

174th Session of the FAO Council

Item 3: Adjustments to the Programme of Work and Budget 2024-25

The *Adjustments to the Programme of Work and Budget 2024-25* (APWB) presents refinements to the PWB 2024-25¹ endorsed by Conference in July 2023 for consideration and approval by the Council in December 2023, following review by the Programme and Finance Committees and their Joint Meeting, in line with the established programming and budgeting process.²

Programmatic adjustments

The year 2024 is the beginning of the implementation of the second biennium of the Medium Term Plan 2022-25 under the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31 with its overarching *four betters* – *better production, better nutrition, a better environment* and a *better life* for all, leaving no one behind.

FAO has put in place strong pillars to anchor its work under the Strategic Framework, including the key thematic strategies on Private Sector Engagement; Science and Innovation; Climate Change; and on Mainstreaming Biodiversity across Agricultural Sectors.

In line with the emphasis placed by Members on the important role of science and evidence-based normative and standard setting work, as well as data and statistics to inform decision-making, FAO will continue to leverage its normative strengths and emphasize support to the development and implementation of normative and standard setting instruments.

The Conference emphasized the importance of oversight, internal control and support functions³ and it is recalled that within the PWB 2024-25, USD 22.7 million of incremental support cost recovery was re-allocated to fund strengthened programming and programmatic support, management and oversight, and support services. The APWB presents the integration of statistical functions of the Chief Statistician into the Statistics Division (ESS) and the realignment of the Joint FAO/WHO Centre, as well as the transfers of private sector partnerships functions from the Resource Mobilization and Private Sector Partnerships Division (PSR) to the Partnerships and UN Collaboration Division (PSU) and of the Global Farmer Field School (FFS) Platform team from the Plant Production and Protection Division (NSP) to the Office of Innovation (OIN) which were supported.

In relation to the establishment of a new proposed Office of Youth and Women (OYW), the Governing Bodies supported strengthening the mainstreaming and advocating for youth, gender equality and rural women's empowerment, both internally and externally, and requested the preparation of *Information Note 1* before the Council to provide further information on options and budgetary implications of OYW.

The APWB includes an overview of achieved and foreseen savings and efficiency measures, in line with guidance from the Conference, and Management will continue to report on this topic through the established reporting mechanisms.

The Members also stressed the importance of Management and Members continuing dialogue on all sources of funds with full spectrum of financial resources.

Conclusion

The Council is requested to consider the Adjustments to the PWB 2024-25 and: approve the revised distribution of the net appropriation by budgetary chapter as reflected in *Table 1, Corr 1*; review the revised budgeted post establishment (*Annex 6*); and approve the revised Organizational Chart (*Annex 7*).

Ms Beth Crawford, Assistant Director-General/Director of the Office of Strategy, Programme and Budget

¹ C 2023/3

² Basic Texts, Volume II.F, *Implementation of the IPA regarding the reform of the programming, budgeting and results-based monitoring system*.

³ CL 172/REP paragraph 9 (h)