs; iii. a comprehensive assessment of the damage to Ukraine's agriculture and food sector within Ukraine's internationally recognized borders, as well as the anticipated reconstruction and rehabilitation costs due to loss and damage resulting from the conflict; 		X	FAO has continued to monitor the situation closely and to update Members and other stakeholders regularly, including through the FAO webpage dedicated to the crisis in Ukraine and reports and presentations. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. FAO made a preliminary assessment of the impact of the war in Ukraine on global food insecurity in the 2022 edition of the <i>The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World</i> (SOFI). The assessment was updated in the Information Note on “The importance of Ukraine and the Russian Federation for global agricultural markets and the risks associated with the war in Ukraine”, published on 5 December 2022. In 2022, FAO deployed its mechanism of global data collection on food security through the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES) for 120 countries through the Gallup World Poll. The data collected will allow the Organization to make an assessment of the state of food insecurity in the world in the context of the war in Ukraine.

<p>iv. a review and assessment of the conflict's impact on global food security, including at regional and country level, and on consequent achievement of the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-2031 and the Medium Term Plan 2022-2025, with proposals for adjustments as necessary to the Programme of Work and Budget 2022-2023 and Medium Term Plan 2022-2025 aimed at improved response to the global food security crisis; (para. 12 (g))</p>			<p>The results will be published in the 2023 edition of the SOFI report, which is planned to be released in July 2023.</p> <p>ii. The updated Rapid Response Plan (RRP) is being finalized for publication (as of end February). Under the RRP (January-December 2023) – <i>Restoring food systems and protecting food security in Ukraine</i> – FAO is seeking USD 205 million as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pillar 1 – Restoring food security and improving self-sufficiency in front-line communities. Target: Immediate support to 500 000 rural households in nine front-line oblasts, coastal territories and other heavily impacted rural areas, based on the application of FAO's community-driven vulnerability criteria, to reduce dependency on food assistance. Funding requirement: USD 100 million. • Pillar 2 – Restoring critical agricultural production and value chains. Target: Restoration of agrifood systems in newly accessible areas. Funding requirement: USD 90 million. • Pillar 3 – Restoring critical agrifood system services. Target: Systemic/nationwide. Funding requirement: USD 15 million. <p>iii. FAO Investment Centre (CFI) completed cooperation with the Kyiv School of Economics (KSE) on the initial rounds of the damage and loss assessments in Ukraine (under a Letter of Agreement financed jointly by FAO, the World Bank and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development). CFI's recent communications with KSE indicate that the most current needs estimates in the Ukrainian agriculture as of 20 February 2023 were valued at USD 23.5 billion, including USD 7 billion for reconstruction and USD 16.5 billion for recovery.</p>
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3. The Council (...) <u>recognized</u> the progress made with the concept and design for the Food Import Financing Facility (FIFF) as an important tool to support countries to shoulder soaring costs of food imports and improve access to food at country level, including by addressing availability of access to fertilizers, and <u>requested</u> FAO to continue its cooperation with relevant international organizations and bodies in this regard; (para. 14 (h))	X		<p>FAO's efforts to initiate a Food Import Financing Facility (FIFF) have culminated in the launch by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) of the Food Shock Window, a rapid credit facility to address balance of payment problems in food import-dependent countries. Approved disbursements by mid-February include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USD 105 million (SDR 81.9 million) to Haiti • USD 71 million (SDR 53.55 million) to Guinea • USD 88.3 million (SDR 69.40 million) to Malawi • USD 112.7 million to South Sudan. This is based on a staff level agreement combined with a Program Monitoring with Board Involvement. <p>These four initial disbursements add up to a total of USD 377 million and, while still considerably below the needed support to mitigate the sharp increases in food import bills in 2022, they offer an important relief to those countries who have requested financial assistance. FAO will continue its close cooperation with all relevant international organizations and bodies to support countries to address the increased cost of their food import bills.</p>

	Status of Implementation		COMMENTS
	Completed	Ongoing	
75th Session of the Committee on Commodity Problems			
4. The Council (...) <u>requested</u> FAO to continue and intensify its efforts to support informed policy decisions and promote policy coordination by providing timely and objective data and information, market assessments and outlooks; (para. 18 (b))		X	FAO has continued and intensified its efforts in providing up-to-date and objective data and information, market assessments and outlooks, including in partnership with other international organizations and in the context of the work under the Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS), through regular reports, online updates and webinars, with the objective to inform policy decisions and promote the coordination of policy responses.
28th Session of the Committee on Agriculture			
5. The Council (...) <u>encouraged</u> 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 <u>requested</u> the development of policy instruments, taking into account Members' past and ongoing efforts as well as developing countries' needs and challenges; (para. 20 (k))		X	<p>FAO is exploring potential collaboration with research centres and universities to identify knowledge gaps and needs for additional assessments and research.</p> <p>Further to the COAG 28 recommendation to: (...) <i>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</i> (...) (COAG 28/ REP para 22 (d)), FAO will undertake all the necessary steps for the development of a Voluntary Code of Conduct on the sustainable use of plastics in agriculture. The process will be launched with a global technical inception meeting to collect feedback and inputs from FAO Members and other stakeholders. FAO is preparing an assessment of legal and institutional frameworks to serve as a background paper for the planned consultations.</p> <p>FAO is keeping the COAG Bureau informed on the progress made.</p>

	Status of Implementation		COMMENTS
	Completed	Ongoing	
26th Session of the Committee on Forestry			
6. The Council (...) requested FAO to continue actively identifying the important and mutually beneficial linkages between agriculture and forestry and scaling up its related activities in the relevant Programme Priority Areas (PPAs) of its Strategic Framework 2022-31; (para. 24 (a))		X	<p>A joint intersessional Roadmap towards the 27th Session of the Committee on Forestry (COFO27) and the 29th Session of the Committee on Agriculture (COAG29) on collaboration on forestry-agriculture linkages has been developed and endorsed by the Bureau of COAG and the Steering Committee of COFO.</p> <p>Following the global assessment on Grazing with trees a policy brief was launched. [PPA BL4]</p> <p>A collaboration between the COFO Working Group on Dryland Forests and Agrosilvopastoral Systems and the COAG Sub-Committee on Livestock was initiated to support the implementation of the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists (IYRP 2026). [PPA BL4]</p> <p>A global assessment has been initiated to address the COAG28/COFO 26 recommendations related to the status and scaling-up potential of agroforestry. A special study by the FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) on monitoring methods and to establish a baseline for the status of agroforestry is expected to be published in 2025. [PPA BE3]</p>

	Status of Implementation		COMMENTS
	Completed	Ongoing	
Country Programming Frameworks (CPFs)			
7. The Council (...) <u>requested</u> that, in time for the next cycle of the Governing Bodies meetings in the spring of 2023, FAO makes available to Members, as appropriate, all endorsed CPFs in one single place. (para. 27 (d))	X		CPF Repository, in line with the guidance from the Council at its 171st Session in December 2022, was established (cf. JM 2023.1/4).
Action plans of the FAO Science and Innovation Strategy and the FAO Strategy on Climate Change			
8. The Council (...) <u>requested</u> FAO to share the final draft action plans of the FAO Science and Innovation Strategy and the FAO Strategy on Climate Change for written inputs by Members, so that Members are informed and involved, noting that the action plans are living documents, and <u>encouraged</u> their prompt implementation; (para. 29 (b))		X	<p>Action Plan of Science and Innovation Strategy: Draft Action Plan sent to Members for written inputs on 25 January 2023 with the deadline of 8 February 2023.</p> <p>The final draft Action Plan for the Strategy on Climate Change is expected to be shared with FAO Members for written comments in March 2023.</p> <p>The objective is to finalize the Action Plan by the end of Spring 2023 in view of its prompt implementation.</p>

	Status of Implementation		COMMENTS
	Completed	Ongoing	
Development of temporary proxy indicators proposed by FAO for SDG indicator 2.4.1			
9. The Council (...) <u>requested</u> further refinement and development of the temporary proxy indicators proposed by FAO for SDG indicator 2.4.1, recognising that they must be approved by the UN Statistics Commission, and to keep Members informed to the extent possible; (para. 29 (d))		X	<p>Since the 171st session of the Council, Members were informed on the refinement and development of temporary proxy SDG indicators: through the document PC 135/INF/3 presented at the 135th session of the Programme Committee and its addendum.</p> <p>Despite the IAEG-SDG's recent approval of the proxy indicators proposed by FAO, in the context of the 54th Session of the UN Statistical Commission (28 February – 3rd March 2023) a few non-IAEG-SDG member countries requested more time to discuss and potentially refine the 2.4.1 proxy. This request is fully aligned with the recommendation of the FAO 171st Council, which called for “further refinement and development of the temporary proxy indicators proposed by FAO for SDG indicator 2.4.1”.</p> <p>At the same time, the Commission agreed that proxy indicators could be considered as a practical interim solution to be adopted before 2025, if the current official indicator was proven to be very challenging for countries to implement and report and the proposed proxy indicator had a sound methodology and good country coverage.</p> <p>The interim use of the proxies proposed by FAO will be decided at one of the following IAEG-SDG meetings, while a final decision on whether to replace the official indicator with the proxy indicator shall be considered in the context of the 2025 Comprehensive Review of the SDG indicator framework. Within this context, technical meetings with Members are being organized.</p>

	Status of Implementation		COMMENTS
	Completed	Ongoing	
Code of Conduct for Voting			
10. The Council <u>requested</u> the ICC to continue these consultations with a view to a consensus text being submitted to the next Session of the Council, following review by the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters. (para. 47)	X		The ICC held an informal consultation with the membership on 9 February 2023 during which consensus was reached on a draft text. That same text will be presented to the 118th Session of the CCLM for its review before being taken up by the 172nd Session of the Council.
Participation of private sector observers in sessions of the FAO Governing Bodies			
11. The Council noted the complexity of the subject and <u>requested</u> that a consensus should be reached on the general principles, including the feasibility and desirability of participation of the private sector observers in sessions of FAO Governing Bodies, prior to embarking on designing draft guidelines; (para. 49)		X	In September 2022, the ICC held an informal consultation with Members, who raised issues and questions on a number of areas relating to current processes and rules around private sector participation in FAO bodies. Since this meeting, information on current rules and practices was solicited from relevant technical committees, divisions and other offices. An information note has been circulated before the Council with an anticipated informal briefing with Members to follow. FAO is considering the analysis to date along with the feedback from Members in order to assess next steps.
12. The Council <u>requested</u> a background document addressing questions, remarks and observations raised by Members, and <u>requested</u> the ICC to consult thereon. (para. 50)		X	An information note was circulated by the ICC before Council, to be followed by an anticipated informal briefing with Members to address issues and questions.
Strategic policy framework for multilingualism			
13. The Council (...) <u>requested</u> clarification on how the strategic policy framework will be addressed in the next updates to the Programme of Work and Budget and the Medium Term Plan; (para. 54 (e))	X		Addressed in Medium Term Plan (Reviewed) 2022-25 and Programme of Work and Budget 2024-25 (cf. <i>Section Programmatic and budgetary highlights</i>).